KIOSK.



USER MANUAL · EFFECT PLUGIN · K-04

KIOSK K-04 PLAYER

The sound of a 90s player: smile EQ, width, grit and preamp.

VERSION	PLATFORM	FORMATS	MANUAL DATE
0.4.0	MACOS 11+	AU · VST3 · STANDALONE	NOVEMBER 2026

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CHAPTER 01

Welcome to KIOSK K-04 PLAYER

PLAYER makes any track sound as if it is coming out of a late-90s desktop music player on a beige tower PC. It gives you the “smiley” graphic-EQ curve, a low-bitrate rip, the “3D stereo” checkbox, and the preamp slider turned up until the sound flattens against 0 dBFS.

It is an audio effect, not a media player. There is no file browser and no playlist. The cassette on the panel is how you step through presets and bypass the effect.

- **SMILE · WIDTH · GRIT · PREAMP:** the four colour controls.
- **Cassette transport:** REW / FF = previous / next preset, PLAY / STOP = on / bypass, EJECT = preset list.
- **28 presets in 11 groups**, plus your own.



KIOSK K-04 PLAYER, the main window.

System requirements

Computer	Mac with **Apple Silicon or Intel** (universal build)
System	**macOS 11 Big Sur or later**
Formats	**Audio Unit** effect, **VST3** effect, **Standalone** app
Channels	Mono or stereo
Latency	**0 samples**

CHAPTER 02

Installing PLAYER

What's in the download

FILE	WHAT IT IS	COPY IT TO
`KIOSK K-04 PLAYER.component`	Audio Unit (Logic Pro, GarageBand, MainStage…)	`~/Library/Audio/Plug-Ins/Components/`
`KIOSK K-04 PLAYER.vst3`	VST3 (any VST3 host)	`~/Library/Audio/Plug-Ins/VST3/`
`KIOSK K-04 PLAYER.app`	Standalone app (optional)	`~/Applications/` or `/Applications/`

Your download may come as a .zip or disk image. Unzip or open it first.

1. Open the Finder and choose **Go › Go to Folder…** (Shift+Cmd+G). Paste `~/Library/Audio/Plug-Ins/` and press Return. If the **Components** or **VST3** folders don't exist, create them.
2. Drag `KIOSK K-04 PLAYER.component` into **Components** and `KIOSK K-04 PLAYER.vst3` into **VST3**.
3. Optionally drag `KIOSK K-04 PLAYER.app` into Applications.
4. Restart your DAW and let it rescan.

> **IMPORTANT**
> This build is **ad-hoc signed and not notarized by Apple**, so macOS treats it as coming from an unidentified developer. The first time, the DAW may say the plugin "can't be opened" or "is damaged", or the app may be blocked. Nothing is wrong with the file. Follow the steps below once.

OPENING IT THE FIRST TIME

- **Standalone app, macOS 15 or newer:** double-click the app, click **Done**, then open **System Settings › Privacy & Security**, scroll to **Security** and click **Open Anyway**. Confirm with your password and click **Open Anyway** again.
- **Standalone app, macOS 11–14:** right-click the app › **Open** › **Open**.
- **Plugins inside a DAW:** if the DAW refuses to load them, use the Terminal fallback below. It is the fastest fix for AU and VST3 bundles.

