



Baby Audio Transit \$99 PC MAC

Want an easy way to knit your track sections together? This multi-effects plugin could be just the thing, says **Jon Musgrave**

> Creating polished transitions between different sections of your track ensures that the track momentum is maintained, while contributing to the overall finesse. But creating these transitions is often a fiddly process that uses a combination of programming, effects and automation. Transit (VST, VST3, AU, AAX) is a new multifaceted effects plugin from developer Baby Audio and artist/producer and YouTube monolith Andrew Huang, which brings these functions together.

Transit is based around an eight-slot modular grid. You get seven effects slots that you can populate from a choice of 18 different effects; the remaining slot is a manual and syncable

macro control. Core effects include Delay, Reverb, Modulation, Multimode Filters and Distortion. But there are other more niche options, including Stereo Spread, Pitch Shift, sidechain compression-style Pump and OTT, which is a three-band multiband compressor. Rounding things off are global Wet/Dry Mix, as well as Output Level (-inf to +15dB).

In addition to these regular effects, Transit includes two sound generators: Oscillator and Noise. These blend with any input audio and trigger on playback. They're not as flexible as an instrument design, but there's plenty here for creating noise sweeps and pitched risers.

Overall, the effects modules sound very good

and are easy to use, with basic but well-chosen parameters. We particularly like having a good choice of sound degradation (Distortion and Bitcrusher). Meanwhile, if you want quick results, Transit has over 300 full presets and also individual module presets, plus a beefy randomisation system (see *Randomise*).

Modular madness

If you wish, you can simply use Transit for static effects. However, what makes Transit a transition designer is the way you can manipulate all the effects collectively using the macro control. There are two strands to how this works. First, key parameters in each module

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can be set to Dynamic Mode (Motion On). This then initiates a halo-style adjustable parameter range with both positive (green) and negative (pink) options, and an adjustable response curve. Second, parameters in Dynamic Mode can then be moved collectively between their range limits in one of two ways. The first option is the big Transition Control macro knob (T), which you can use in real time and automate using DAW automation. The second option is sequencer mode, accessed via the yellow arrows icon on the Transition Control page. You set the transition length, then, with your DAW in playback, use Transit's play button to trigger the macro from the beginning of the next bar.

Sequencer Mode includes two further settings: Pendulum switches the playback mode to forwards then reverse, and Loop plays the transition in a continuous loop. Pendulum can be used alongside Loop. As you may have guessed, Loop mode turns Transit into a continuous synced dynamic effect, making it an excellent and more general creative tool. If your DAW supports MIDI control of audio plugins, you can also control and trigger Transit using MIDI.

Descend into soup

This creates a flexible processor that covers more than just transitions - and paging through the presets reveals some brilliant effects. Flavour-filled washouts (Verb and Pump), multifaceted risers (Riser Designer), heavy saturation (Foldover) and distortion (Obliterate) are joined by some weird delays (Descend Into Soup), pitchy effects (Harmony Underwater) and beautiful decays (Before The Gates). We really love how the macro control can so easily add a dynamic transformative aspect to any



Switch to Transit's Sequencer Mode for tempo-locked control of transitions



Use the Random Lock page to specify with ease which parameters should be randomised

Randomise

We're used to seeing Randomise as a feature on many plugins: even so, the degree of control varies considerably and, in all honesty, unless you're looking for something particularly crazy, full-on randomisation rarely yields particularly usable results.

Transit takes a far more controlled approach. Clicking on the Random Lock padlock icon in the top-right opens up the randomisation setup. This allows you to quickly lock each module type and all its parameters (Ctrl/Cmd-click) or simply target individual module parameters,

including the dynamic on/off selector where available.

It's a flexible solution that's quite practical in use; once you've decided what you want to fix, you simply click the dice icon. For more subtle changes, we found locking both the module type and the module mix blend (where used) delivered some good results. Similarly, sometimes just randomising a couple of modules while fixing the remainder was fruitful. Either way, it's a good system that's ideal for this type of plugin, and offers a handy pathway to complement the excellent presets.

sound. If you just want a straight up/down sweep, that's also easily done.

It takes a lot for us to give top marks, but this plugin ticks so many boxes and does things so well that we think it's absolutely deserving. **cm**

Web www.babyaud.io

Alternatively

Boom Library liftFX
£95

Quick access to track ready risers and sweeps, with built-in effects and loads of presets

Air Music Tech The Riser
£100

This synth-based design is great for creating pitch- and noise-based transition effects

Verdict

For Excellent choice of effects and sound generation modules
Both manual and synchronised macro controls for creating dynamic effects
Powerful randomisation system

Against There's nothing bad to say

Transit really is more than the sum of its parts: it delivers easy-to-use and dynamic effects that are perfect for convincing track transitions - and beyond!

10/10