X-RELAY

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X-Relay

Obligatory Legal Stuff

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X-Relay

Installation Instructions

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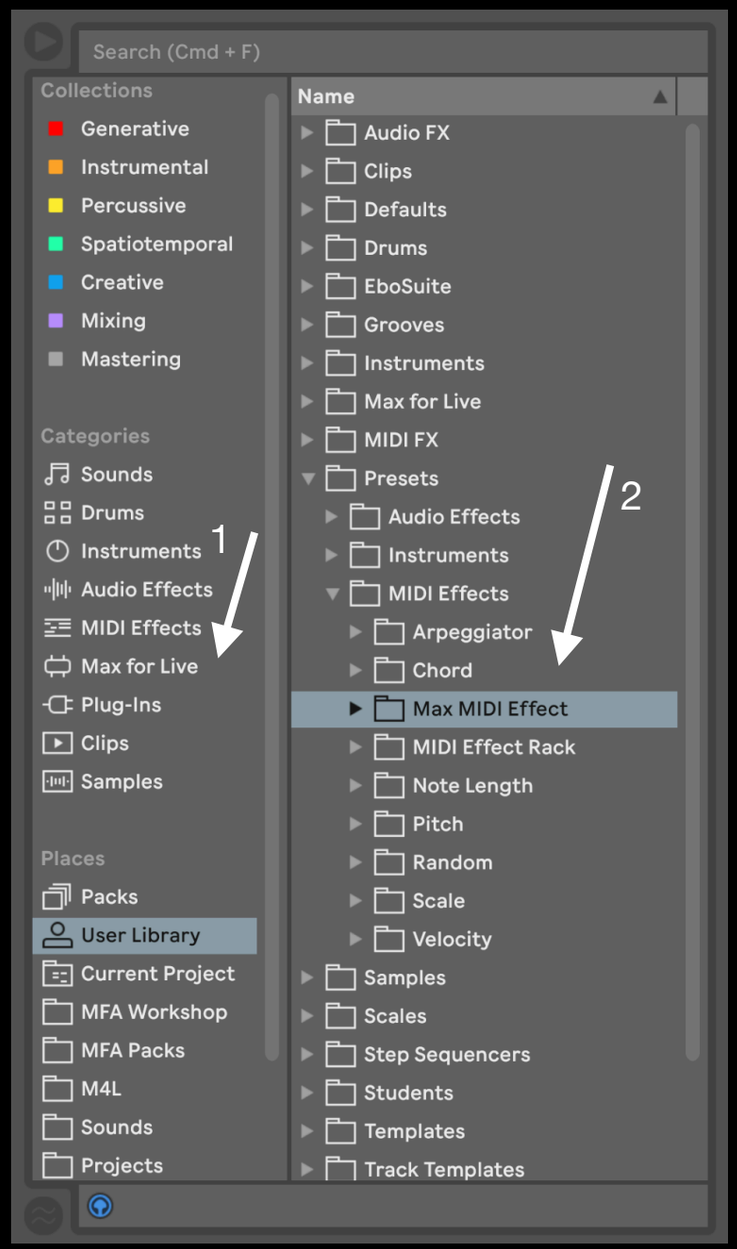

X-Relay requires Live Suite with Max for Live installed; we strongly recommend Live 10.1.x or higher with Max 8.1.x or higher.

To install X-Relay, first double-click to decompress the ZIP archive it arrived in. Presumably you've already done this, because you're reading the manual, also included in said ZIP — good job!

From Finder (Mac) or Explorer (Windows), drag the MFA X-Relay.amxd to the User Library in the Places section of Live's Browser (Arrow 1 pictured left). This will copy the required files to your User Library. We recommend dragging it to the Max MIDI Effect subfolder of the User Library MIDI Effects folder (Arrow 2 pictured left).

Once installed, we might humbly suggest adding it to an appropriate Browser Collection, if applicable. You may also wish to add it to your Default MIDI Track.

