PQ33 v1.31
PARAMETRIC VST EQUALIZER

INTRODUCTION

PQ33 is efficient, minimum-phase equalizer with seven filters. Three of them are fully parametric, two are semi-parametric and two are pass filters. Operating ranges for all knobs are moderate and appropriate for music equalization, so for extreme boosts/cuts or lab precision you should use some other EQ. Everything is kept simple and straight-forward to let you quickly sculpt desired spectrum curve.

- 3 peak filters with overlapping ranges, identical gains and Q factors (LMF, MF & HMF);
- 2 shelving filters for lows and highs (LF & HF);
- High-pass (12 dB/oct) and low-pass (6, 12 and 24 dB/oct) filters;
- Authentic saturation stage;
- All knobs are continuous, allowing fine adjustments of each control;
- All gains, including input trim, have +/-12dB operating range;
- 32-bit internal processing and support for most common sample rates;
- 16 presets, including very useful curves for complete mixes;

USAGE

Obviously, red knobs are for gain, blue are for Q factor, orange for central frequency, purple for cutoff frequency. Every filter can be switched on/off by clicking on it's label (LF, LMF, etc.), but they are all inactive if gain control is at zero position to avoid unnecessary CPU usage. High-shelf filter has two preselected Q factors: Q1 is gentler, Q2 is steeper. On the far left of GUI there's a global bypass button which lights yellow when it's activated. Passing filters are automatically disabled at their minimum (HP) and maximum (LP) positions and they engage from 34Hz and 18kHz, respectively. Low-pass filter has three slopes – 1st, 2nd and 4th order (6, 12 and 24 dB/oct) and they are switched when you click on the current value at top-right corner.

Popular technique is to apply big boost or cut, depending which effect do you want, then sweep frequency until you find the best sounding position, then slowly widen Q factor to cover only desired range and finally lower the gain to a reasonable amount. Whatever technique you use this equalizer limits margin of error by keeping you in the safe zone. To reset knobs to their default position double-click on them. For precise knob movement use CTRL. If you want to use PQ33 for sub-mixes or mastering you can try the last four presets as a starting point, since they produce gentle ear-pleasing results.

IMPORTANT: For the best results use higher sample rates (88.2kHz, 96kHz, etc.) on any high frequency equalization, especially when using LP filter.

If you have any questions or remarks, feel free to send them at ijovica@gmail.com.

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