learn:EQ

Contents

Welcome to learn:EQ

learn:EQ is an AI-powered equalizer designed to help users achieve tonal balance and clarity – while learning the fundamentals of EQing along the way. Whether you're just starting out in music production or looking to refine your understanding of frequency shaping, learn:EQ offers both intelligent results and insightful guidance.

Powered by sonible's AI engine, the plug-in listens to your audio, identifies key frequency zones and applies tailored EQ settings. With clearly labeled controls and real-time visual feedback, learn:EQ turns every mix decision into a learning opportunity.

System requirements

CPU
Intel Core i5
AppleM1
RAM
4GB

Operating systems
Windows 10+ (64 bit)
Mac OS 10.14+

OpenGL Version 3.2+

> ⚠ You will need admin privileges to successfully install the learn:EQ plug-in.

Mac OSX

To start the installation process, please open the disk image **sonible_learneq_osx_x.x.x.dmg**. This will mount the image and open a finder window showing the content of the installation package.

To install learn:EQ on your system, run the installation file **learneq.pkg**.

The installer will now guide you through the necessary steps to install learn:EQ on your computer. learn:EQ will automatically be installed in the default locations for audio plug-ins.

Default folders:

Audio Unit
/Library/Audio/Plug-Ins/Components/

VST
/Library/Audio/Plug-Ins/VST/

VST3
/Library/Audio/Plug-Ins/VST3/

AAX
/Library/Application Support/Avid/Audio/Plug-Ins/

Windows

To start the installation process, extract the downloaded zip-file **sonible_learneq_win_x.x.x.zip** onto your hard disk and run the installer.

The installer will now guide you through the necessary steps to install learn:EQ on your computer. learn:EQ will automatically be installed in the default locations for audio plug-ins.

Default folders:

VST3
C:\Program Files\Common Files\VST3\

VST
C:\Program Files\Common Files\VST\

AAX
C:\Program Files\Common Files\Avid\Audio\Plug-Ins

Licensing system

You can select between two licensing systems: machine-based or iLok (USB dongle or cloud).

By creating a user account on www.sonible.com and registering your products – if they are not already visible in your Dashboard, you can manage your plug-in activations.

Machine-based
Each license key allows you to install learn:EQ on two computers with unique system IDs. These system IDs are computed during license activation.

The same license can be used by multiple users, but each user has to individually unlock the full version of learn:EQ under their account.

In case a system-ID is changed (e.g. replacement of the hard drive), you can revoke/activate the plug-in next to the respective system-ID in the Dashboard of your sonible user account.

iLok
If you want to transfer one activation to your iLok, just make sure the plug-in is registered in your sonible user account. Click on the button „transfer to iLok" next to the plug-in in your Dashboard and follow the instructions.

Note: 1st gen iLok dongles and machine based iLok activations are currently not supported.

Unlocking

If you purchased a license for learn:EQ online, you receive your license key via email.

Machine-based unlocking
When opening learn:EQ for the first time, a notification window will be displayed asking you to unlock learn:EQ with a valid license key.

Please make sure that your computer is connected to the internet before starting the registration process.
Enter your license key and click „register." The plug-in will now communicate with our server to check if the license is valid. If it is – enjoy! :)

iLok
If you transferred your license to an iLok, simply attach the iLok to your computer or start a iLok cloud session. The plug-in will then be automatically registered – enjoy!

If you don't receive the email within minutes please check your junk folder first before contacting our support (**support@sonible.com**).
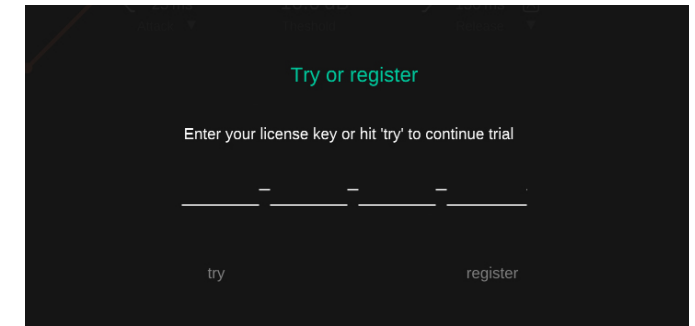
Trial version

To run learn:EQ in demo-mode, simply click "try" and you will then be able to use learn:EQ for a couple of days without any limitations. (Please refer to our website to find out more about the current demo period of learn:EQ) When the demo period expires, you will need to purchase a full license in order to continue using the plug-in.

