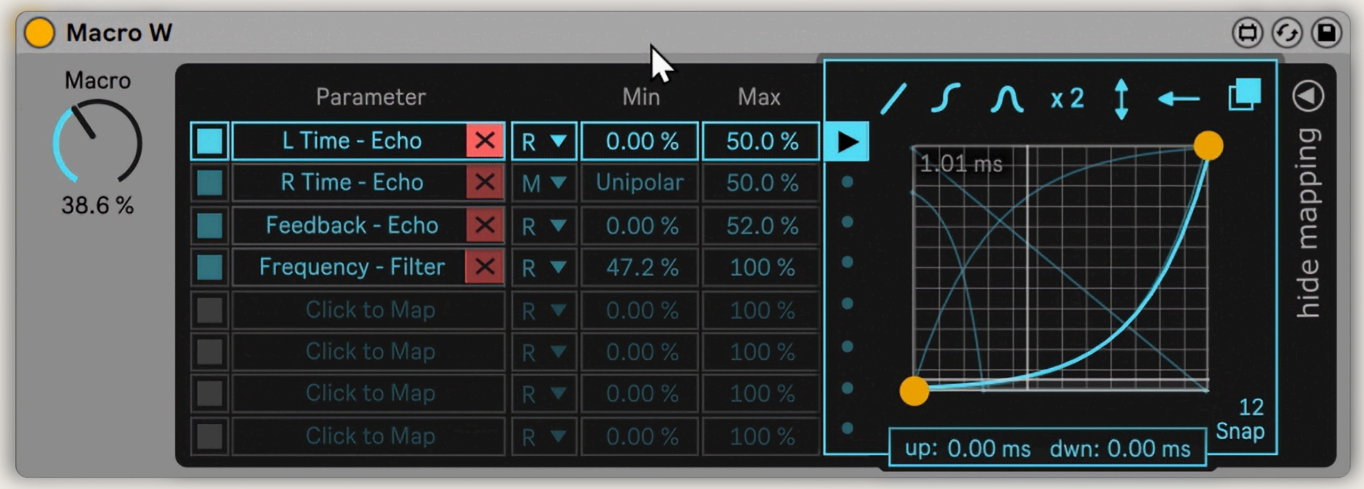
Macro W



Create reusable sound design by channeling the precision of layered automation into macros

Our advanced macro device lets you shape mapped parameters with a level of precision similar to that which can be achieved with multilayered automation. Instead of being locked into multiple clip-specific lanes, the evolving timbres you design can be saved into Ableton Rack Presets—making them easy to recall, reuse, and adapt across projects.

SETUP INSTRUCTIONS

OPTION 1:

Add the Macro W.amxd file to your User Library.

1. Download and unzip the 'Macro W' folder
2. Inside the unzipped folder, cut the Macro W.amxd file to be moved to a new location.
   - **macOS**: Select the folder → press ⌘ + C
   - **Windows**: Select the folder → press Ctrl + X
3. Inside Ableton Live, open the Browser, right-click User Library, and choose "Show in Finder" *("Show in Explorer" on Windows)*
4. *Paste/Move the cut folder into the User Library:*
   - **macOS***:* Press Option *+ ⌘ + V (moves the copied folder to this new location)*
   - **Windows***:* Press Ctrl *+ V6. The devices will now be available in your browser for use in any project.*
5. The device will now be available in your browser for use in any project.

OPTION 2:

Installing the Live Pack file

1. Download and unzip the "Macro W" folder
2. Double-click the 'Macro W.alp' file, and when prompted, choose a temporary install location *(e.g., Desktop or Downloads)*
3. Locate and cut the installed project folder to be moved to a new location.
   - **macOS:** Select the folder → press ⌘ + C
   - **Windows:** Select the folder → press Ctrl + X
4. Inside Ableton Live, open the Browser, right-click User Library, and choose "Show in Finder" *("Show in Explorer" on Windows)*
5. Paste/Move the cut folder into the User Library:
   - **macOS**: Press Option + ⌘ + V (moves the copied folder to this new location)
   - **Windows**: Press Ctrl + V6. The devices will now be available in your browser for use in any project.
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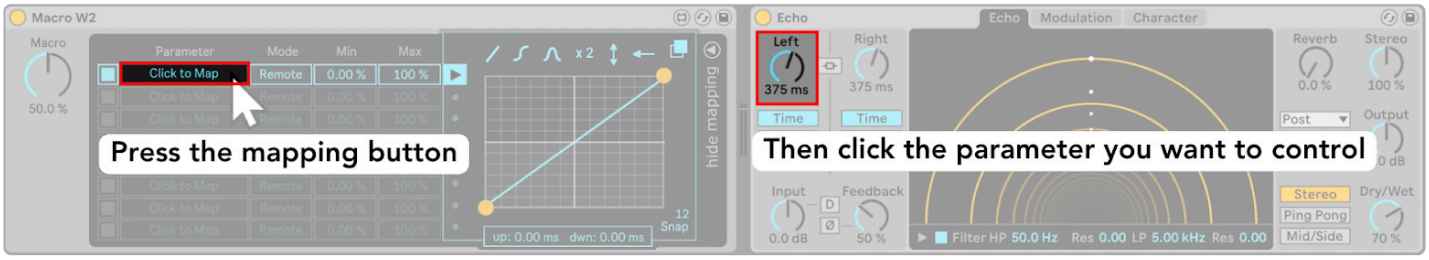
USING MACRO W

