Peakroom ShadowFoley 1.3 — User Manual

ShadowFoley is an audio effect that adds up to three organic layers — leaves, tape, metal, clicks, synth hits — that follow the level and the notes of the track it sits on. Use it on drums, bass, synths or vocals.

1. Quick start

1. Insert **Peakroom ShadowFoley** (AU or VST3 audio effect) on a track and press play.
2. Step through the presets with **<** and **>**, or pick a sound for **LAYER 1** from the six groups.
3. Turn the big **SHADOW** dial: it sets how much of the layers you hear.
4. **SHADOW SOLO** plays only what ShadowFoley adds. Leave **GAIN MATCH** on to judge the sound, not the loudness.

2. Top bar

- **< preset ☆ >**: factory presets by group, **FAVOURITES** (the star) and **MY PRESETS** (your own). The arrows can be set to browse favourites only.
- **A | B · COPY**: two independent settings, saved with your project.
- **SAVE**: stores the current settings as your own preset (Music / Peakroom Audio / ShadowFoley Presets).
- **DEMO / LICENSED**: see section 6. The three dots choose the colour theme. Green always means on, red means off.

3. LAYERS page

Sound / tuning (left) - **LAYER 1 · 2 · 3**: click a layer to edit it. **ON / OFF** switches it, **S** solos it. - **NATURE · ANALOG · MECH · IMPACT · PERC · SYNTH**: 176 built-in sounds. *TEXTURE* sounds run continuously under your track; sounds with a note name (C4 …) are one-shots that play on every hit. - **IMPORT ONE-SHOT**: load your own WAV / AIFF / FLAC (up to 5 seconds). **USE USER** switches the layer to it. It is saved inside your project and your presets. - **TRACK PITCH**: on = the layer follows the note of your track. Off = it keeps its own root. - **Level, Transpose** (semitones), **Fine** (cents), **User root** (the original note of your imported one-shot).

Shadow (centre): the **SHADOW** amount and the character of the selected layer — **Velvet**, **Crisp** or **Haze**.

Input / output (right) - **IN / OUT** meters. Drag the white handle on **IN** to set the **threshold**: hits below it are ignored. - **GHOST**: ignores hits much quieter than your main hits (kick tails, bleed, ghost notes) without raising the threshold. - **MIX**, **OUTPUT**, **UNDO / REDO**, **VARY LAYER** (a variation of the selected layer), **RND LAYER** (a random one).

Envelope: **ADSR** per layer with four starting points — Click, Short, Long, Pad.

Bottom row (selected layer): **Tightness** (how closely it follows the level), **Pitch Lock**, **Snap**, **Tone**, **Distance**, **Width**, and a three-band EQ (**Low / Mid / High**).

4. FX page

Saturation (**Soft / Tape / Tube**), compressor (ratio, attack, release), soft clipper and limiter. Each module shows its live curve and its gain-reduction history.

5. SETTINGS page

- **Pitch mode**: **NOTES / SYNC** (default) recognises the notes in your audio, holds each one in tune and retriggers the layers on every new note. **GLIDE** follows slides and vibrato freely. **CLASSIC** is the 1.2 tracker (old projects open in it and sound as they did).
- **Note hold, Note glide, Smoothing, Sensitivity, Lowest / Highest note**: fine control of the tracker — raise *Lowest note* to stop octave-down errors on leads, lower *Highest note* for basses.
- **MIDI bend** range (VST3 MIDI input).
- **SAVE AS MY DEFAULT**: your pitch settings and theme become the start point of every new ShadowFoley. **FACTORY SETTINGS**, **OPEN PRESET FOLDER**, **TOOLTIPS** on / off.

6. Demo, license and activation

The download is the demo and the full version in one. Until it is activated, after every 3 seconds of sound the sound stops for about a second and a beep plays, and saving is off. Everything else works.

Activate: buy ShadowFoley at peakroomaudio.com/plugins/shadowfoley — the license key arrives by e-mail right after payment. In the plugin press **DEMO** (top right), enter your purchase e-mail and the key. A ShadowFoley license works on **up to 4 computers**. Activation needs the internet once; after that it works offline.

New computer? Deactivate the old one in the plugin, or free it on peakroomaudio.com/account.

7. Installation

- **Mac**: run the .pkg — AU and VST3 go into /Library/Audio/Plug-Ins. macOS 11+, Apple Silicon and Intel.
- **Windows**: run the Setup .exe — VST3 goes into Common Files\VST3. Windows 10+ (64-bit).
- Restart your DAW after installing an update; a running DAW keeps the old version loaded.

Support: support@peakroomaudio.com