Internet connection requirements
sonible plug-ins only needs an internet connection during the trial period and for initial license activation. During the trial period, the plug-in needs to go online every time it is used. Once the license of your plug-in has successfully been activated, an internet connection is no longer needed.

View Switch (Assisted / Advanced)
Toggles between Assisted View, for simplified tonal control and Advanced View, which offers full manual editing of EQ bands.

Profiles & Learning
Select a profile and start the analysis process to adapt the EQ processing to your source material. learn:EQ uses sonible's AI engine to listen to your audio and create a content-aware EQ curve tailored to your source.

Intensity
Controls the strength of the corrective EQ curve applied after learning. Increase to apply more dramatic tonal shaping; reduce for a subtler touch.

EQ Curve (purple)
Displays the final equalization applied to your signal, combining the AI-learned curve and your manual adjustments.

Styles
Choose from three tonal characters (Warm, Neutral and Bright) to instantly shape the overall sound in a direction that fits your mix.

Dynamic
Increase the Dynamic parameter to allow the automated EQ curve respond in real time to changes in the input signal.

Tone Curve (green)
Visualizes the contribution of the Tone Sliders – showing how your tonal shaping affects the overall EQ curve.

Tone Sliders
In Assisted View, up to six Tone Sliders appear at musically relevant frequency regions. Use them to adjust the tonal character of your sound with intuitive, labeled controls.

Headphone Icon
Click to solo the frequency region associated with a Tone Slider - perfect for identifying problem areas and training your ears.
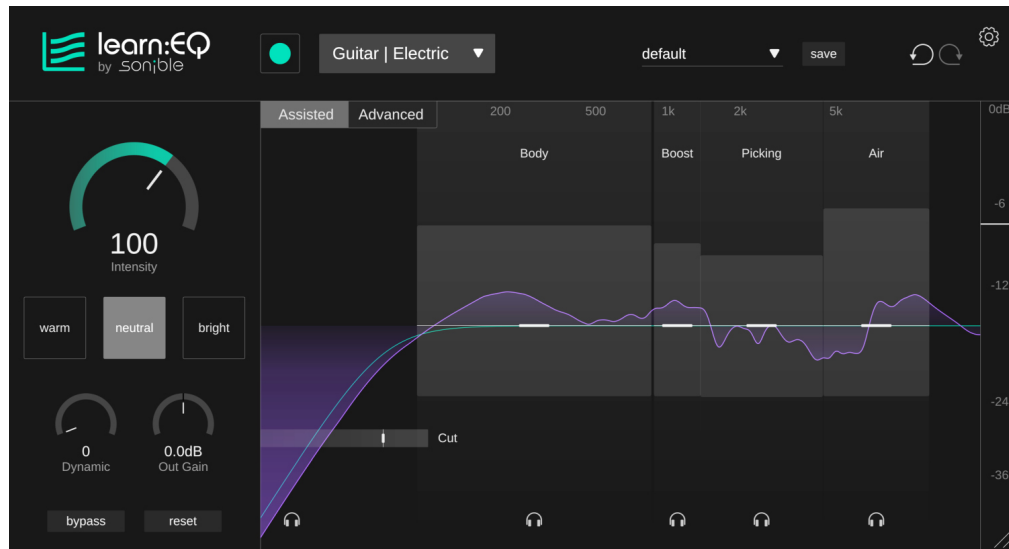
Output Gain
Sets the output level of the signal post-EQ. Use to match loudness after applying EQ changes.