Accessing / loading Macro W…

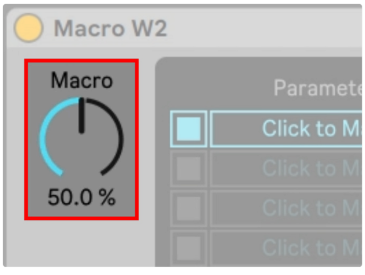
1. Open Ableton's Browser
2. Type “Macro W” into the search bar, or use Ableton’s Browser to navigate to the folder which you decided to store the Macro W device.

Using Macro W…

Add Macro W to the track containing the parameters you want to control, and press the “Click to Map” button in Macro W. Then click on the first parameter you want to control.



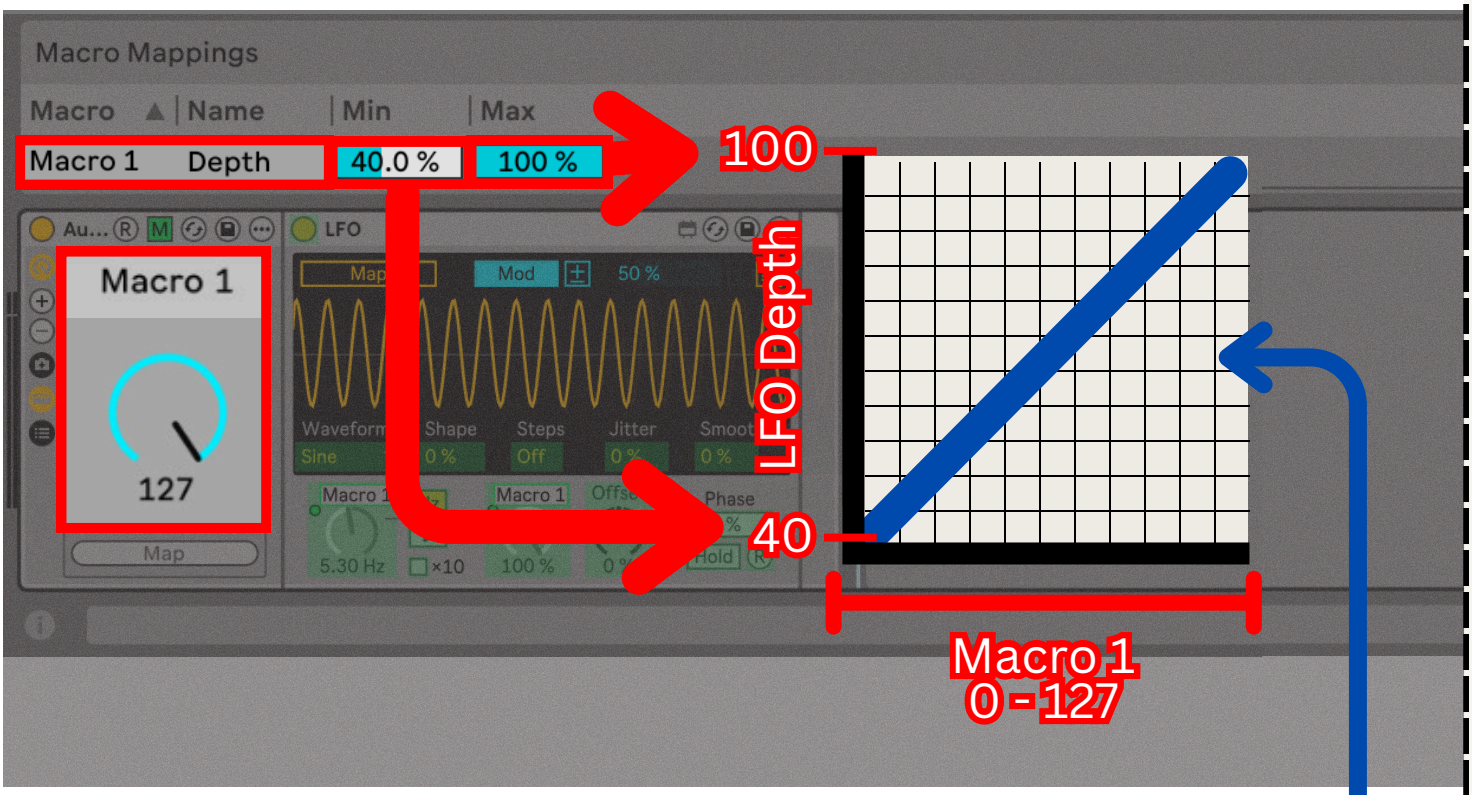
Once selected, this parameter is now mapped to be controlled by the dial labeled “Macro” on the left side of the device →



