



RSL ONE

SINGLE CORE WARM / TUBE SATURATOR

User Manual



Renegade Sound Labs

Version 0.2.0 · Free plugin

What RSL ONE is

RSL ONE is a free saturator with two characters, Warm and Tube, and the controls to shape how much of either reaches your sound.

It runs one saturation core, the same Warm and Tube circuit found in RSL Dual Core Saturator. Set how hard the signal hits it, pick a character, then shape the result with four knobs: how much is blended in, how much extra harmonic detail it carries, how the transients survive and how hard the core is driven.

Version 0.2.0 brings a new interface built from the RSL component library: LED dBFS meters, lit cap buttons, and knobs that show their value on the knob itself.

Installation

macOS

Requires macOS 11 or newer. RSL ONE is a Universal binary that runs natively on Apple silicon and Intel Macs. Open the installer package and follow its steps. You can choose which formats to install:

FORMAT	INSTALLS TO
Audio Unit	/Library/Audio/Plug-Ins/Components
VST3	/Library/Audio/Plug-Ins/VST3
AAX (Pro Tools)	/Library/Application Support/Avid/Audio/Plug-Ins
Standalone	/Applications, together with the uninstaller

The knob graphics every format shares install once, in /Library/Application Support/Renegade Sound Labs/RSL - ONE, with this manual.

Windows

Requires Windows 10 or newer, 64-bit. Run the installer and approve the administrator prompt. It installs the VST3 to C:\Program Files\Common Files\VST3 and the Standalone application, and puts the shared knob graphics in C:\ProgramData\Renegade Sound Labs\RSL - ONE.

Updating from 0.1. Install over the top. Your presets and sessions carry over unchanged. Rescan plugins in your DAW if it does not pick up the new version.

The interface



RSL ONE 0.2.0 with the Default preset, Tube selected.

From top to bottom:

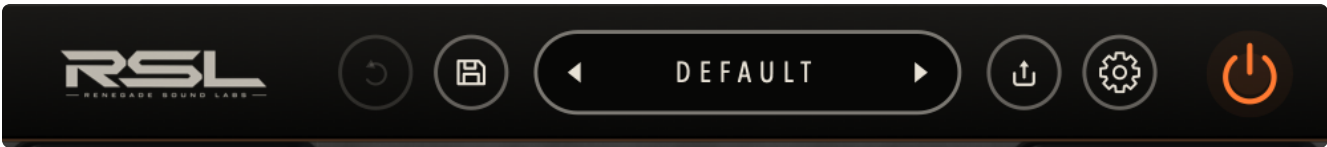
- **The preset bar**, the same one every RSL plugin carries.
- **IN and OUT meters** either side of the character window, which shows a valve under Tube and a transformer under Warm, both glowing with the signal.
- **WARM and TUBE**, the character switch.
- **Single core signal flow**: WET, the character control, DENSITY and DRIVE.
- **INPUT**, the activity light with **AUTO GAIN**, and **OUTPUT** along the bottom.

Every knob shows its current value in amber on its black center. The LED ring around it shows the same setting at a glance.

Using the knobs

- Drag up or down (or left and right) to turn a knob.
- Hold **Shift** while dragging for fine control.
- Double-click a knob to return it to its default.
- Hover over any control for a short description of what it does.

The preset bar



The RSL preset bar across the top of the plugin.

CONTROL	WHAT IT DOES
RSL logo	Opens renegadesoundlabs.com.
Undo	Returns every control to the preset as it was loaded.
Save	Saves the current settings over your preset, or as a new preset when a factory one is loaded.
Preset name	Click it to browse factory and user presets, save as, delete, or show the preset folder. The arrows either side step to the previous and next preset.
Import / export	Loads a preset file from disk, or writes the current one out to share.
Settings	Product information, this manual and support links.
Power	Bypass. Lit when RSL ONE is processing. Bypass is never stored in a preset, so loading one never switches the plugin back on behind your back.

Factory presets

Each preset sets the character and the four saturation knobs, and returns every other control to its default, so a preset sounds the same however you arrive at it.

