

TB//DIM

INSTALLATION & USER MANUAL

macOS | AAX + VST3 + AU | Version 1.0.0

Talk between takes.

Keep the session moving.



OPEN. DIM. MUTE.

A practical guide to setup,
talkback and transport control.



START HERE

Keep communication simple

TB//DIM controls your talkback microphone as the DAW stops, plays or records. Choose when the microphone stays open, becomes quieter or goes silent, then use TALK OVERRIDE whenever you need to speak.

COMPATIBILITY	WORKFLOW	AUTHORIZATION
macOS 12 or later Intel + Apple silicon AAX, VST3 and AU	Talkback and cue feeds STOP / PLAY / RECORD OPEN / DIM / MUTE	Payhip or Gumroad Two computers per license 14-day demo

In this manual

Read the setup pages for your first session, or select a topic below.

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YOUR STARTING POINT

The defaults are **STOP: OPEN, PLAY: DIM** and **RECORD: DIM**, with DIM at **-20 dB**. PLAY and RECORD are linked, and TALK OVERRIDE uses hold-to-talk mode.

INSTALLATION / MACOS

One installer. Three formats.

Use a compatible 64-bit DAW on macOS 12 or later. Choose the plug-in format your DAW uses.

- 1 Download your Mac installer.**
Use the official Payhip or Gumroad download. If your download is a ZIP, extract it first.
- 2 Save and close your audio applications.**
Quit your DAW and other plug-in hosts before installing or updating.
- 3 Open the installer package.**
Follow the Mac Installer prompts. Enter your administrator password if requested. Use Customize to select the formats you need.
- 4 Reopen your DAW.**
Allow its plug-in scan to finish, then insert TB//DIM on the talkback path. Look for Sound Freak Studios in the plug-in list.

FORMAT	USE IN
AAX	Pro Tools
VST3	Nuendo, Cubase and other VST3-compatible hosts
AU	Logic Pro and other Audio Unit-compatible hosts

Updating TB//DIM

Close your DAW and run the newer installer. Reopen your session and check the transport choices and DIM level before the next take. Your session settings and existing authorization are retained.

IF THE PLUG-IN IS MISSING

Confirm you installed the correct format, restart the DAW and use its plug-in rescan or manager if needed. Your DAW version must support your Mac and macOS version.

ACTIVATION

Activate once. Get to work.

Use the purchase email and complete TB//DIM license key from Payhip or Gumroad. An internet connection is required for first activation.

1

Open TB//DIM.

The activation panel appears on an unactivated computer.

2

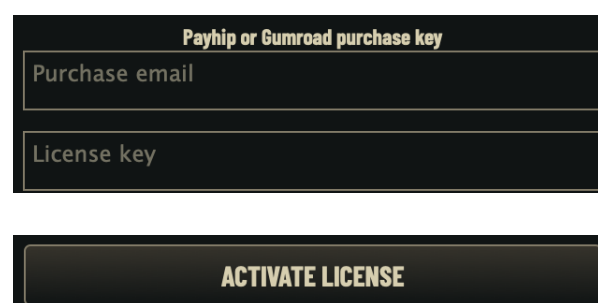
Enter your purchase details.

Use your purchase email and full license key. An order number or product-page code is not a license key.

3

Choose ACTIVATE LICENSE.

When activation succeeds, the panel closes and all license controls disappear from the paid interface.



The screenshot shows a dark-themed activation panel. At the top, it says "Payhip or Gumroad purchase key". Below this are two input fields: "Purchase email" and "License key". At the bottom is a large button labeled "ACTIVATE LICENSE".

The purchase fields and ACTIVATE LICENSE button.

TOPIC	HOW IT WORKS
Two computers	One paid license supports up to two computers.
Shared authorization	AAX, VST3 and AU share activation under the same Mac user account.
Changing computers	Activate the new computer with your purchase details. Contact support if you reach the computer limit.