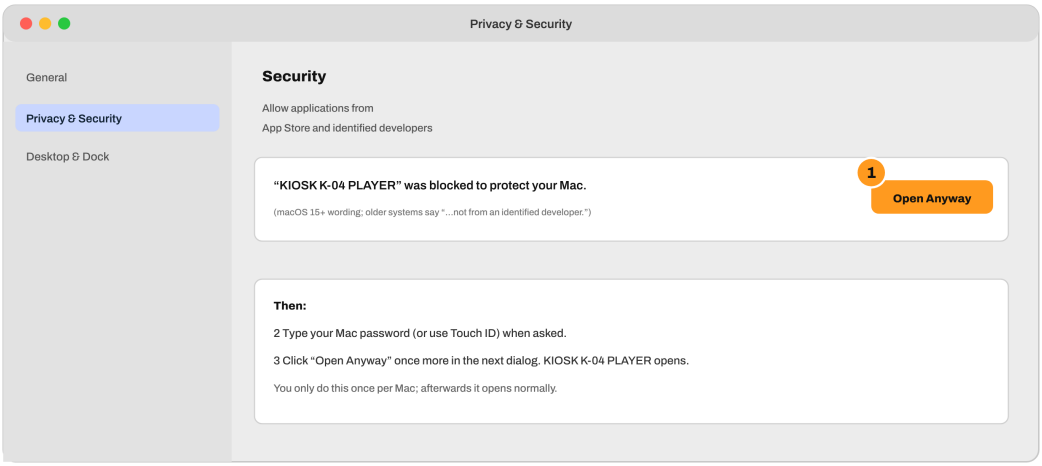


Illustration of the Open Anyway button. Your screen may look slightly different.

IF MACOS STILL BLOCKS IT: THE TERMINAL FALLBACK

If you get **"can't be opened"** or **"is damaged and can't be opened"**, the download flag is still on the file. Clear it once in **Terminal** (Applications › Utilities). Copy the line for the file that is blocked:

```
xattr -dr com.apple.quarantine ~/Applications/"KIOSK K-04 PLAYER.app" xattr -dr com.apple.quarantine ~/Library/Audio/Plug-Ins/Components/"KIOSK K-04 PLAYER.component" xattr -dr com.apple.quarantine ~/Library/Audio/Plug-Ins/VST3/"KIOSK K-04 PLAYER.vst3" killall -9 AudioComponentRegistrar
```

The last line refreshes the Audio Unit list. Then quit and reopen your DAW. These commands only remove the "downloaded from the internet" flag from KIOSK's own files.

Make your DAW see the plugin

- **Logic Pro / GarageBand / MainStage (AU):** quit and reopen. If the plugin is missing, open **Logic Pro › Settings › Plug-in Manager**, select the plugin and click **Reset & Rescan Selection**.
- **Any VST3 host:** use the host's plugin rescan command, or restart it. The VST3 lives in `~/Library/Audio/Plug-Ins/VST3` (or `/Library/Audio/Plug-Ins/VST3` for all users).
- Look for it under the maker name **Carlos Ferrin** or under **KIOSK K-04 PLAYER**.

Demo and activation

KIOSK K-04 PLAYER is fully featured for **14 days**. The **DEMO · N DAYS** pill at the top shows the time left. After the demo it reads **DEMO ENDED · ACTIVATE**. The plugin keeps working, but the audio fades out briefly (about one second) roughly once a minute. There are no pop-ups.

1. Click the **DEMO** pill. The activation panel opens.
2. Type the **EMAIL** you bought with and paste the **LICENSE KEY**. It starts with `KIOSK1-`. **PASTE** fills it from the clipboard.
3. Click **ACTIVATE**. The pill turns to **LICENSED**, and the message tells you how many of your computers are in use.

- Activation needs internet once. After that the plugin works offline on that computer.

- Moving to a new Mac? Click **DEACTIVATE THIS COMPUTER** on the old one first, while it is online. That frees the activation.
- A **bundle** key unlocks all four plugins of the series (ATRIO, K-02, DEAI, PLAYER) at once.
- The license is stored in `~/Library/Application Support/KIOSK/license.json`.

CHAPTER 03

Quick start

1. Insert **KIOSK K-04 PLAYER** on a track or the mix bus.
2. Press **FF** and **REW** on the cassette to step through the presets, or **EJECT** to open the list.
3. Shape it: **SMILE** for the V-shaped EQ, **WIDTH** for the 3D stereo, **GRIT** for the low-bitrate rip, **PREAMP** for the clipping drive.
4. Press **STOP** to hear the original and **PLAY** to bring PLAYER back.

CHAPTER 04

The controls



The PLAYER window. The numbers match the list below.

