

SAFARI PEDALS

Gorilla Drive V2

Rich Germanium Overdrive with Independent Tone Stages and Smart Metering

Gorilla Drive V2 keeps the silky-smooth preamp emulation and rich Germanium overdrive of the original, then gives you far more say over it. Independent Lows, Drive and Highs stages move from deep, warm weight to crisp, cutting top end, Transient Split decides whether you lead with snap or with body, and Ape Mode throws the whole thing into the trees.



INSTALLATION REGISTRATION CONTROLS TOP BAR PRESETS TROUBLESHOOTING

SETUP

Installation

WINDOWS

- 1 Open the **.exe** installer.
- 2 Accept the license agreement.
- 3 Choose your plugin formats (VST3, AAX and/or Standalone).
- 4 Click **Next** → **Install**.

MAC

- 1 Open the **.pkg** installer.
- 2 Accept the license agreement.
- 3 Choose your plugin formats (VST3, AU, AAX and/or Standalone).
- 4 Click **Continue**, enter your password and install.

After installing: restart your DAW so it rescans the plugin folders. Gorilla Drive V2 installs alongside V1 - both can be used in the same session.

ACTIVATION

Registration

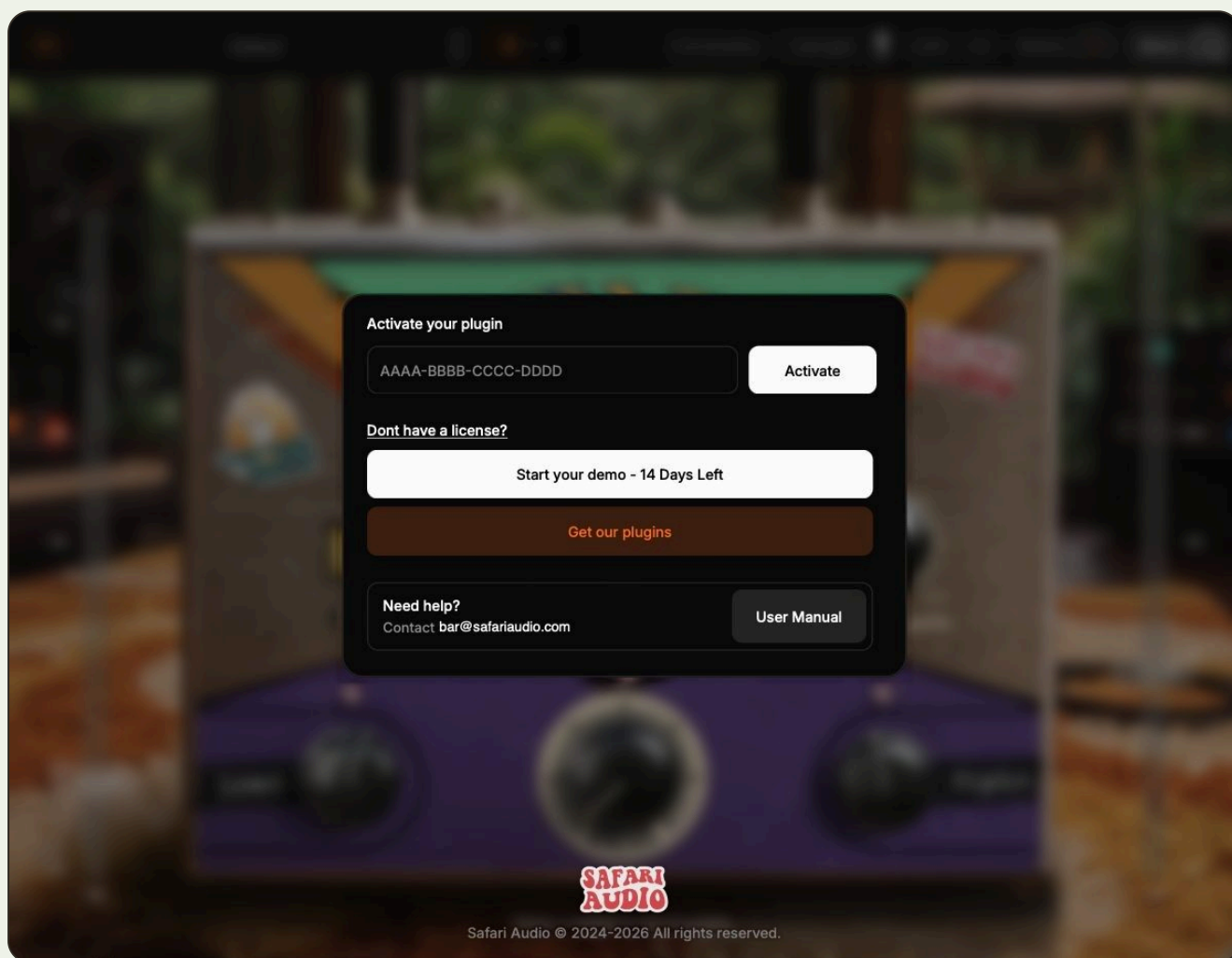
When you open Gorilla Drive V2 for the first time, you will see the activation screen. From here you can enter a license key, start a free trial, or open this manual.