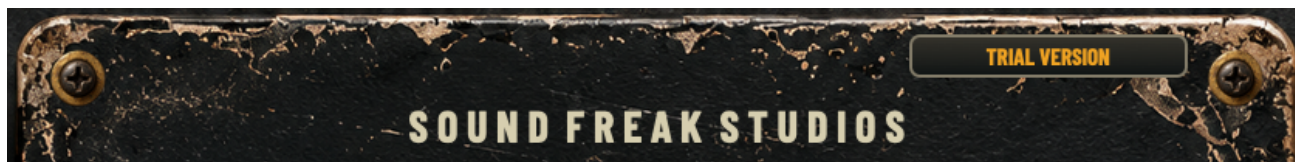
ACTIVATION HELP

Check your purchase email, complete key, internet connection and Mac date/time. Contact support privately if you need help; do not publish your complete license key.

DEMO + OFFLINE USE

Try it in your own session.

Choose TRY DEMO in the first-opening panel to try TB//DIM before activating a purchase.



Demo mode shows a small TRIAL VERSION banner at the top right.

Starting your demo

Connect to the internet for the first successful demo activation. The demo lasts 14 days from that start, and you can use the remaining time offline. Reopening, reinstalling or changing plug-in format does not restart the demo.

Moving to the paid version

Click the TRIAL VERSION banner to open activation, enter your purchase email and key, and choose ACTIVATE LICENSE while online. Successful paid activation removes the banner and license controls.

Paid offline use

Connect periodically so your authorization can renew automatically. After a successful renewal, paid use remains available for up to 30 days offline.

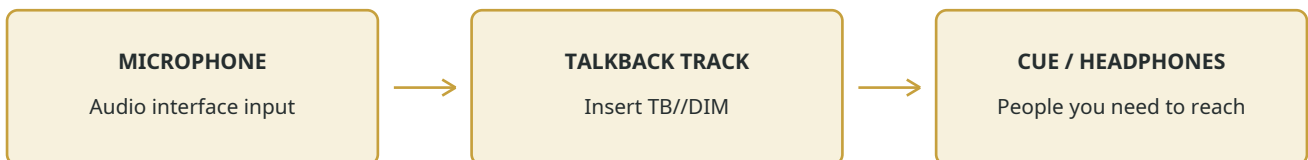
STATE	WHAT YOU SEE / HEAR
Unactivated	The activation panel is shown. Talkback output is muted.
Demo active	The controls work, with the small trial banner visible.
Paid and valid	The controls work, with no license banner or activation controls.
Demo expired	Activate a purchase to continue. Talkback output is muted.
Paid authorization expired	Reconnect to the internet to renew authorization. Output stays muted until authorization is valid.

Keep your Mac date and time correct. Your saved transport choices and DIM level remain in the DAW session.

FIRST SESSION / ROUTING

Put it on the talkback path.

Use a dedicated monitoring path for the talkback microphone so you can control communication without changing the programme audio.



1

Create a talkback track or AUX.

Select the microphone input and route its output to the intended cue or headphone mix. In Pro Tools, a mono AUX is a convenient starting point.

2

Insert TB//DIM on that path.

Start with the track at a sensible level and make sure the microphone is reaching it.

3

Check the starting choices.

Use STOP: OPEN, PLAY: DIM and RECORD: DIM, with DIM at -20 dB and PLAY/RECORD linked.

4

Test before the session.

Stop, play and record while watching the main circle. Check the level in the destination mix, then hold and release TALK OVERRIDE.

CHECK THE DESTINATION

Keep talkback out of the main programme or recorded mix unless you deliberately want it there. Avoid a microphone-to-speaker feedback loop, and check the headphone level before using override.

The circle is your confirmation

The big circle shows the current microphone action. Its small line of text tells you whether the DAW is stopped, playing or recording.

INTERFACE

Find your way around.

The large circle shows what the microphone is doing now. The controls below it choose how TB//DIM responds when the DAW transport changes.