1. **DEMO pill:** demo days left, or LICENSED.
2. **PRESET field with ‹ › arrows.**
3. **Product card.**
4. **Cassette window:** decoration.
5. **Counter:** *SIDE A · m:ss* with PLAY or STOP. It runs while the effect is on. Display only.
6. **REW:** previous preset.
7. **PLAY:** effect on (un-bypass).
8. **FF:** next preset.
9. **STOP:** bypass.
10. **EJECT:** opens the preset list.
11. **SMILE.**
12. **WIDTH.**
13. **GRIT.**
14. **PREAMP.**
15. **DIRECT switch:** bypass, the same as STOP.
16. **KIOSK. badge:** OPEN MY PRESETS FOLDER · SAVE CURRENT AS…

KNOB	WHAT IT DOES (0 = UNTOUCHED)
SMILE	The graphic-EQ “smiley” curve: a 10-band EQ pulled into a V. Loudness is matched, so in practice it scoops the mids and the bass and treble come forward.
WIDTH	The “3D stereo” enhancer: more side signal above 250 Hz, and even mono sources widen. The lows stay tight and the mono sum keeps its level.
GRIT	A low-bitrate rip: bit reduction, high-frequency “resampling” grit and the encoder’s low-pass, which darkens as you turn it up.
PREAMP	The preamp slider driven into the 0 dBFS wall: up to +10 dB of drive into a soft clipper, with partial make-up. The mix gets denser, not louder. Quiet parts stay clean.
DIRECT	Bypass (host bypass, MIDI CC 90), click-free. STOP and PLAY on the cassette do the same.

The order is SMILE → GRIT → WIDTH → PREAMP. With all four at 0, the signal passes untouched. **Double-click** a knob to reset it.

> **NOTE**
> The panel text mentions “wow”. In this version the sound is shaped by the four knobs above. There is no separate pitch-wobble control.

CHAPTER 05

Presets

Using presets

Click the **PRESET** field at the top right to open the list. The factory presets are grouped into sub-lists, and a dot marks the group and preset that are active. The **‹ ›** arrows step to the previous or next preset without opening the list.

MY PRESETS

At the bottom of the list, **MY PRESETS** holds your own presets (sorted A–Z), followed by the actions:

- **SAVE AS…:** the preset field turns into a text box. Type a name (A–Z, 0–9, space, `-`, `_`, `.`, up to 16 characters; always capitals). **Return** saves; **Esc** cancels. If the name exists, you are asked whether to replace it.
- **SAVE:** overwrites the active user preset (only when one of your presets is active).
- **DELETE:** removes the active user preset after a confirmation. The sound stays as it is.
- Messages you may see: **SAVED.**, **GONE.** (deleted), **DISK SAYS NO.** (the file could not be written; check the folder permissions).

The **KIOSK.** badge at the bottom left opens a small menu with **OPEN MY PRESETS FOLDER** and **SAVE CURRENT AS…**. Each preset is a small file that you can copy to another Mac.

RESET TO DEFAULTS

- **One knob: double-click** it to return to its default.
- **Everything:** load the first factory preset (INIT).
- Your DAW session stores the current settings and preset name, so a project reopens exactly as you left it.

The 28 factory presets

GROUP	PRESET	SMILE	WIDTH	GRIT	PREAMP
Init	INIT	0.40	0.30	0.25	0.25
Vocal	VOICE MEMO	0.20	0.00	0.50	0.30
	STREAM VOCAL	0.30	0.20	0.40	0.35
	KARAOKE NIGHT	0.60	0.60	0.20	0.65
Drums	LOOP CRUNCH	0.60	0.20	0.40	0.80
	SMILEY BREAKS	0.80	0.40	0.30	0.65
Bass	SUBWOOFER BOX	0.70	0.00	0.15	0.55
	BASS CLIP	0.50	0.00	0.25	0.90
Guitar	NU-METAL RIP	0.85	0.30	0.45	0.70
	ACOUSTIC RIP	0.45	0.35	0.30	0.20
Synth	TRANCE SYNTH	0.75	0.85	0.20	0.50

