



TD-201

VINTAGE TAPE ECHO



TD-201 | PRODUCT OVERVIEW & MANUAL

TD-201 VINTAGE TAPE ECHO

GENERAL OVERVIEW



AN EXPLORATION OF SPACE

TD-201 | VINTAGE TAPE ECHO

The TD-201 vintage tape echo plug-in brings the unmistakable sound of the classic analog delay into the 21st century. This intuitive unit offers a wide variety of detailed parameters, making it highly customizable yet simple to operate.

HISTORY

As a part of the 1950s revolution in music production, musicians, producers, and engineers were busy creating the foundation of the modern-day workflow, introducing countless technical innovations - from guitar amps to electric organs, as well as an incredible amount of studio effects. This period also marked the birth of electric reverberation & delay units.

Early-day tape delays such as the Echoplex or Copicat - the first attempts at echo generators - have a history of being technically unreliable and prone to damage when transported, yet their sound was so captivating that further attempts inevitably ensued.

It was in the late 1960s when Japanese engineer Ikutaro Kakehashi and Hammond started experimenting with multi-head tape echos. One of these featured a free-floating 1/4-inch tape & spring reverb housed in a rock-solid tape chamber, ready for touring and more stable and reliable than anything on the market at the time.

The Roland Space Echo RE-201 became a best-seller for the brand. It further evolved into a range of delay effects that are still extensively used in music productions and in sound design today. The famous delay sound has stayed consistent ever since the RE-201 was born.

For many tape delay aficionados, there is nothing like the sound of a legendary vintage unit. Still, many struggle with their unpredictability, not to mention that they can be time-consuming to use and difficult to access. This is why we have created the TD-201 - a highly customizable in-the-box tape delay that offers all of the vintage character of the classics, as well as countless customization options for maximum usability.

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GENERAL OVERVIEW

FEATURE OVERVIEW

MULTI-HEAD MODE SELECTOR

We have implemented a complex mode selection that allows for seamless transitioning between the playback heads so that you can dial in your perfect room setup. Effortlessly mix your reverberation and delay just like with the vintage original.

PER HEAD FINE TUNING

Fine-tune your perfect echo by adjusting the depth, volume, and stereo position per playback head in the lower panel. The nine parameters allow for surgical-level precision in your workflow.

TAP & SYNC

Quickly synchronize the tape speed to your mix/ rhythm with the sync control. By using this feature, the echo will follow the impulse given by the tap knob.

DIAL IN SOME RANDOMNESS

In order to go "full vintage", try to use our range of fine-tuning parameters to control the motor, flutter, headroom, dropouts, and noise – all of which are hardware tape machine features. Play around with these, and dial in some randomness to make your echo sound even more authentic.

LO-FI CASSETTE EFFECT

Here's a little pro-tip: Set your echo to **0ms** (HEAD 1 ONLY Mode Selector = 1 & HD1 Pos = 0) and solely manipulate the motor, flutter, headroom, dropouts and noise in the mid panel. This is your perfect lo-fi cassette effect.

ADJUSTABLE GAIN-STAGING

The adjustable gain-staging gives you the ability to control the pre-processing input gain level, as well as the post-processing output gain level.

SSE2 & APPLE SILICON OPTIMIZED CODE

DSP operations are pipelined using SSE2 and Apple Silicon instruction sets. This ensures a high-performance operation despite its very complex computations.

HIGHDPI/RETINA SUPPORT

The user interfaces support high pixel density on both Windows and Mac OS systems, giving you the most enjoyable user experience on high DPI displays.

FURTHER INFO

PLUGIN ACTIVATION & SYSTEM REQUIREMENTS

All Black Rooster Audio plug-ins are equipped with a straightforward and easy to use, serial-based activation system. We did our best to ensure that our system works well for both online and offline users. By supporting USB key activation, mobile use is supported.

For detailed information on activation and the current system requirements of our plug-ins please refer to blackroosteraudio.com/en/faq

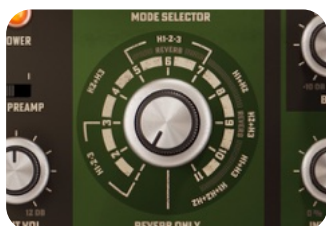
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PLUG-IN CONTROLS



» INPUT/OUTPUT GAIN STAGING

The TD-201 allows you to control the input and output gain, to perfectly adjust the effect to your given signal/mix.



» MODE SELECTOR

Layer your playback heads (H1, H2, H3) with this versatile head selector, that will internally route & mix your head setup as inspired by the original.



» MAIN EQ

Equalize your processed signal with this classic 2-band EQ.



» REVERB VOLUME

Adjust the amount of reverberation, that is added to your signal.



» DELAY INTENSITY & REPEAT RATE

Adjust the self-oscillating intensity and repeat-rate for diving into “space” with the echo. The parameters will control & intensify the feedback leverage onto the tape and therefore allow for deep delay effects.

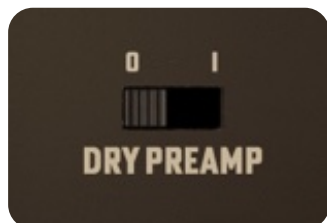


» ECHO VOLUME

Adjust the amount of echo/delay, that is added to your signal.

