CARVE AUDIO

GAS CAN AMP

High-octane grit in a can.

What the heck is this thing???

The **Gas Can Amp** is a gritty little troublemaker that adds instant attitude to anything you run through it. It is inspired by a rare, almost mythical battery-powered guitar amplifier from the 80s that found its way onto the first Foo Fighters record. The original was literally built into a plastic gas can. It looked wrong, sounded right, and somehow ended up on songs people still talk about.

This plugin captures that rough-around-the-edges charm and puts it in your DAW with way more control than the original box ever had. Want the classic buzzsaw bite that slices through a wall of guitars? Easy. Prefer a cleaner push with just a film of grit for extra presence? Also easy.

We've preserved the exact sound of the classic amplifier so you can get those legendary tones right out of the box. But we didn't stop there — the original was notorious for being a little limited with its frequency range. So we added expanded EQ controls that let you shape the tone to sit perfectly in a modern mix without losing the grit. It's the best of both worlds: the vibe of the old amp with the flexibility today's productions demand.

Guitars are the obvious easy target, but don't sleep on vocals. Need overdriven megaphone grit or a "small speaker" focus that jumps out of the mix? Gas Can Amp shines. Use it on parallel buses, double-tracked hooks, or any moment that needs unique texture. On its own, it can sound like a plastic can full of bees. In a track, it's the bee's knees — unforgettable, imperfect, and exactly the kind of character that makes music stick.

Controls

Gas Can Amp keeps things simple but powerful, just like the quirky original. Here's what you've got under the hood:

Input
Think of this as your "gas pedal" before the amp even gets rolling. Push it hot and the amp snarls faster. Pull it back and you've got a lot more room to play with the **Volume** knob for cleaner, edge-of-breakup tones. Great for finding that sweet spot between "slightly cranky" and "fully unhinged."

Volume
This is your preamp drive. The more you turn it, the more you're slamming the front end of the amp, and the more glorious fuzz and grit you'll get. Keep it lower for bite and edge, dime it when you want to melt faces.

Master
The final word on loudness. Think of **Volume** as how hard you're driving the amp, and **Master** as how loud you want that drive to hit your speakers. Balance the two and you can go from crunchy rhythm to screaming leads without losing control.

Bass
Dial in the low-end thump. Roll it back for a thin, radio-style bite, or crank it up when you want your guitar (or vocal!) to pack some extra beef.

Treble
This is your brightness control. Need clarity? Presence? A little bite to cut through a wall of guitars? This knob adds the sparkle. Turn it down if things get harsh, turn it up if you want more edge and excitement.

Gate (Power Button)
Switches the noise gate on or off. The amp already has plenty of character, but if you want things a little tighter between notes, flip this on and let the gate do the cleanup work.

Threshold
This sets the level where the gate kicks in. Lower it if you want the amp's raw buzz and hum to sneak through, raise it if you want dead silence between notes.

Decay
Think of this as your "tightness" control. It combines reduction, attack, and release into one knob so you don't have to overthink it. Turn it down for a smoother, more natural feel where notes and fades breathe. Crank it up for fast, aggressive clamping that makes riffs feel razor sharp and locked in.

Output
Your final stop before the DAW. Set this so your levels hit just right in the mix without red-lining.

Presets Bar
Scroll through factory presets or save your own creations. And yes, we included the OG "Everything at 10" setting that made the amp famous. Start there if you want the true 90s vibe, then tweak to taste.

Input Mode
Select whether the plugin processes the incoming signal in Mono or Stereo.

By default, the Gas Can Amp runs in Mono mode, even when inserted on a stereo track. This helps reduce CPU usage while maintaining the classic character of the amp.

Switching to Stereo mode allows the plugin to process left and right channels independently. This can be useful when working with stereo sources such as synths, buses, or effects returns.

Keep in mind that Stereo mode uses more CPU, since the plugin is processing two channels instead of one.

Shortcut to the Classic Setting

Want to instantly jump back to the legendary “all at 10” sound that made this amp famous? Just **double-click any knob** and it’ll snap right to where it would sit in the original maxed-out setting.

It’s a fast way to get that buzzing, mix-cutting texture without hunting for the sweet spot. From there, you can dial things back or shape with EQ to taste.

Other Interface Shortcuts

- **Carve Audio Logo** → Click here to view your licensing info.
- **Gas Can Amp Logo** → Click the logo when you’re feeling lost (or just curious). It’ll pull up this very manual so you can get back on track.
- **Resize Handle (bottom right corner)** → Click and drag to resize the plugin window to whatever size feels comfortable in your DAW.