GROUP	PRESET	SMILE	WIDTH	GRIT	PREAMP
	GAME MUSIC	0.55	0.50	0.60	0.30
Mix	SMILEY EQ	0.85	0.30	0.10	0.30
	LIGHT TOUCH	0.30	0.20	0.20	0.15
Rip	128K RIP	0.40	0.25	0.45	0.25
	96K STREAM	0.35	0.20	0.65	0.20
	DIAL-UP	0.30	0.10	1.00	0.35
	BURNED CD-R	0.50	0.30	0.20	0.40
Desk	BEIGE TOWER	0.55	0.20	0.35	0.45
	DESK SPEAKERS	0.70	0.40	0.25	0.35
	OLD LAPTOP	0.30	0.00	0.45	0.50
	SCREENSAVER	0.45	0.80	0.55	0.20
Party	LAN PARTY	0.80	0.70	0.40	0.85
	DORM ROOM	0.75	0.55	0.30	0.60
	VISUALIZER	0.90	0.90	0.20	0.55
	3AM PLAYLIST	0.60	0.60	0.20	0.15
Loud	PREAMP MAXED	0.50	0.30	0.25	1.00
	CLIP LIGHT ON	0.60	0.40	0.30	0.80

CHAPTER 06

MIDI and automation

MIDI control and automation

KIOSK K-04 PLAYER listens to these MIDI CCs **on any channel**. Send them from a controller to the plugin's track, or draw them in your DAW.

CONTROL	MIDI CC	NOTES
SMILE	85	
WIDTH	86	
GRIT	87	
PREAMP	89	CC 88 is skipped on purpose
DIRECT	90	≥ 64 = bypassed

Every control is also a normal **host parameter**, so you can automate it in your DAW and use your DAW's own MIDI Learn. The KIOSK effect plugins use separate CC ranges (ATRIO 20–24, K-02 25–29, K-03 DEAI 102–106, K-04 PLAYER 85–87, 89, 90), so all four can share one controller and one channel.

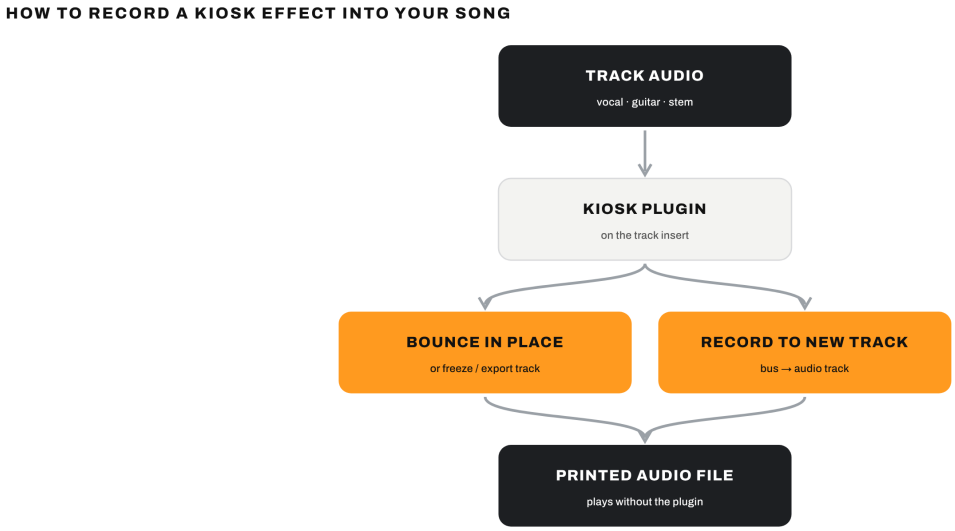
> **NOTE**
> Hosts route MIDI to effects differently. In Logic Pro, pick the MIDI source in the **side-chain menu at the top of the plugin window** (MIDI-controlled effects). In other hosts, route a MIDI track to the effect. Automation needs no MIDI at all.