Use the breakpoint editor on the right side of the device to create unique curves and patterns that suit each mapped parameter

Understanding Transfer Functions

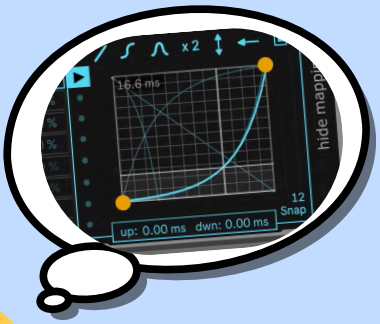
The image below shows a mapped macro in an Ableton Effect Rack. The **Macro 1** dial controls the **LFO Depth** parameter, and the graph shows how the two move together.



This diagonal line represents a one-to-one ***linear relationship*** between the macro dial and the mapped range.

When looking at Macro W...

Think of the Breakpoint Editor as a graph:



The **X-axis** is the **Macro Dial**
The **Y-axis** is the **Mapped Parameter**



Shaping this graph changes how the Macro Dial and the Mapped Parameter interact.

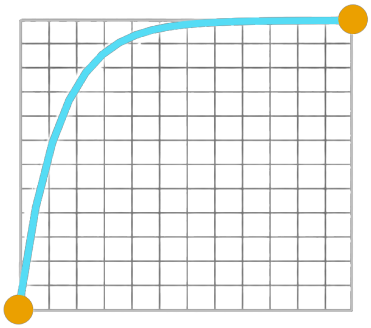
With multiple transfer functions, a single Macro can shape many parameters in highly specific ways, with each parameter following its own curve.

It's the same kind of detailed control producers usually build with layered automation tracks. So in essence…

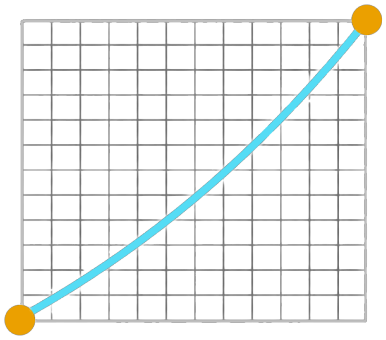
We can use Macros like we would automation...

To change multiple parameters at once in very specific ways.

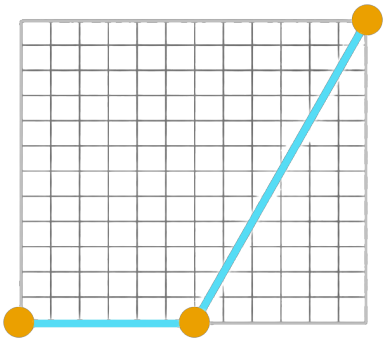
You might want one parameter to shift quickly...



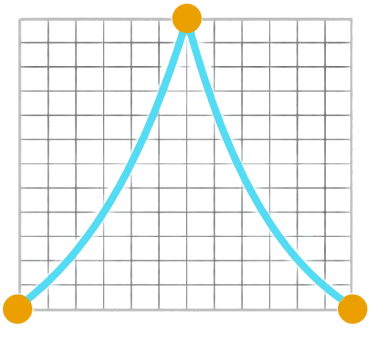
While another evolves more gradually...



While another kicks in halfway through the Macro's range



While another peaks in the center or the Macro's range...



But why not *just* use automation?