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X-Relay

Device Overview

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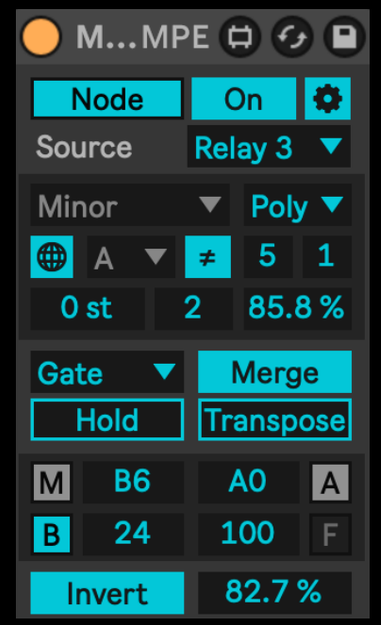
Designed to encourage dynamic interactions and allow sophisticated routing between different MIDI elements anywhere in a set, X-Relay functions in two modes: Relay or Node.

In default Node mode, it processes MIDI on the current track with the default MIDI In selected, or processes MIDI received via a selected Relay Conduit. In Relay mode, MIDI can be sent to one of 64 Conduits for interception at any juncture where a Node might be placed: at any point of a MIDI device chain, or within a MIDI effect or instrument rack.

In both modes, MIDI can be constrained to the scale and key set by Live 12 or an instance of Global Hub — or specified locally when pinned. MIDI can also be muted, sustained, transposed in both semitones and octaves, and rhythmically offset with a millisecond or base rate multiplied delay time.

The example at left shows MIDI being sent on Relay Conduit 5 in the global G Minor 7 scale, with no transposition applied. The new note masking will only transmit every third note counted through the device.

Setting an instance of X-Relay in Node mode to receive MIDI from a Relay rather than the current MIDI In allows new options in the device. The Playback Mode selector allows you to strictly receive the Relay input, to play the current Track input altered by Relay MIDI — or, uniquely, to only play the current Track input while Relay notes are held in Gate mode, or between Relay notes in Side mode. In Track, Gate, and Side modes, you have the option to Merge both the Relay and Track MIDI into the same MIDI stream, and to Transpose the Track MIDI according to Relay pitch input, all of course while remaining constrained to the selected scale and key.



Clicking the gear toggle opens advanced settings, including pitch and velocity range constraints to exclude reception of notes outside the range; clicking the Normal toggle switches to the unique Invert option which flips incoming MIDI note pitches; combined with a bit of transposition this can result in instant counterpoint. This example shows that MIDI from Relay Conduit 3 between C1 and C7 and velocities between 10 and 120 will be Merged with current Track MIDI only when Relay notes are held, due to it being Gate mode. The received Relay note pitches will be Inverted and the output will be pitched two octaves up within the A Minor scale, set externally..

The new note counting will omit every fifth note counted, offset by a count of one. With advanced transposition settings, notes will be inverted and adaptively remapped between B6 and A0, with incoming Relay velocity reduced to 82.7% with notes with velocity below 24 or 100 blocked entirely.

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X-Relay FAQ

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My Node is not receiving from the specified Relay — why?

Ensure the Relay sending to it has Send enabled, then make sure the Node's Playback Mode, Merge, and Transpose options are set as desired, and that the Node Enable is set to On.

I only want my Node to be Transposed by a Relay — not combined with it!

For this outcome, ensure your Node's Transpose toggle is on, and its Merge toggle is off.

I prefer certain tack in my set not conform to Live 12 or Global Hubs's scale and key — is this possible?

Simply click the globe icon to switch X-Relay to Local pin mode so it will ignore Global Hub or Live 12 scale and key messages; this is particularly useful for percussive instruments that should remain Chromatic. Toggling from Local back to Global mode will automatically force the device to inherit Live 12 or Global Hub scale and key settings.

Sometimes I get stuck notes — what do I do?

With the advanced gear disabled, simply click the note output display at the bottom to flush stuck notes.

X-Relay looks small — how do I make it bigger?

In the Look/Feel tab of Live's Preferences pane, simply increase the Zoom Display percentage slider to 125% or 150%.

Where can I learn more about X-Relay?

All X-Relay parameters are Info View enabled, so just open Live's Info View and hover your mouse above any X-Relay element you want to learn about.

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