CHAPTER 07

Recording and bouncing

Recording and bouncing: getting the effect into your song

KIOSK K-04 PLAYER is an audio effect. It changes the sound of a track live, and nothing is saved as audio until you **print** it. Do this when you want a file that sounds the same without the plugin, for example to send stems, to save CPU, or to finish a mix.



The two common ways to print an effect.

METHOD A: BOUNCE THE TRACK IN PLACE (LOGIC PRO)

1. Put KIOSK K-04 PLAYER on the track's insert and set it the way you like.
2. Select the track and choose **Track › Bounce Track in Place…** (for a single region, use **Bounce Regions in Place**).
3. Turn on **Include Audio Tail** so delays and reverbs ring out, and choose whether to bypass the plugins on the original track. Click **OK**.
4. Logic creates a new audio track with the effect printed. Solo it to check it.

METHOD B: RECORD THROUGH A BUS (ANY DAW)

1. Send the source track to a bus, and put KIOSK K-04 PLAYER on that bus (or keep it on the source track).
2. Create a new audio track whose **input** is that bus. Arm it and record the passage in real time.
3. Mute the original. Your new audio track is the printed effect.

METHOD C: EXPORT A FINISHED MIX OR STEM

Use your DAW's **Export / Bounce** command, for example **File › Bounce › Project or Section…** (Cmd+B) in Logic Pro. Every insert is rendered, KIOSK K-04 PLAYER included. Most DAWs also have **Freeze**, which saves CPU but keeps the track editable.

TIP

Before you print, check that you are **not in the demo's dropout phase** (after day 14 without a license). Otherwise the short dropouts get recorded too.

CHAPTER 08

Troubleshooting and FAQ

The DAW doesn't list the plugin. Check that the `.component` and `.vst3` are in your user or main Library `Audio/Plug-Ins` folders, run the Terminal fallback above, and rescan (chapter 2). Look under the maker name **Carlos Ferrin**.

"Can't be opened" / "is damaged". This is Gatekeeper, not a broken file. See *Opening it the first time* and the Terminal fallback.

The sound drops out briefly about once a minute. The 14-day demo has ended. Activate with your license key (chapter 2).

My knob moves don't stick: automation keeps resetting them. Your DAW is in automation *Read* mode with recorded data. Switch the track to *Off* or *Touch*, or delete the automation lane.

I want to compare with the original. Use the bypass switch. It is the host bypass parameter, so it is automatable and click-free.

Where are my presets? See *Where your files live*. Copy that folder to move them to another Mac.

CPU or latency? KIOSK K-04 PLAYER reports **zero latency**. Its tail (0.05 s) lets your DAW render the last echoes when you bounce.

It sounds louder or flatter on the master. That is PREAMP. Back it off, or use LIGHT TOUCH.

Where your files live

WHAT	WHERE
Your presets	`~/Library/Application Support/KIOSK K-04 PLAYER/Presets`
License	`~/Library/Application Support/KIOSK/`

To open a folder that starts with `~/Library`, use **Finder › Go › Go to Folder…** (Shift+Cmd+G) and paste the path.

Uninstalling

Delete these items. Each one may be in your user Library (`~/…`) or in the main Library (`/…`), depending on how you installed:

- `~/Applications/KIOSK K-04 PLAYER.app (or /Applications/KIOSK K-04 PLAYER.app)`
- `~/Library/Audio/Plug-Ins/Components/KIOSK K-04 PLAYER.component`
- `~/Library/Audio/Plug-Ins/VST3/KIOSK K-04 PLAYER.vst3`

Your presets and settings in `~/Library/Application Support/` are kept unless you delete them too.

CHAPTER 09

Version history

VERSION	CHANGES
0.4.0 (this manual)	New KIOSK look with the cassette transport (REW / PLAY / FF / STOP / EJECT). MY PRESETS. 14-day demo and license activation.
0.1	SMILE, WIDTH, GRIT, PREAMP and DIRECT, with 28 presets.

Trademarks and legal

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