CROSSGRIDDER 1.4

Windows VSTs on macOS and Linux

"CrossGridder stands to AudioGridder
as IronMan stands to Tony Stark."

Tony Stark is awesome, right?
He has a vast knowledge, but physical limits due to his human
nature, which he surpasses by wearing the armor.

The same happens to AudioGridder when wearing its own:
CrossGridder.

CrossGridder isn't just copying AudioGridder, it's a tool that
expands its functionalities.

Getting to this version required few weeks of trials and
improvements.

Now...
Would you like to learn how laser beams work
when the enemy attacks?

READ THE GUIDE :)

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*********************************************************
```

DISCLAIMER

```
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```

. This file is provided as it is. I would not answer for any damage caused by its use.

. **CrossGridder** was tested on different machines and operative systems; version 1.4 is a universal bottle, which solves previous compatibility and installation issues (Mojave > Monterey and US21)

. Furthermore, there is version specific to High Sierra and Crossover 20.

. Its predefined settings are intended for Local Setups: a DAW and CrossGridder coexist on the same machine.

. Additional settings, detailed in this guide, are necessary to connect it to the AudioGridder plugin.

. CrossGridder is virus-free and built with free and open-source software.

. CrossGridder is free and it will always be.
To get it, subscribe to my YouTube channel and send me and email to crossgridder@gmail.com.
I will not include you in any mailing list and I will never ask you for money to have it.

. Reading the guide is suggested, even when you already have experience with AudioGridder and CrossGridder.

. AudioGridder and CrossGridder versions are not dependent.

CONTENTS

. **CROSSGRIDDER** is a bottle for CrossOver 20 and 21.
It mainly contains AudioGridderServer.exe, a Windows
VSTs server which connects to the AudioGridder plugin
through your local host (127.0.0.1).

. It was originally thought to use those Windows-only VSTs
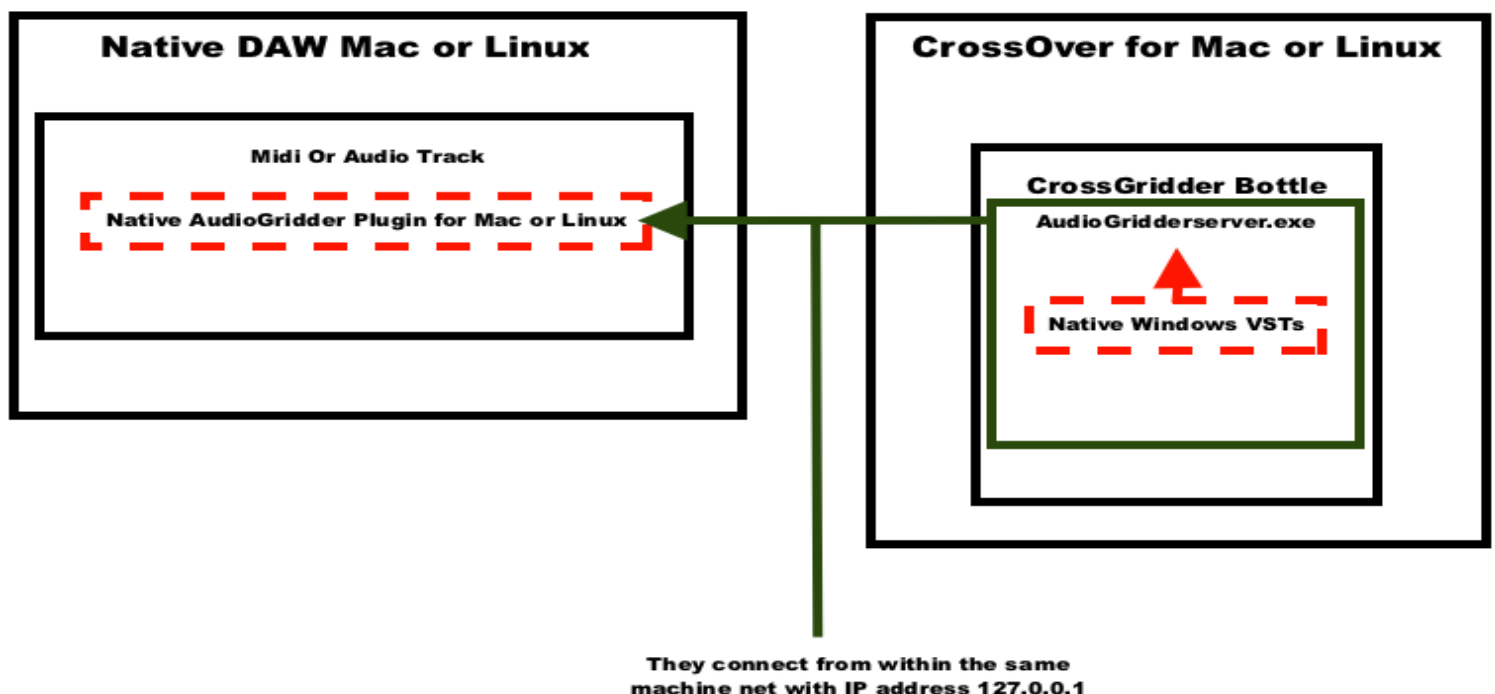also on Mac and Linux, but you are not limited to them.