Short answer: **Reusability**

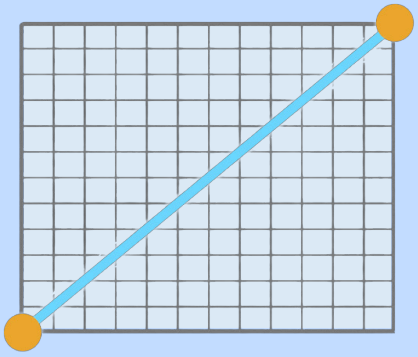
Advanced macros capture complex parameter movements and condense them into a **single control**, turning detailed sound design into something you can easily reuse and reshape in future projects.

They're especially effective for transitional gestures—sounds that feel like a single continuous motion but are actually shaped by many parameters moving together in coordination.

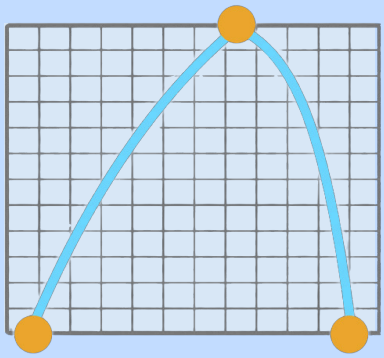
Example Macro Use-Case: Resonant Filter Sweeps

To make it sit well in a track, both frequency and resonance often need to change together—but in different ways.

While the filter frequency goes straight up...



You often want the resonance to peak in the middle



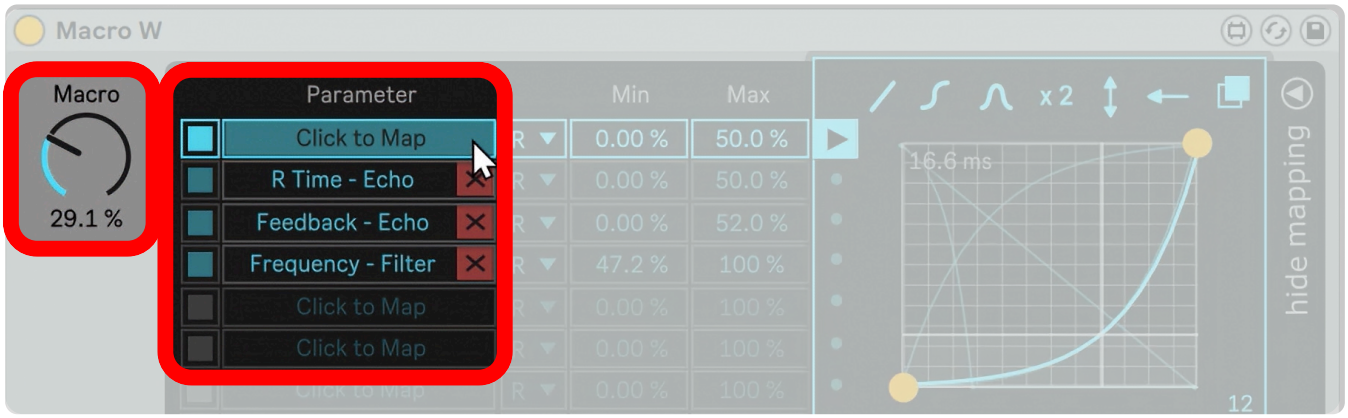
This prevents harsh highs and muddy lows. This sort of control isn't possible with a purely linear macro like the ones built into Ableton's Effect Rack.

Attaching these concepts to a macro dial lets you reuse intricate transitions without rebuilding layers of automation each time. This not only makes your work more portable and adaptable, it also gives you a playful, performance-ready control.

Experimenting with layered automation becomes as simple as loading a preset and moving a dial while your track plays. Because it takes almost no time to implement a previously created Macro, you can freely test ideas on a whim like a kid with building blocks. A macro you originally designed to build energy slowly over multiple bars might also sound exciting when modulated quickly or rhythmically.

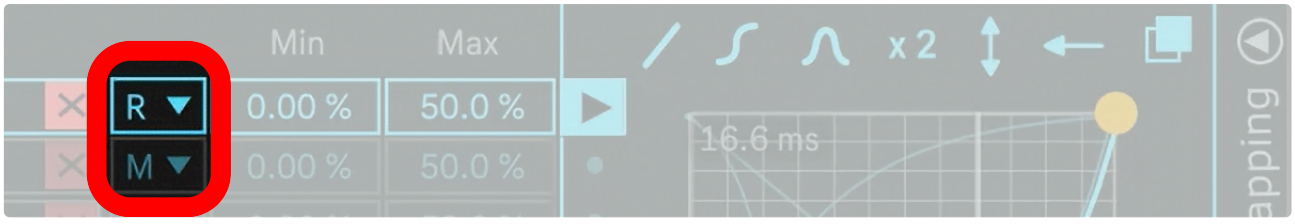
PARAMETERS

Macro Dial
Control multiple mapped parameters, with custom-tailored response curves



Parameter mapping buttons
Press one of the "Click to Map" buttons and click on a parameter in Live to map that parameter for modulation. After a parameter is mapped, clicking the red "X" button to the right of the modulation button will remove the mapping, and the mapped parameter will return to its initial value.