Subscription

Includes all current and future Safari plugins.
Once activated, any new plugin you download works without additional authorization.

Perpetual License

Gives you lifetime access to the plugins you purchased. Does not include future plugin releases.



ACTIVATION SCREEN

START A TRIAL OR REGISTER

Enter your serial number in the **AAAA-BBBB-CCCC-DDDD** field and click **Activate**. Don't have a license yet? Click **Start your demo** for a free 14-day trial, or **Get our plugins** to purchase. The **User Manual** button opens this document at any time.

Offline Use: An internet connection is required only for the first activation. After that, the plugin works offline.

CONTROL LAYOUT

Controls & Features

Gorilla Drive V2 is laid out to follow the signal: level in on the left, drive and tone shaping across the pedal face, transient and character controls above, and level out on the right. Global functions live in the top bar.

DRIVE & TONE

Drive	Dials in harmonic richness and grit for a fuller, warmer character. This is the heart of the pedal - everything else shapes what Drive produces.
Lows	Adjusts the low-end weight to bring more punch or more clarity to your sound.
Highs	Shapes the upper frequency range to add brightness or smooth out harshness.



LOWS · DRIVE · HIGHS

CHARACTER

Transient Split

Balances the attack against the body of the sound. Turn toward **Snap** to sharpen the initial hit, or toward **Body** to push weight and sustain forward.

Ape Mode

Adds extra distortion and compression for a wilder, grittier sound. Engage it when the pedal needs to stop behaving.



TRANSIENT SPLIT



APE MODE

INPUT & OUTPUT

Input Gain	Sets the level going into the distortion circuit. Because the drive stage reacts to level, this is a tone control as much as a gain control.
Output Gain	Sets the overall output level so the pedal sits correctly in your mix.
Level Meters	Stereo meters flank both sliders, scaled from 0 dB down to $-\infty$, so you can watch input and output at a glance.



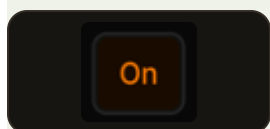
GLOBAL FUNCTIONS

The Top Bar

Every global function lives in a single strip across the top of the plugin - bypass, presets, A/B, quality, gain matching, metering, and blend.

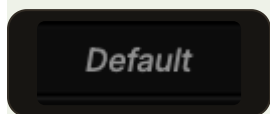


THE COMPLETE TOP BAR



On / Bypass

Bypasses the plugin's effect while leaving it loaded, for quick before-and-after checks.



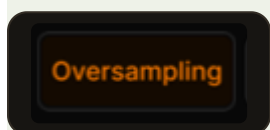
Preset Menu

Shows the loaded preset. Click the name to open the browser, or use the arrows to step through presets one at a time.