Meter
Displays the output level after EQ processing. Use it to ensure consistent loudness.
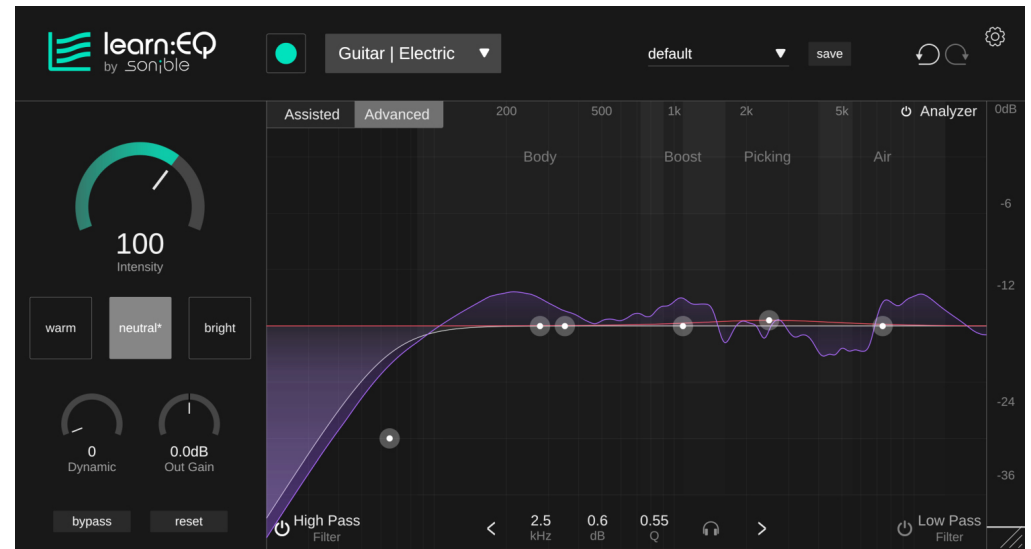
learn:EQ offers two interface modes that adapt to your
workflow and experience level:

Assisted View

Assisted View provides streamlined, content-aware
controls tailored to your selected source profile. This
view highlights only the most relevant parameters – so
you can make quick, confident tonal decisions without
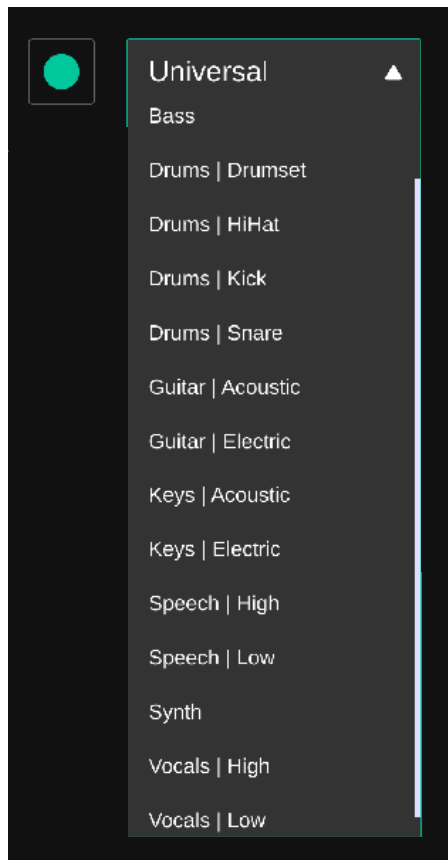leaving your creative flow. It's the default view when you
open the plug-in.

Advanced View

Advanced View unlocks full control over all EQ parameters.
Here, you can dive deep into the details – manually
adjust frequency bands, shape filter curves and refine
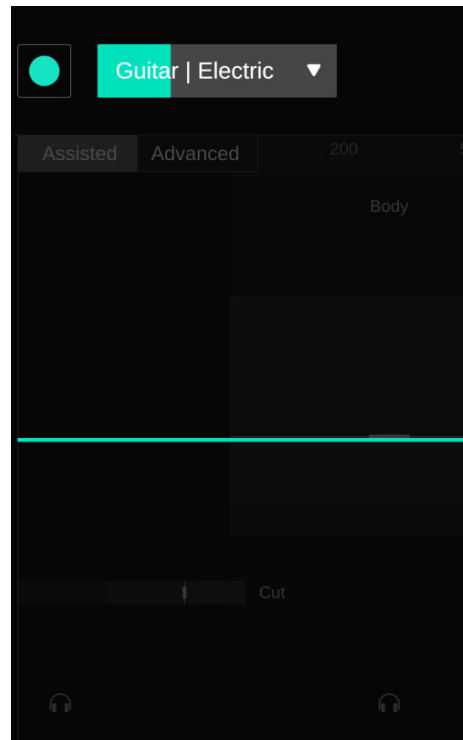the EQ exactly to your taste.