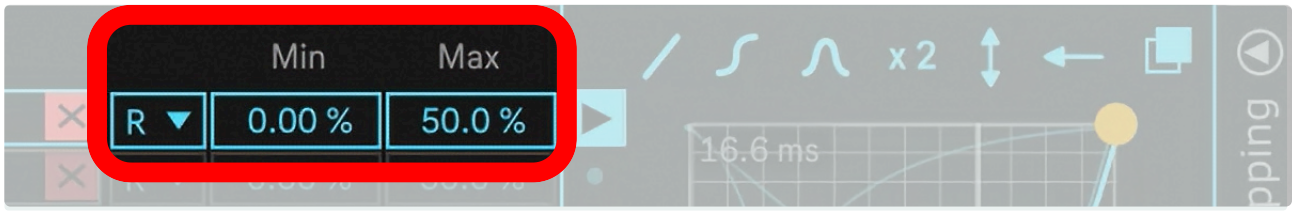
Enable/Disable mapping buttons
Click the toggle button to the left of the mapping button to enable/disable the mapping without having to unmap and remap.



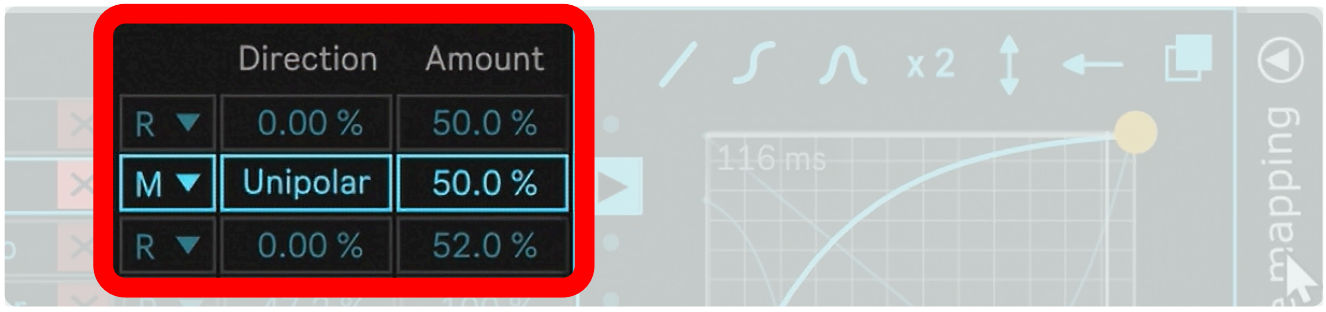
Parameter Mapping Mode
Choose between traditional **"Remote (R)"** style mappings used in Live 11 or the new **"Mod (M)"** Style Mappings introduced in Live 12.

The **"Remote (R)"** style mapping system overrides and deactivates the mapped parameter. Meaning once a parameter is mapped, the only way to change its value is from the controlling device. When in "Remote Mode", users are able to set the range of modulation by using "Min" and "Max" parameters.

The **"Mod (M)"** style mapping system leaves the mapped parameter active, meaning users can still adjust a parameter after it has been mapped. The Macro Dials's starting/center point is directly related to the mapped parameters currently displayed value. In other words, after mapping a parameter, users can adjust the mapped parameter thus changing the range of modulation.



Mapping Min/Max values
*(only available when in **Remote Mapping Mode (R)**)*
Use these number boxes to adjust the range applied to the mapped parameter.