1 Main status circle

OPEN, DIM or MUTE shows the current action. The level beneath it shows the current attenuation. You can also use the circle for talk override.

2 TALK OVERRIDE

Speak at full level while overriding the automatic transport choice.

3 DIM LEVEL

Set the amount of attenuation for DIM. The red numeric display can also be edited.

4 TRANSPORT BEHAVIOUR

Choose OPEN, DIM or MUTE separately for STOP, PLAY and RECORD.

5 LINK PLAY & RECORD

Keep playback and recording on the same action when the link is enabled.

WHAT STAYS VISIBLE

A paid, activated interface contains only the talkback controls. An active demo adds the small top-right TRIAL VERSION banner.

STATUS + DIM LEVEL

Read the circle. Set the level.

**OPEN**

Full microphone level

**DIM**

The chosen attenuation

**MUTE**

Microphone output silent

Current action versus DIM setting

OPEN always passes the microphone at full level. MUTE silences it. The DIM knob controls only the DIM action; changing it does not change the level of OPEN.



Adjust DIM in 5 dB steps

Drag the knob or use the mouse wheel to choose a value from -60 dB to 0 dB. More negative values make the microphone quieter. The red display shows the selected setting.

Type a value or reset

Double-click the red display, enter the level and press Return. Values snap to the nearest 5 dB step. Double-click the knob to return to -20 dB.

A USEFUL START

Use -20 dB for quieter communication during playback. Choose a lower value for less talkback, or select MUTE for complete silence. DIM at 0 dB is the same level as OPEN.

TRANSPORT BEHAVIOUR

Choose what happens in each state.

Set the microphone action for each part of the session. TB//DIM changes automatically as the DAW stops, plays or records.



Click the physical switch

Click the switch hardware to move through OPEN, DIM, MUTE, DIM and back to OPEN. Each click moves one position. The printed OPEN / DIM / MUTE words show the positions; clicking those words does not select them.

Or drag up and down

Drag the switch vertically to the position you want. Up is OPEN, the middle is DIM and down is MUTE. You can also use Up / Down when the switch has keyboard focus.

Link playback and recording

Click LINK PLAY & RECORD to make both transport states use the same action. Its light shows that the link is active. With the link off, you can set PLAY and RECORD separately when the DAW provides recording status.

WHEN RECORD FOLLOWS PLAY

If the panel reads **RECORD FOLLOWS PLAY** or the RECORD switch is dimmed, use the PLAY switch for both playback and recording. An independent RECORD choice is unavailable in that situation.

TALK OVERRIDE

Speak when you need to.

TALK OVERRIDE temporarily opens the microphone at full level, regardless of the selected transport action.



Momentary: hold to talk

This is the default. Press and hold TALK OVERRIDE or the main circle while speaking. Release it to return to the transport choice. The override light shows when talkback is open manually.

Latch: click to stay open

Right-click TALK OVERRIDE or the main circle and choose **Latch - click to toggle**. Click once to open and again to release. Choose **Momentary - hold to talk** to return to the default mode.

Release and resize

Escape clears TALK OVERRIDE. Closing the plug-in window also releases it. Right-click the talk control and choose 100%, 125%, 150% or 200% under INTERFACE SCALE, or drag a window corner to resize.

MUTE AND BYPASS ARE DIFFERENT

Use MUTE to silence the talkback output. Bypassing the plug-in in your DAW passes the incoming microphone at full level. Confirm that override is released before continuing the take.

EVERYDAY WORKFLOWS

Make it fit the room.

WORKFLOW	STOP	PLAY	RECORD
Quieter talkback during playback	OPEN	DIM	DIM
Silence during playback and takes	OPEN	MUTE	MUTE
Push-to-talk only	MUTE	MUTE	MUTE
Quiet talkback between takes	DIM	MUTE	MUTE

Quieter talkback during playback

Start with the defaults and adjust DIM for the room. Stop transport for normal conversation. Hold TALK OVERRIDE when a message needs to be heard at full level during playback.

