SUBSOCIAL STUDIOS

Nasty Box

User Manual

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1 Introduction

Nasty Box is a very hi-fi model of a very lo-fi speaker. It probably uses too much CPU for such a bad sounding speaker, but that's why we love it.

Both the main clock radio woofer and tweeters were captured as unique models at 4 increasing levels and intensities. The actual Nasty Box has a different amplifier for the woofers and tweeters. Blend them together, or solo the tweeters for different effects.

> The actual box was designed to be terrible, or dare we say, nasty. Painted red and cartoon like, Nasty Box was designed to fail as an amplifier and set of speakers.

> The box is made of plastic, and uses no internal damping. It's just a bad little box.

> The internal amplifiers are starved of energy, so they distort quickly and have a very raw dynamic range profile.

> The main woofer is a vintage clock radio speaker that's been roughed up to perform badly. It lacks both high and low frequencies like every other crappy little speaker.

> The 4 tweeters were physically stuffed with random things like sand, pieces of plastic, glue, and dirt, so they have a very unpredictable way of reproducing higher frequencies.

Enjoy your new little Nasty Box!

2 System Requirements

	macOS	Windows
Minimum OS	macOS 10.15 (Catalina)	Windows 10 (64-bit)
Architecture	Apple Silicon + Intel (Universal)	x86-64 only, AVX2 required
Formats	VST3, Audio Unit (AU)	VST3
DAW	Any VST3/AU compatible DAW	Any VST3 compatible DAW
CPU (Minimum)	Intel Core i5/i7/i9	Intel Core i5/i7/i9 or AMD Ryzen 3
CPU (Recommended)	Apple Silicon M1+ or Intel 12th Gen	Intel 12th Gen+ or AMD Ryzen 5
RAM	4 GB minimum, 8 GB recommended	4 GB minimum, 8 GB recommended
Internet	Required for activation	Required for activation

> *Audio Unit (AU) is supported on macOS only. On macOS both VST3 and AU are installed.*

3 Installation

macOS

Double-click the installer and follow the on-screen steps. Both VST3 and AU are installed:

VST3 /Library/Audio/Plug-Ins/VST3/Nasty Box.vst3
AU /Library/Audio/Plug-Ins/Components/Nasty Box.component

> *Quit your DAW before installing. After installation restart your DAW and rescan plugins if Nasty Box does not appear.*

Windows

Double-click the installer and follow the on-screen steps:

VST3 C:\Program Files\Common Files\VST3\Nasty Box.vst3

> *Quit your DAW before installing. After installation restart your DAW and rescan your VST3 folder if Nasty Box does not appear.*

4 Activation & Licensing

- A valid license key is required to use Nasty Box.
- Each license allows up to **3 simultaneous machine activations**.
- Keys are in the format **XXXX-XXXX-XXXX-XXXX**.

Activating Nasty Box

- On first launch, Nasty Box shows an activation screen.
- Enter your license key and press Activate. An internet connection is required.
- On success the plugin confirms activation and launches the quick start guide.

Deactivating a Machine

- Click the **(i)** button at the top right of the plugin and choose **Deactivate License**.
- The slot is freed immediately.
- Always deactivate before reinstalling your OS or replacing a computer.

> *If a machine is lost and you cannot deactivate, contact support at subsocials.com.*

5 Interface Overview

Nasty Fader	Drive the nasty voices harder. This changes the overall dynamics, tone, and saturation response of each voice. This control affects the woofer voices only.
Nasty Mode	Choose from 4 nasty little woofer voices. 1 is the cleanest, 4 is the nastiest.
Fizz Mode	• Activate the Nasty Box tweeters. • Click again to turn off. • Left to right: cleaner to nastier. • Fizzy, to fuzzy, to crackly sounds.
Fizz Solo	• Isolate the tweeters to hear them on their own without the woofer. • If no Fizz mode is active, Solo does nothing and the woofer is still heard.
Wet Boost	Boost the output of the Nasty Box. This gets blended with the dry signal if you use any.
XXX	• On: full quality nastiness. • Off: saves CPU. • Keep off for a more raw, less dynamic sound.
Blend Fader	• Add your original dry signal back in here. This is a wet/dry crossfader. • When at maximum, Nasty Box is fully bypassed. • Load Nasty Box on a dedicated FX track for a true wet and dry blend.
Clipping Indicator	• Flashes red when clipping happens. • The output of Nasty Box has a tasty clipper/limiter that's always on. • Adjust your input or output levels to clip harder if desired.
Nasty Presets	• Explore the Factory Nasty Box Presets. • Save, delete, or update your own presets. • Presets will appear across all DAW hosts.
Info (i)	• Manage your license or relaunch the quick start guide. • Increase the plugin window size. The size is saved with your session.

6 Troubleshooting

Plugin doesn't appear in my DAW

- Restart your DAW and/or trigger a plugin rescan in its preferences.
- Confirm your DAW is scanning /Library/Audio/Plug-Ins/VST3 or /Library/Audio/Plug-Ins/Components (for AU) on macOS, or C:\Program Files\Common Files\VST3 on Windows.

Activation fails

Check your internet connection and confirm the key format (XXXX-XXXX-XXXX-XXXX). If you've hit the 3-machine limit, deactivate one machine first. Contact support if issues persist.

Crackling or dropouts

Turn off the XXX button and/or increase your DAW's buffer size as needed. Try freezing or bouncing/printing tracks that don't need live processing.

Latency

Nasty Box reports its minimum processing latency to your DAW, and the DAW compensates for it automatically during playback. For live playing use a small buffer size, for example 32 to 128 samples if possible.

Lost access to an activated machine

Contact support with your license key and/or order information, or your account email address and we will help you.

7 Credits & Legal

Nasty Box

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NeuralAmpModelerCore

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nlohmann/json

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