A utility for every track.

Level, balance and signal checks in one compact plugin. Utility is free, works offline, and doesn't need an account or activation.

Install on Mac

Use the Mac installer for Intel and Apple Silicon Macs running macOS 12 or later. It installs Audio Unit and VST3. Close your DAW before installing, then reopen it and rescan plugins if needed. Look for Cuekeeping Utility.

Install on Windows

Choose x64 for Intel/AMD PCs running 64-bit Windows 10 or later. Choose ARM for Windows 11 on ARM. The ARM package contains native ARM64 and ARM64EC VST3 variants; your DAW must support a matching native VST3 architecture. Audio Unit is Mac only.

Start with the original signal

Insert Utility on a track. Leave the faders at 0 dB, Pan centered and the input selector on ST. DC Block, polarity, swap, mono and mute start off. Stereo Link starts on. These defaults preserve the incoming signal.

Plugin and help locations

Mac: /Library/Audio/Plug-Ins/Components and /Library/Audio/Plug-Ins/VST3. Help: /Library/Application Support/Cuekeeping/Utility.

Windows: the system Common Files/VST3 folder. Help and the uninstaller are under ProgramData/Cuekeeping/Utility.

The controls.

Start with gain and balance. Use the remaining switches when the signal needs attention.

L / R faders	Independent channel gain from silence (-96 dB) to +12 dB. Drag a fader, or double-click its numeric readout to type a dB value.
Stereo Link	Moves both faders together while preserving their dB difference. A linked move stops when either fader reaches its limit. Individual host automation parameters remain independent.
Pan	Stereo balance. Centre leaves both channels at unity. Turning right attenuates the left channel; turning left attenuates the right. It does not move one input channel into the other.
DC Block	Removes DC offset, an unwanted shift away from a waveform's zero center. That shift can waste headroom or cause clicks. This 5 Hz filter starts off and does not repair clipped recordings.
Input L / ST / R	L sends the left input to both processing channels. ST preserves the stereo input. R sends the right input to both processing channels.
Ø / Swap L/R	Ø inverts the polarity of both channels together. Swap L/R exchanges the channels. These are separate functions.
Mono / Mute	Mono averages the two processed channels into mono. Mute silences Utility's processed output.
Bypass	Passes the original input without Utility processing. Bypass does not mute the track; it also bypasses Utility's Mute switch.

Checks and shortcuts.

The reset gestures work on the hardware controls and their readouts.

Return to the default

Double-click Pan, or Option/Alt-click the knob or its readout, to center it. Double-click a gain fader, or Option/Alt-click the fader or its numeric readout, to return gain to 0 dB. With Stereo Link on, both gain faders reset. With it off, only the clicked channel resets.

Make a fine adjustment

Hold Shift while dragging Pan or a fader. Numeric gain readouts remain editable by double-clicking them. There are no quick gain-step buttons.

Read and reset the meters

The output meters show sample peaks with decay. PK holds the highest output sample peak; RMS uses a 300 ms response. The red clip light stays on after either channel reaches 0 dBFS.

Click the red light to clear clipping and the held peak, or double-click the meter area. If clipping continues, the light comes back on. Resetting the meter does not change the audio.

What the meters don’t measure

These are sample-peak and RMS meters. They don’t measure true peak or LUFS. A red light reports the signal level at this insert; it doesn’t prove that the audio file or another part of your signal chain has clipped.

Processing and mono tracks

Utility reports zero latency and smooths control changes over 5 ms. It supports stereo-in/stereo-out and mono-in/mono-out. On a mono bus, the single output follows the left processing lane. For stereo channel control, use a stereo bus. Your original recordings are never rewritten.

Updates and removal.

Save your DAW project and close the host before installing, updating or removing plugins.

Update an existing installation

Run the installer for your platform. Keep a copy of the previous installer if you need to roll back. The Mac installer preserves replaced Utility bundles outside plugin scan folders. If it finds a known per-user Utility build that could duplicate the system install, it preserves and relocates that build. It won't replace a bundle that is still loaded by a process.

Remove Utility on Mac

Close your DAW. Remove only Cuekeeping Utility.component from /Library/Audio/Plug-Ins/Components and Cuekeeping Utility.vst3 from /Library/Audio/Plug-Ins/VST3. Optional help files and previous-build backups live in /Library/Application Support/Cuekeeping/Utility and, for migrated per-user builds, ~/Library/Application Support/Cuekeeping/Utility. Keep any backups you still need.

Remove Utility on Windows

Use Windows Installed apps to uninstall Cuekeeping Utility, or run its uninstaller under ProgramData/Cuekeeping/Utility/Uninstall-x64 or Uninstall-ARM. The uninstaller removes this product's installed files. It doesn't remove your DAW projects.

If Utility is missing or a control seems wrong

Check that the installer matches your operating system and DAW architecture. Rescan plugins after installation. Check Bypass, Mute and the L/ST/R selector before changing gain. For a support report, include Utility version 1.0.0, your OS, DAW and version, plugin format, bus layout and the steps that reproduce the issue. Don't disable operating-system security protections to force an installer to run.

Privacy and notices

Utility runs locally with no account, activation, network calls or telemetry. Third-party notices are installed with the help files. Visit cuekeeping.com for current support and product information.