Silent takes

Use PLAY: MUTE and RECORD: MUTE, with the link on. Keep STOP: OPEN for conversation between takes. The microphone closes when playback or recording begins.

Push-to-talk only

Set all three transport choices to MUTE and use momentary TALK OVERRIDE. The microphone opens only while you hold the talk control or the main circle.

Save a familiar starting point

Save the plug-in settings with the DAW session, or use your DAW preset or template features. Transport choices, DIM level, link, override mode and interface size are remembered.

OVERRIDE IS A LIVE ACTION

The engaged TALK OVERRIDE state is not recalled with a session. Closing the editor or reopening a session releases it. Automatic transport control continues while the plug-in window is closed.

These are starting suggestions. Check the actual level in the intended cue mix and choose the settings that suit your session.

TROUBLESHOOTING

Get back to the session.

The plug-in is not in the DAW list

Check that you installed AAX for Pro Tools, AU for Logic Pro or VST3 for a compatible host. Quit the DAW, run the installer and rescan. Confirm the DAW supports your Mac and macOS version.

There is no talkback sound

Check the microphone input, talkback track and cue routing first. Look at the main circle: MUTE is silent. Confirm activation is valid, check the DIM level, and try holding TALK OVERRIDE to check the talkback path.

The microphone is open when I expect silence

Check the action for the current transport state, release TALK OVERRIDE, and confirm the plug-in is enabled. A bypassed plug-in passes the microphone at full level. A linked PLAY / RECORD pair shares one action.

The circle says NO HOST TRANSPORT

TB//DIM cannot read the DAW transport at that moment, so automatic operation defaults to MUTE. Confirm the plug-in is on an active track or AUX, try playback, and reopen the plug-in. Contact support if the message remains.

RECORD is dimmed or follows PLAY

Use the PLAY switch for both playback and recording when separate recording status is unavailable. If you need independent actions, confirm the DAW supplies recording status and the link is off.

A typed DIM value changes to another number

DIM moves in 5 dB steps between -60 dB and 0 dB. A typed value between steps snaps to the nearest allowed setting.

Activation fails or the demo has ended

Check your purchase email, complete TB//DIM key, internet connection and Mac date/time. Reconnect if paid offline authorization has expired. After the demo ends, activate a purchase. Contact support for computer-limit issues.

REFERENCE + SUPPORT

Keep this page within reach.

CONTROL	ACTION
Transport switch	Click the hardware to cycle positions; drag vertically to choose a position.
Up / Down	Move the focused transport switch one position.
Space / Return	Cycle a focused transport switch. Space operates a focused talk control.
DIM knob	Drag or use the wheel to change attenuation in 5 dB steps.
Numeric DIM display	Double-click to type a level; Return applies it.
Double-click DIM knob	Restore -20 dB.
TALK OVERRIDE / main circle	Hold to talk in momentary mode; click to toggle in latch mode.
Escape	Clear TALK OVERRIDE while the plug-in has keyboard focus.
Right-click talk control	Choose override mode or interface scale.
LINK PLAY & RECORD	Share the playback and recording action.
TRIAL VERSION banner	Open paid activation during the demo.

Removing TB//DIM

Close your DAW and remove only the TB//DIM plug-in files from these Finder locations:

AAX: /Library/Application Support/Avid/Audio/Plug-Ins/TBDim.aaxplugin

VST3: /Library/Audio/Plug-Ins/VST3/TBDim.vst3

AU: /Library/Audio/Plug-Ins/Components/TBDim.component

Technical support

hello@soundfreakstudios.com

Include your Mac model, macOS version, DAW/version, plug-in format and TB//DIM version. Describe the action you expected and what the circle showed. Hide your complete license key in screenshots.

[Payhip product](#) | [Payhip demo](#) | [Gumroad product](#)

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