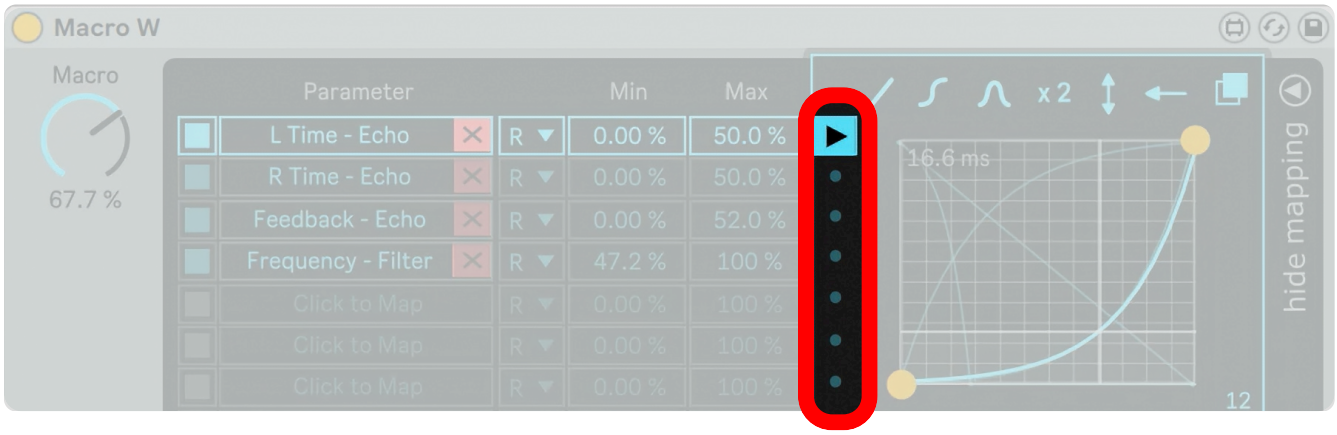


Polarity/Direction
(only available when in **Mod Mapping Mode (M)**)

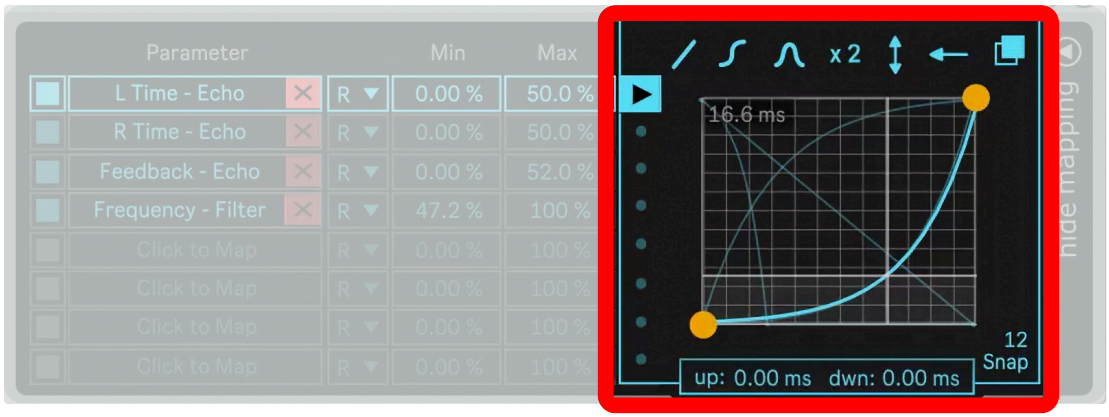
In "Bipolar Mode", the macro dials control is bidirectional in relation to the mapped parameter's current value. In other words, the mapped parameter's current value is the Macro Dial's center point, and the full range of control reaches both above and below the mapped parameter's current value.

In "Unipolar Mode", the Macro Dial's control is unidirectional in relation to the mapped parameters current value. In other words, the modulation either goes up or down from the mapped parameters current value. Never both.

Mod Amount
(only available when in **Mod Mapping Mode (M)**)
Use this number box to adjust the scale of the modulation applied to the parameter. If the modulation goes beyond the range of the mapped parameter, it is clipped at that maximum or minimum value until the modulation returns back into the mapped parameters range.

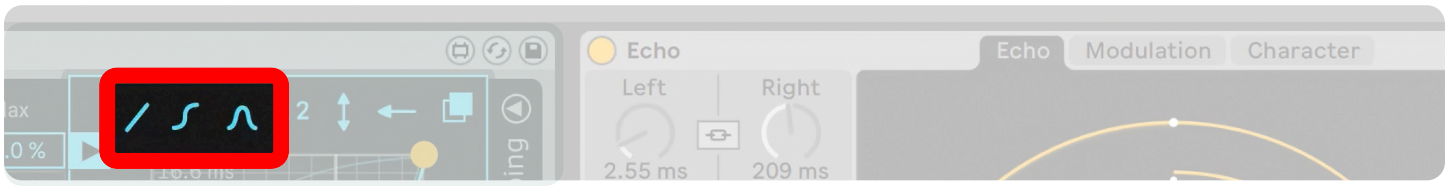


Show/hide Advanced Settings
Click the right-facing triangle button next to the "Range" parameters to reveal its Advanced Settings. Each parameter has its own set of Advanced Settings. While viewing the Advanced Settings for one mapped parameter, you can switch to others by clicking the blue circles above or below the currently selected parameters Advanced Settings Button.