PRESET	SETTINGS
Default	Tube · Drive 32% · Grit & Sag 20% · Wet 55% · Density 30%
Bus Glue	Warm · Drive 26% · Richness 14% · Wet 42% · Density 38%
Vocal Warmth	Warm · Drive 44% · Richness 28% · Wet 58% · Density 24%
Drum Crunch	Tube · Drive 62% · Grit & Sag 46% · Wet 72% · Density 56%
Valve Sheen	Tube · Drive 35% · Grit & Sag 22% · Wet 48% · Density 18%
Master Polish	Warm · Drive 18% · Richness 10% · Wet 30% · Density 44%
Full Melt	Tube · Drive 88% · Grit & Sag 74% · Wet 100% · Density 66%

Meters and character



The IN and OUT meters, the character window, and the WARM and TUBE switch.

IN and OUT meters

Each meter shows left and right as two LED columns from -48 to 0 dBFS, in 2 dB steps, with a peak hold that lingers on the highest recent segment. The readout above the columns gives the level in dBFS.

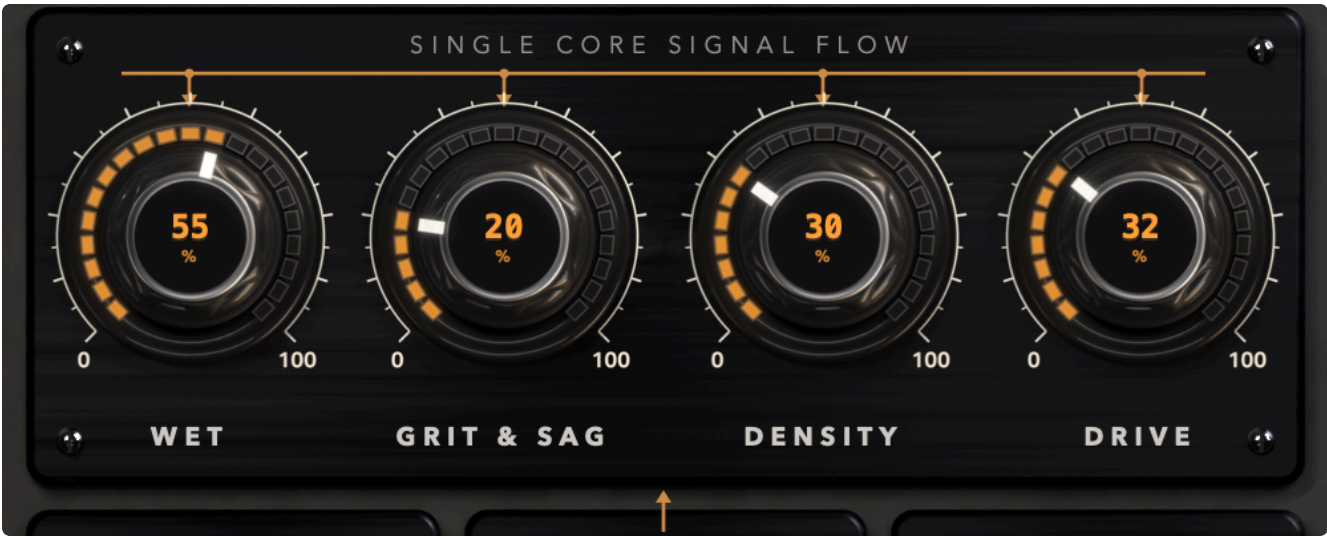
- **IN** reads the signal after INPUT, which is what the saturation core sees. Peaks around -12 to -6 dBFS give the most musical response.
- **OUT** reads the final signal after OUTPUT.

WARM and TUBE

CHARACTER	SOUND
WARM	Silky, transformer-flavoured glue with a body-leaning tone. Subtle and musical, at home on a mix bus.
TUBE	Vintage valve character with richer, brighter asymmetry. More present and more obviously colored.

The lit button is the active character. Switching changes the window above it and renames the second saturation knob.

