Rogue Pre Focus

Six rare preamps. One focused sound.

User Guide



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Introduction

Thank you for choosing Waves! To get the most out of your new Waves plugin, please take a moment to read this user guide.

To install software and manage your licenses, you'll need a free Waves account—sign up at www.waves.com. With a Waves account you can renew your Waves Update Plan, participate in bonus programs, and keep up to date with other important information.

We suggest that you become familiar with the Waves Support pages: www.waves.com/support. There, you'll find technical articles about installation, troubleshooting, specifications, and more. Plus, you'll find company contact information and Waves Support news.

Rogue Pre Focus

Rogue Pre Focus is an analog-modeled preamp plugin with six selectable amp modules.

Part of the Rogue series of character-driven audio processors, Rogue Pre Focus brings together six analog preamp models inspired by obscure, rare, and hard-to-find hardware.

Each model captures a different input-stage character, from subtle warmth and presence to rich saturation, weight, and aggressive drive. Rather than recreating the usual studio classics, Rogue Pre Focus explores the overlooked and unexpected side of analog gear, giving your tracks access to distinctive colors and textures that are difficult to find.

Perfect for adding character, energy, and focus to individual tracks, buses, and full mixes.

Quick Start

1. Insert **Rogue Pre Focus** on a track, a bus, or your mix bus.
2. Select an amp module: **Tape**, **Heat**, **Body**, **Bite**, **Silk**, or **Iron**.
3. Turn the **Gain** knob to set how hard the input drives the module.
4. If low frequencies drive the module too hard, raise **Bass Relief**.
5. Shape the tone with the **Lows** and **Highs** knobs.
6. Use the **Output** knob to match the processed level to the bypassed signal.
7. Optional: Switch between amp modules to compare their character, rebalancing Output as needed.

Interface

The Rogue Pre Focus interface is a single panel.



From left to right, the controls are **Bass Relief**, **Gain**, **Lows**, **Highs**, and **Output**.

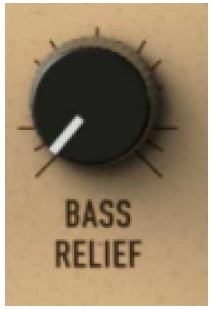
The **Amp Modules selector** is below the knobs, and the Output VU meter (calibrated to 0 dBFS) is on the right.

Between the Lows and Highs knobs, you'll find a Input Signal Level Indicator with a range of -30 dBFS to 0 dBFS.

Main Controls

The main controls set the drive into the amp module, shape its tone, and set the output level.

Bass Relief



Bass Relief lowers the low frequencies before the amp module and restores them at the output stage.

Higher values let you drive the module harder without the low end dominating the saturation. At 0.0, no bass relief is applied.

Range: 0.0 dB – 18.0 dB

Default: 0.0 dB

Gain



Gain sets the level of the input signal driving the selected amp module.

Lower values keep the module subtle and clean. Higher values drive it harder, bringing out more of its saturation and character.

Range: 0.0 – 8.0

Default: 4.0

Lows



Lows is a low-shelf equalizer with an analog-style curve.

Turn the knob clockwise to boost low frequencies, or counterclockwise to cut them.

Shelf frequency: 300 Hz

Range: -18.0 dB – 18.0 dB

Default: 0.0 dB

Highs



Highs is a high-shelf equalizer with an analog-style curve.

Turn the knob clockwise to boost high frequencies, or counterclockwise to cut them. Highs offers more cut than boost.

Shelf frequency: 2828 Hz

Range: -15.0 dB – 7.4 dB

Default: 0.0 dB

Output



Output sets the level of the processed signal.

Use it to compensate for level changes caused by Gain, the EQ, or switching amp modules, so you can compare the processed and bypassed signal at matched levels.

Range: -30.0 dB – 15.0 dB

Default: 0.0 dB

Amp Modules

The Amp Modules selector chooses one of six preamp models. Each module has its own input-stage character. The lamp above the selected module lights up.



Range: Tape, Heat, Body, Bite, Silk, Iron

Default: Tape

Tape	Warm saturation of a tape-reel preamp.
Heat	A combination of transistors and high-current op amps.
Body	A preamp with a strong low-frequency character.
Bite	Raspy high-mid bite.
Silk	Clean, mild, and smooth.
Iron	Transformer saturation with fast transients.

Practical Tips

- Compare amp modules at matched levels. Rebalance Output after switching, so a louder module doesn’t simply sound better.
- For subtle color on buses and full mixes, start with Silk or Tape and keep Gain moderate.
- For weight, try Body. For raspy edge in the high mids, try Bite. For fast, transformer-style saturation, try Iron.
- When you drive bass-heavy sources hard, raise Bass Relief to keep the low end from dominating the saturation.

Control Summary

Control	Range	Default	Description
Bass Relief	0.0 dB – 18.0 dB	0.0 dB	Lowers bass before the amp module; restores it at the output
Gain	0.0 – 8.0	4.0	Input level driving the amp module
Lows	-18.0 dB – 18.0 dB	0.0 dB	Low-shelf boost or cut, analog-style curve
Highs	-15.0 dB – 7.4 dB	0.0 dB	High-shelf boost or cut, analog-style curve
Output	-30.0 dB – 15.0 dB	0.0 dB	Level of the processed signal
Amp Modules	Tape, Heat, Body, Bite, Silk, Iron	Tape	Selects one of six preamp models

Wavesystem Toolbar



Use the bar at the top of the plugin to save and load presets, compare settings, undo and redo steps, and resize the plugin. To learn more, click the icon at the upper-right corner of the window and open the WaveSystem Guide.