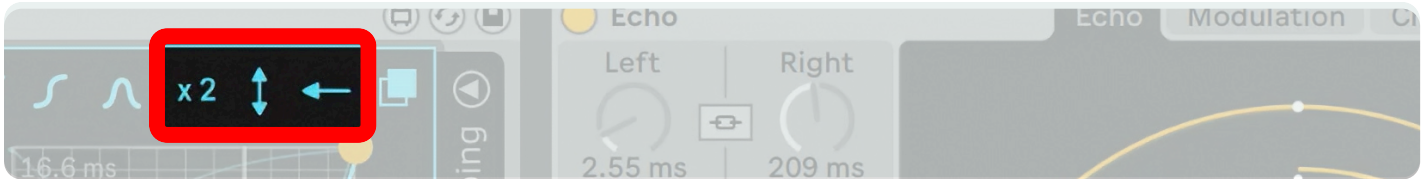


The "Function Breakpoint Editor"
To use the breakpoint editor, click anywhere to add a breakpoint.

Shift + Click deletes existing breakpoints
Alt/Option + Drag curves a segment



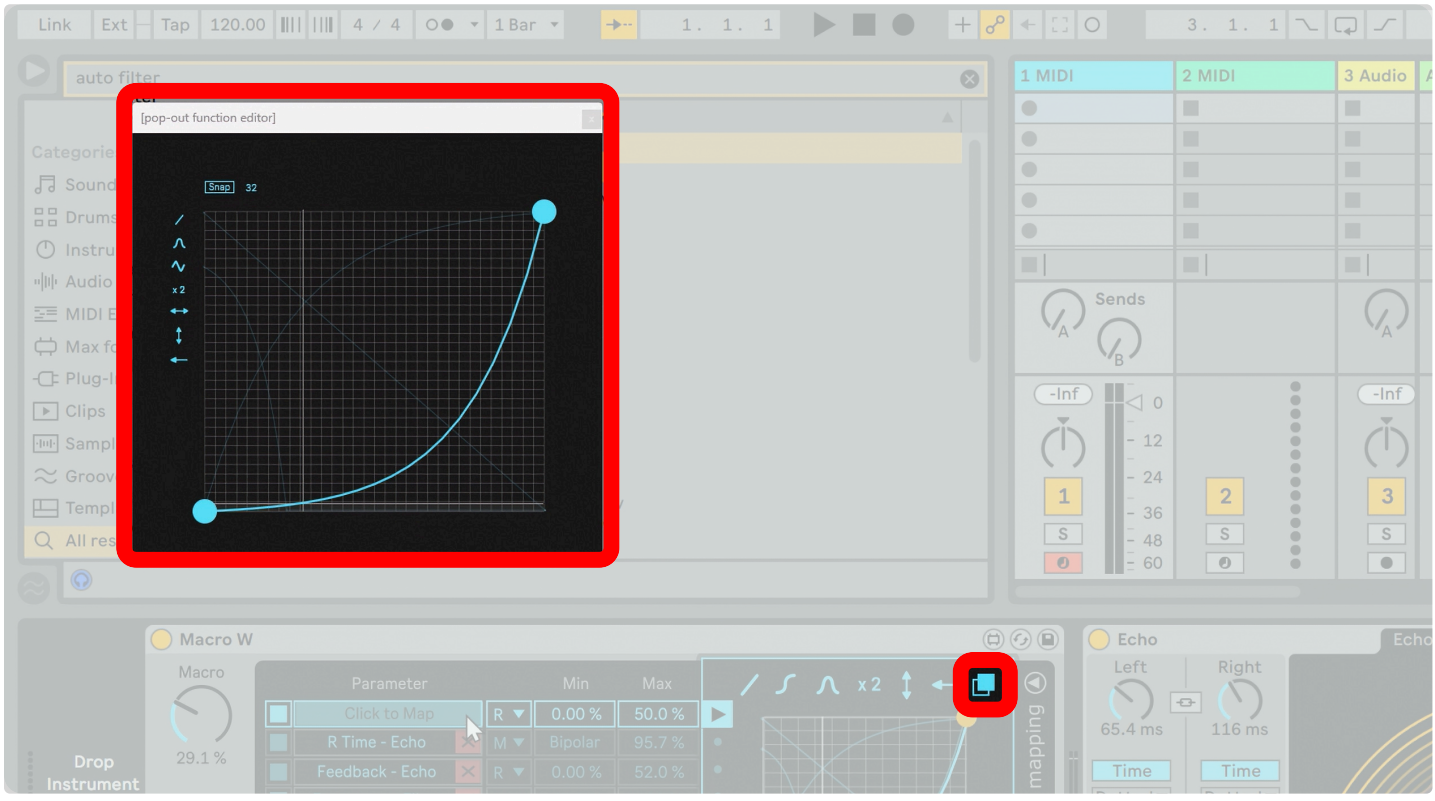
Preset shapes
The buttons to the left of the breakpoint editor either load preset shapes into the breakpoint editor or transform the currently loaded shape. By default a ramp up is loaded to translate values from the macro dial to the mapped parameter linearly. Additionally you can choose to load a triangle shape