Switch between views at any time using the toggle in the
upper left corner of the EQ display. Your settings carry
over, so you can start in Assisted View and fine-tune later
in Advanced View without losing your adjustments.

The core of learn:EQ is its ability to automatically generate a source-specific EQ curve using sonible's AI engine. This learning process typically forms the first step in your work-flow with the plug-in.

4. Listen to the Result

Once learning is complete, the plug-in displays a purple curve in the EQ visualizer, representing the automatically generated correction. At the same time, the Tone Sliders in Assisted View become active – giving you intuitive control over key tonal regions, clearly labeled for easy adjustment.
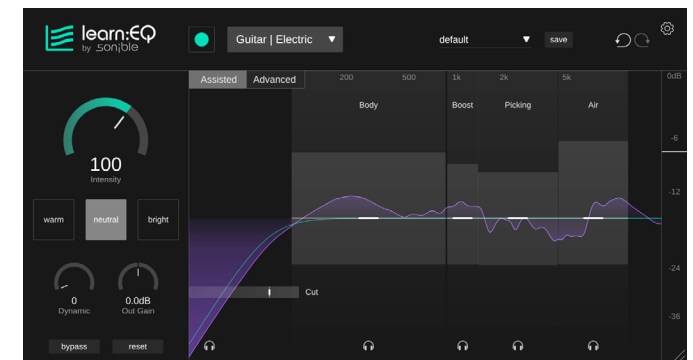

2. Play Your Audio

Start playback in your DAW. Make sure your selected source is clearly audible – ideally during a representative section of the track (e.g. a full phrase or dense passage).

3. Start the Learning Process

Click the Learn button to begin analysis. A progress in-dicator will appear within the button to show the learning status. During this phase, learn:EQ analyzes the signal and calculates a corrective EQ curve.

1. Choose a Profile

Use the dropdown menu to select the profile that best matches your audio source. If no specific match fits, select Universal for a general-purpose analysis.

INFO:
- *You can repeat the learning process at any time by clicking the relearn button – for example, if you want the plug-in to analyze a different section of your track.*

- *You don't need to re-learn when switching Profiles – learn:EQ adjusts its parameters based on the original analysis.*

1 Refine the Amount of Correction

The Intensity slider lets you control how strongly the automatically generated EQ curve is applied. Reducing the intensity will soften the effect of the correction, while increasing it will make the adjustments more pronounced. The curve in the EQ display scales accordingly.

2 Select a Style

Use the three Style buttons — Warm, Neutral and Bright — to quickly shift the overall tonal character of your sound. After choosing a Style, you can further refine the result using the Tone Sliders in Assisted View or by adjusting filter bands in Advanced View. For more details, see Fine-tune Your Sound on page 10.

3 Switching Profiles

You can change the Instrument Profile at any time to better match the audio you're working with. When switching profiles, the plug-in automatically resets the EQ curve and Tone Sliders to fit the newly selected source.

Resetting a Style

If you've manually adjusted a Style using sliders or filter nodes, an asterisk (*) appears next to its name. To revert that Style to its default settings, hover over the Style label and click Reset.

Working in Assisted View

In Assisted View, learn:EQ provides clearly labeled Tone Sliders at frequency regions relevant to your audio. These sliders let you shape your sound quickly and musically.

Each slider is named according to the tonal characteristic it controls – for example, **Body, Clarity** or **Air**.

Example

If you've recorded an acoustic guitar and want a fuller sound, select the Acoustic Guitar profile, run the learning process, then increase the Body slider. You'll immediately hear the guitar gain warmth and low-mid presence.

Dynamic Adaption

The Dynamic parameter controls how actively the automatically computed EQ curve responds to changes in the incoming signal. When increased, the adjustments become more adaptive. This results in a more transparent and musical response, particularly useful on signals that vary over time, such as vocals, acoustic instruments or complex mixes. It helps preserve the natural feel of a performance while still applying the necessary tonal shaping.

Soloing Frequency Regions

To better understand what each Tone Slider is affecting, you can click the headphone icon below the EQ display to solo its corresponding frequency range. This helps you focus on specific tonal areas and train your ear.

