

## User Guide

For version 1.0





## System Requirements

### Windows:

- Windows 7 or newer
- VST compatible host software (64bit)

### macOS:

- Intel® or M1 Mac with Mac OS X 10.5 or newer
- VSTi or AU compatible host software

## Installation

### Windows:

1. Extract Retrotape.zip
2. Run Retrotape.exe installer
3. Follow the instructions the installer provides

### macOS:

1. Extract Retrotape.zip
2. Run Retrotape.pkg installer
3. Follow the instructions the installer provides

## Authorization

After installation, Retrotape requires authorization before use. To complete this process, launch your DAW, add the plugin to a new track, and open it. You'll see a message that reads: 'Thank you for purchasing Retrotape! Please click here to provide the path to the license file.' Simply click on it and proceed to specify the path to your license file.



## Overview

Retrotape is a plugin designed to emulate the distinctive sound qualities and imperfections of a classic cassette tape recorder. Unlike traditional tape emulations that aim to digitally replicate vintage machines, Retrotape harnesses these imperfections for creative potential. Push its parameters beyond the physical limitations of analog technology, and you can add new dimensions to your audio — from capturing the warm nostalgia of yesteryears to radical sound manipulations.

## Key Features

**Noise** - Emulates the inherent noise of the tape recorder, cable, and environment. Choose between Type I, Type II, and Type III noise profiles, each recorded from a vintage Japanese cassette deck.

Type I: Standard cassette noise

Type II: Filtered noise

Type III: Ambient cassette player noise

**Tape Age** - Simulates the degradation of the tape and the reading head, affecting the frequency range and adding character to your recordings.

**Bias** - Adjusts brightness or warmth while keeping overall balance.

**Dirt** - Adds grunge and distortion through simulated recording and output overloads.

**Frequency Response** - Introduces stereo imbalances due to the differential degradation of right and left channels, allowing for unique and randomized EQ disparities.

**Bad Cable** - Emulates the erratic audio dropouts and crackles associated with a malfunctioning cable. The knob offers a range of 'bad cable' sounds, from subtle to obvious. This feature not only adds a layer of realism but also serves as a cheeky tool for April Fools' pranks. Imagine inserting this plugin into a friend's project and watching them scramble to find the "faulty" cable!

**Depth, Rate, and Jitter** - Control the pitch behavior to emulate mechanical instability, erratic power supply, and general aging of the tape machine.

**Input and Output** - Standard input and output signal control knobs.



# RETROTAPE

Azimuth Alignment - X and Y knobs control tape head alignment. Imperfect alignment introduces subtle phase, volume, and frequency irregularities.

Y: Controls phasing issues by introducing a slight delay to either the left or right channel.

X: Simulates irregularities in the distance between the tape head and the tape, affecting volume and frequency.

Stereo/Mono Switch - Toggle between stereo and mono modes.

Power: A bypass switch.

VU Meter - Provides a visual representation of audio signal levels, helping you balance your mix and avoid clipping.