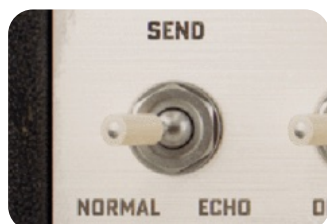
TD-201 VINTAGE TAPE ECHO

PLUG-IN CONTROLS



» DRY PREAMP

When turned on, the dry signal is routed through the preamp stage, which will add some subtle saturation.



» SEND

The "dub" switch in OFF position will not pass the direct signal, but any repetition or self-oscillation through the echo processor.



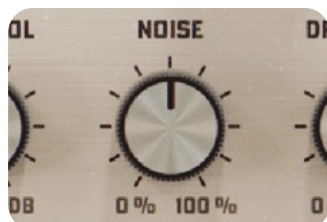
» SYNC & TAP

With the sync control you can easily synchronize the tape speed to your mix/ rhythm. Your echo will follow the impulse given by the tap knob (input by manual tapping).



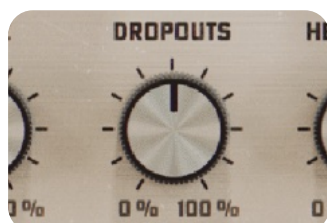
» DRY IN VOLUME

Adjust the volume of the dry input signal for the tape processor.



» NOISE

Dial in some random tape noise for more authenticity.



» DROPOUTS

Adjust the amount of typical tape dropouts for more authenticity.

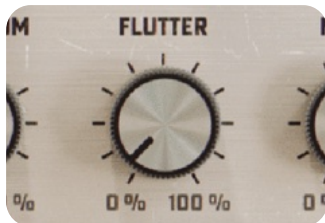
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PLUG-IN CONTROLS



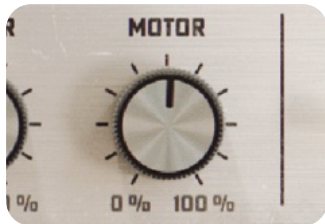
» HEADROOM

Adjust the headroom capability of the tape for limiting/expanding the dynamic range of the echo effect.



» FLUTTER

Add volume and pitch imperfection to your tape signal for more authenticity.



» MOTOR

Add motor/speed imperfection to your tape signal for more authenticity.



» DRY MUTE

Disables the dry signal. You can utilize the effect plug-in as a pure send effect by muting the dry signal from the wet/mix section of the plug-in.



» POWER (BYPASS)

Use the power switch to bypass the processing of the plug-in (ON/OFF).

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PLUG-IN CONTROLS



» HEAD POSITION (1/2/3)

Adjust the head position of the playback head in order to fine-tune the depth of the echo/repetition.



» HEAD VOLUME (1/2/3)

Adjust the head volume of the playback head in order to fine-tune the balance of all heads.



» HEAD PAN (1/2/3)

Adjust the head pan of the playback head to fine-tune the stereo-width and stereo-position of the echo/repetition.



» TAPE BASS

Fine-tune the amount/capability of bass within the tape.
(This parameter will only affect the tape, further adjust with the main EQ)



» TAPE TREBLE

Fine-tune the amount/capability of treble within the tape.
(This parameter will only affect the tape, further adjust with the main EQ)



» VU METER & PEAK LEVEL

Check our beautiful VU meter for some visual feedback on your plug-in settings.
The PEAK LEVEL LED next to the output control will further indicate overshoots.

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PREFS & INSTRUCTIONS

ADDITIONAL PLUG-IN PREFERENCES

(GEAR ICON MENU AT THE BOTTOM)

GUI SIZE

In the GUI size menu, you can select your preferred GUI ranging from a list of four settings, if you're looking to change the default sizing. Please note that the GUI size setting is a global preference that affects all Black Rooster Audio plug-ins installed on your system. If you are stuck with large GUI sizes, please right click on any non-control section of the plug-in for the regular settings menu to adjust GUI size.

KNOB BEHAVIOUR & KEYBOARD SHORTCUTS

Use the plug-in settings menu to select your preferred knob mode globally. Please note that all of our plug-ins share the same settings across all DAW applications. Choose between "Host Setting", "Circular", "Relative Circular" and "Linear".

- By default, the knob mode is set to "Host Setting", which means that the knob mode is dictated by the DAW application. Some VST hosts allow you to change the knob mode setting in their preference menu. Our plug-ins will respect the host knob mode in that setting.
- In "Circular" or "Relative Circular" mode, all knobs will react to circular mouse gestures and you have to drag your mouse in a clockwise or counter-clockwise direction to change its value.
- In the "Linear" mode you have to drag your mouse up or down when selecting a knob to change its value. Use the knob sensitivity menu and adjust it to your liking. Please note that this function is only available in linear mode.

ALL OF OUR PLUGINS SUPPORT THE FOLLOWING KEYBOARD SHORTCUTS

AU Hosts on Mac OS

Alt + Click - Reset control to its default value
Shift + Drag - Fine control
Shift + Mousewheel - Fine control

VST Hosts on Mac OS

CMD + Click - Reset control to its default value
Shift + Drag - Fine control (only applicable in linear knob mode)
Shift + Mousewheel - Fine control

VST Hosts on Windows

Ctrl + Click - Reset control to its default value
Shift + Drag - Fine control (only applicable in linear knob mode)
Shift + Mousewheel - Fine control