Working in Advanced View

In Advanced View (see image on next page), you have full access to all EQ parameters, allowing you to shape the sound in detail. To help you stay oriented, the background of the EQ display shows shaded areas that represent the frequency ranges assigned to the Tone Sliders from Assisted View.

Note: If you modify a filter associated with a Tone Slider in Advanced View, that slider becomes inactive in Assisted View. To reconnect the slider to its default range, simply hover over the colored thumb in Assisted View and click Reset.

Filter Types

Alongside the automatically generated, high-resolution corrective EQ curve, learn:EQ offers a set of fully parametric filters for manual adjustments:
- **5 Bell filters**
- **2 High Shelf / Low Shelf filters**
- **2 High Pass / Low Pass filters**

These filters give you precise control to refine your sound beyond the AI-generated starting point.

1 Parameter Container

You can modify and monitor all filter settings using the Parameter Container at the bottom of the EQ display. This panel always shows the parameters of the currently selected filter. To select a filter, simply click on its thumb or step through the filters using the left and right arrow.

- Click and drag a value vertically to increase or decrease it
- Click on the label to type in a specific value directly
- Double-click a label to reset the parameter to its default setting

2 Bell Filters (Interactive Filter Thumbs)

Each filter appears as an interactive thumb in the EQ display. You can adjust the filter by:

- **Dragging horizontally** to change the frequency
- **Dragging vertically** to adjust the gain
- **Using your scroll wheel** (hovering over a thumb) to change:
  - Filter bandwidth (Bell, Shelf)
  - Filter steepness (High/Low Pass)

You can use the following shortcuts to speed up workflow and gain more control:
- **Alt + Click + Drag ->** Adjust the filter's bandwidth or slope
- **Shift + Click + Drag ->** Lock the center frequency while adjusting gain
- **Double-click ->** Reset the filter to default

3 Real-Time Analyzer

To visually monitor your audio spectrum, enable the real-time analyzer in the upper-right corner of the EQ display. This feature gives immediate feedback and helps you understand how your adjustments affect the signal.

4 High Pass / Low Pass and Shelving Filters

In addition to the five Bell filters, learn:EQ provides shelving filters and high/low pass filters to refine the low and high ends of your mix.

Click the on/off button to enable either a high/low pass or shelf filter.
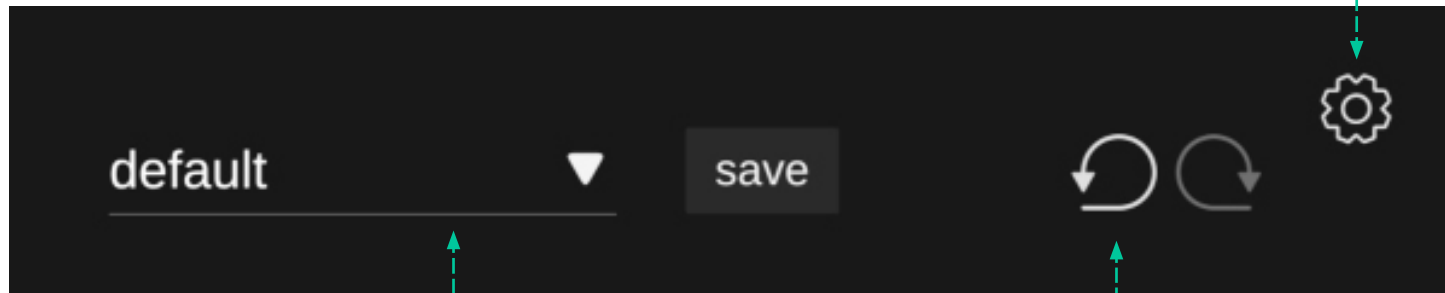
Click the label to toggle between High Pass and Low Shelf (on the low end) or Low Pass and High Shelf (on the high end).

Adjust the filters by dragging the filter thumb in the EQ display (note: high/low pass filters move horizontally only) or by using the Parameter Container for more precise control.

Settings
To visit the settings page, click the cogwheel in the upper right corner.

Save and Load Presets
To save a preset (including all current parameter settings), click the Save icon in the Control Section. To load a preset, simply select it from the dropdown menu.