Single core signal flow

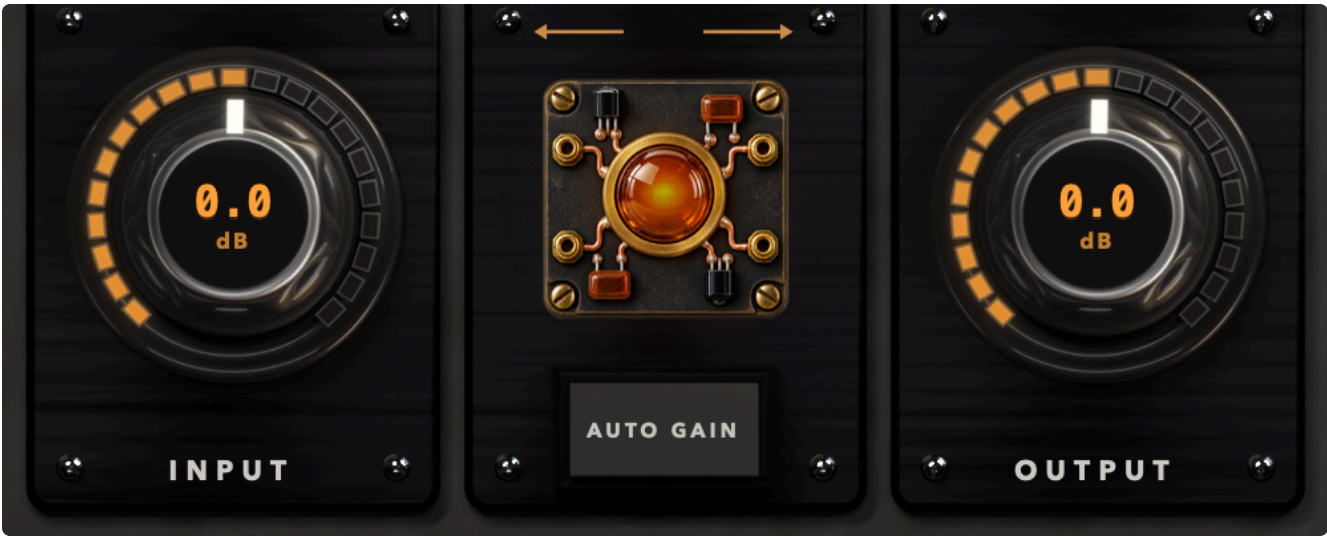


The four saturation controls, each fed from the signal flow rail above.

Knob	What it does
WET	Blends the saturated signal with the untouched one. 0% is fully dry, 100% is fully processed.
GRIT & SAG (Tube)	Shapes the tube's vintage asymmetry, sag and softened top end.
RICHNESS (Warm)	Adds extra harmonic richness on top of the core warmth.
DENSITY	Keeps transients punchy while letting harmonics bloom on sustained material.
DRIVE	How hard the signal is pushed into the saturation core. Under Tube it sets the tube intensity, under Warm the amount of warmth and glow.

All four run from 0 to 100%, matching the printed scale around each knob.

Input, output and Auto Gain



INPUT, the activity light with AUTO GAIN, and OUTPUT.

CONTROL	WHAT IT DOES
INPUT	Sets how hard the signal hits the saturation core, ± 12 dB. Watch the IN meter while you set it.
Activity light	Glowes brighter as the input drives the circuit harder.
AUTO GAIN	When lit, OUTPUT moves opposite INPUT as you change it, so gain staging into the core never changes your overall level.
OUTPUT	Final level trim after the saturation stage, ± 12 dB.

INPUT and OUTPUT read in decibels on their centers, so they carry no 0 to 100 scale.

A quick way in. Light AUTO GAIN, then raise INPUT until the IN meter peaks around -12 to -6 dBFS. Choose WARM or TUBE, bring WET up until you hear the character, and use DRIVE and the character knob to decide how much color it carries. Bypass with the power button to compare at the same level.

Good to know

- **Latency.** RSL ONE reports a small, fixed latency to your DAW, which compensates for it automatically. It stays the same when you bypass, so timing never shifts in your session.
- **Mono and stereo.** RSL ONE runs on mono and stereo tracks.
- **Automation.** Every control you see can be automated from your DAW.
- **Uninstalling on macOS.** Run RSL - ONE Uninstaller from your Applications folder.

Support

Questions, bugs and ideas are welcome at renegadesoundlabs.com. Please include your DAW, plugin format and operating system version.

RSL ONE is made by Renegade Sound Labs. Thank you for using it.