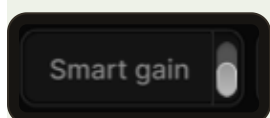
A/B Compare

Holds two independent settings so you can flip between them and hear which one works, without losing either.



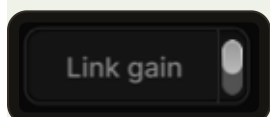
Oversampling

Doubles the internal sample rate for a cleaner sound and reduced aliasing. Worth engaging when you are pushing Drive hard.



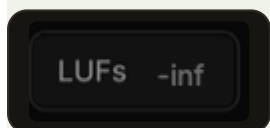
Smart Gain

Automatically matches output loudness to the input using short-term LUFS, so louder never gets mistaken for better.



Link Gain

The second mode of the same switch. Links the input and output controls so raising one lowers the other for effortless level matching.



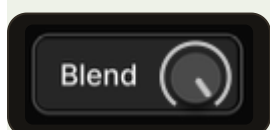
LUFS

Short-term loudness readout, for level awareness without reaching for another meter.



Battery

Simulates the life cycle of a power supply. Drain the voltage for unstable, worn, extra-vintage grit.



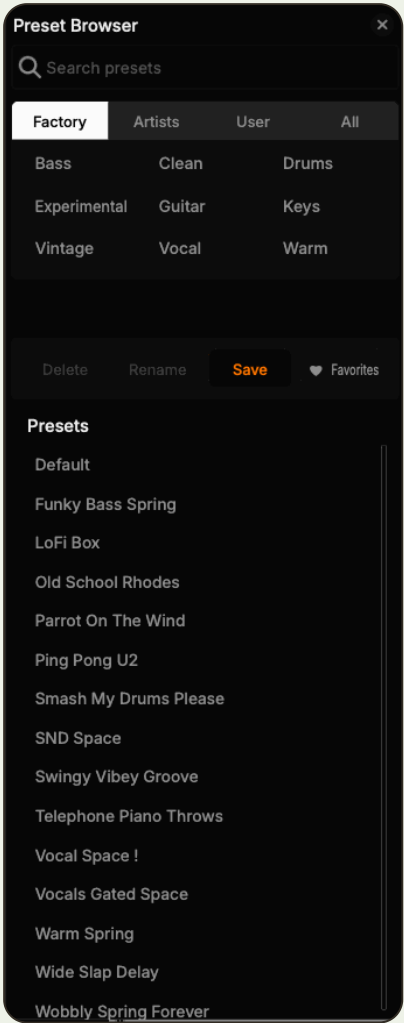
Blend

Mixes the processed signal back against the dry one - the parallel-drive control for keeping the original transients intact.

Gain staging tip: Smart Gain and Link Gain are two modes of one switch, so only one is active at a time. Use Smart Gain when you want loudness-matched comparison, and Link Gain when you want to drive the circuit harder while holding your output level steady.

Preset Browser

Clicking the preset name in the top bar opens the browser. It is the same preset system introduced across the new generation of Safari plugins, with folders, tags, favorites, and search.



PRESET BROWSER

Search	Type any part of a preset name to filter the list instantly.
Factory / Artists / User / All	Switch between the presets we shipped, artist packs, your own saves, and everything at once.
Tags	Narrow the list down by instrument or character with a single click.
Save / Rename / Delete	Store your own settings as User presets and manage them without leaving the plugin.
Favorites	Star the presets you keep coming back to and filter down to just those.

Troubleshooting

If something is not working as expected, most issues are quick to resolve.

- 1 Re-read the Installation and Registration sections to confirm both were completed.
- 2 Double-check your DAW settings, plugin folder paths, and system compatibility.
- 3 Restart your DAW and try loading Gorilla Drive V2 again.
- 4 Make sure your OS and DAW are up to date.

Still stuck? Email bar@safariaudio.com with your OS, DAW version, and a description of the issue.



Safari Audio

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