If you'd like to rename or delete a preset, open the preset folder in your file system. You can also copy presets between workstations to share your settings easily.

Presets are saved with the file extension .spr in the following default locations:

• macOS: ~/Library/Audio/Presets/sonible/learneq
• Windows: C:\Users\<User>\Documents\sonible\
  learneq\Presets

Undo / Redo
Step backward or forward through your recent changes.

Start in Advanced View

Enable this option if you prefer Advanced View as your default. The plug-in will open in Advanced View each time you load it.

Show tooltips
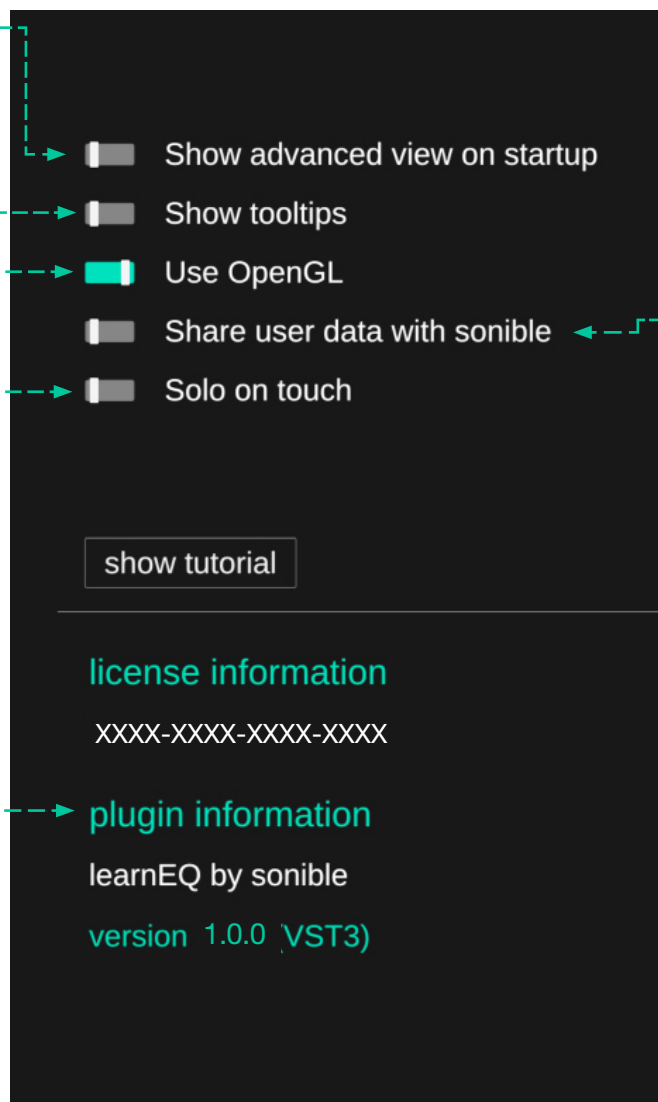
Enable/Disable tooltips on hover.

Use OpenGL

OpenGL might cause rendering issues on certain computer hardware. Use this option to disable OpenGL.

Solo on Touch

When enabled, the plug-in will automatically solo the frequency band of a filter while you adjust its thumb (e.g. during frequency or gain changes). This makes it easier to hear exactly what you're affecting in real time.

Plug-in & Licensing Information

Here you can find the name and version of your plug-in as well as the license key (when not licensed via iLok)

Show advanced view on startup
Show tooltips
Use OpenGL
Share user data with sonible
Solo on touch

show tutorial

license information

XXXX-XXXX-XXXX-XXXX

plugin information

learnEQ by sonible

version 1.0.0 VST3)

Take Guided Tour

Click this button to restart the Guided Tour. This will walk you through the key features of the plug-in step by step.

Share anonymous user data with sonible

Enable to share fully anonymous user data with sonible and help us improve our plug-ins.

Update notice

When a new version of the plug-in is available, you'll receive a notification here and it's also indicated by a little dot on the cogwheel in the main view of learn:EQ. Click on the green text to download the latest version.

www.sonible.com/learnbundle

All specifications are subject to change without notice.

www.sonible.com