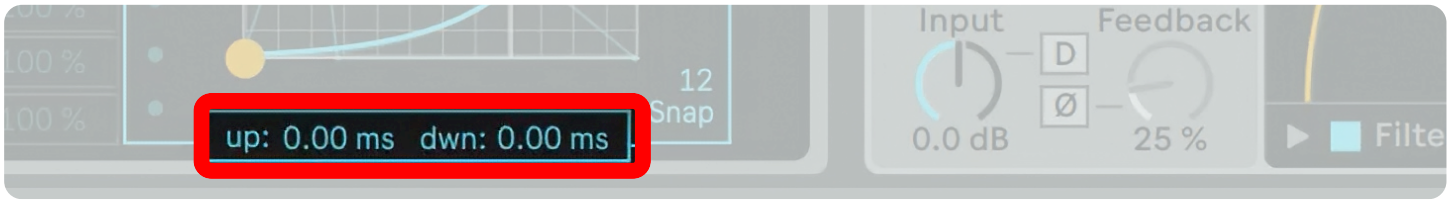
The "Double" transform button
Divides the current shape into two identical forms. This is especially useful for quickly creating complex rhythmic patterns and sequences.

The "Shift Left" transform button
Shifts the transfer fuction to the left. The first segment gets wrapped around to the end of the modulation curve. This allows you to adjust the initial trigger point of an LFO without altering its shape.

The "Flip Y" transform button
Flips the transfer function over the Y axis



Function Pop-out Editor
Click the pop-out window button to open the pop-out editor with a larger version of the breakpoint editor. Sometimes it is easier to make more precise adjustments to your modulation shapes using this bigger editor. This popout window is resizable, so you can make the editor even bigger to get in close and make those fine adjustments.

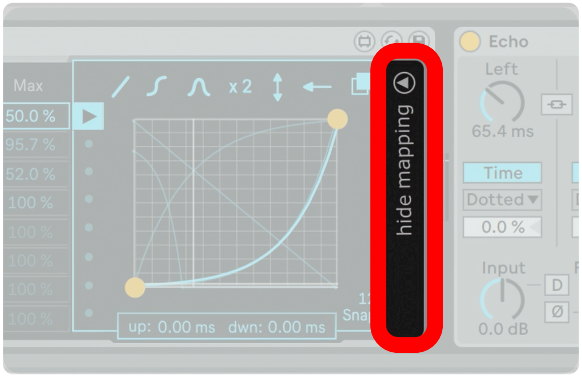


Smooth “up” and “dwn”
Control how quickly macro dial changes are applied to the mapped parameter. Smooth Up applies smoothing when the parameter value is increasing, while Smooth Down applies it when the value is decreasing. This can help reduce clicks and artifacts for a cleaner sound, add a more fluid feel to your macro movements, or provide deeper levels of expressive control.



The "Snap to Grid" & "Grid Size" parameters
Adjust the grid size using the number box above the "snap" button. When the "snap" button is enabled, all breakpoints that you move/create become aligned with the grid.





Show/hide mappings button
Collapse the device to take up less space, while still keeping the macro dial itself accessible and the mapped parameter names visible. Clicking one of the mapped parameter names beneath the dial in collapsed view will extend the device, revealing the associated Advanced Settings.

THANK YOU!

Have any suggestions, questions or feedback? We would love to hear from you. Feel free to email us at info@windmakeswaves.com

We have some really cool products in the works that we are super excited to share, so please watch this space!

If you're interested, we have a "New Product Release" mailing list which will send you an email with information on each new product when we release it.
www.windmakeswaves.com/mailinglist

Thank you for checking out Macro W!