. Tested from High Sierra to Monterey and Ubuntu Studio 21.

. A "bottle" is a Windows system reduced to the minimum,
with less functionalities (which we don't need in this
context), but that requires less CPU, RAM and disk space
compared to a virtual machine and is highly customized
to run the best way possible any Windows app we will install
into it.

. As of now, CrossGridder is possibly the best compromise on
macOS and best solution on Linux in its field.
Other methods (VEP, virtual machines) can coexist in the
same environment, when necessary.

. No particular technical skill is required, only the time and
patience to follow this guide and a previous knowlegde of the
AudioGridder system. For the rest, it's all written here.

LOCAL SETUP: One Mac or Linux system contains

Native DAW Mac or Linux

Midi Or Audio Track

Native AudioGridder Plugin for Mac or Linux

CrossOver for Mac or Linux

CrossGridder Bottle

AudioGridderserver.exe

Native Windows VSTs

They connect from within the same
machine net with IP address 127.0.0.1

02. What CrossGridder can do for you!

.. Run Windows VSTs on macOS and Linux

. Run Windows VSTs through CrossGridder, connecting it to the AudioGridder plugin.

. Automate parameters activating them from the AudioGridder plugin and learn them as you would for any other native plugin.

.. Create as many Servers as your system can handle

. Overcome AG server limitation of 1 GUI per server.

.. Be a "separated" environment for VST trial

. Evaluate plugins from inside CrossGridder.

. Leave your system clean, delete the bottle when you decide.

.. Or a great alternative to virtual machines

. Requires less CPU, RAM and Disk Space.

. Generates less audio latency.

. Stop dealing with 2 desktops on 1 screen.

.. Can be used along its past and future versions

. It's not necessary to delete previous bottles, unless wanted.

. This is also the concept behind CrossGridder's multiple servers setup.

.. And you can carry your plugins anywhere

. Just export the bottle and import it on a different system.
(Some files like presets could have been installed in your main system folders, check the Aliases and copy the files needed by the plugin to transfer them to the new machine).

. iLok License Manager works as a native app, the Soundtoys 5 bundle was used to transfer and activate the licenses.
Pay attention to don't delete the bottle before de-activating the licenses tied to it, it would be the same as erasing Windows without doing it, the only way would be to call the plugin's support service.

03. Requirements and Limitations

. Shared

. Use **a** light desktop theme to prevent "camouflage" of the AG server icon in the Menu bar

. Don't change settings or buffer size while composing.

. Install your Windows VSTs inside CrossGridder.

. MacOS

. Works from Mojave to Monterey,HS and prior weren't tested.

. Plugins requiring OpenGL 3.1 compat will not be validated, it is a Mac limit and for now it is out of my control. (e.g. Softube, SSL).

.Ubuntu Studio 21

. Plugins requiring OpenGL compat 3.1 and above DO work, granted your GPU supports it.

. CrossGridder was tested on Ubuntu Studio 21 and Ardour.

. Predefined Bottle settings

. High Resolution Mode (CO Sidebar > bottle > Settings)

. Default: **Off**

. Keep it off to maximize plugins compatibility.

. If a plugin crashes, check if it's on.

. DXVK Backend for D3D11 (CO Sidebar > bottle > Settings)

. Default: **Off**

. Keep it off to maximize plugins compatibility and prevent crashes.

. Wine Configuration > Graphics > Emulate a virtual desktop

. Default: **Off**

. Keep it off to prevent server freezing and CPU spikes.

. This chapter is intended for Local Setups: an AudioGridder plugin coexists on the same system as CrossGridder.

. Server Setup

. Install CrossOver 20 or 21

. High Sierra: Install CrossOver 20
. Mojave: Installa CrossOver 20 or 21
. Catalina > Monterey / Ubuntu Studio 21: install Crossover 21
. Get the 14 days trial from their website

. Open **Crossover**: Menu>Bottle>Import>CrossGridder_1.4.cxarchive
. Recreate aliases (Documents, Music ...) with Wine Configuration.

. MacOS

. Select **CrossGridder** from Crossover SideBar

. Drag **AudioGridderServer** from Program List to Dock

. Launch **AudioGridderServer,** wait for **wine64-preloader**

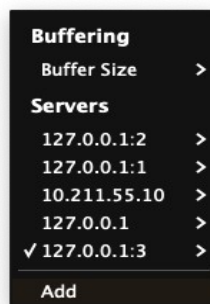. Quit **AudioGridderServer;** wine64-preloader remains active.

. Ubuntu Studio/Linux setup

Check the tutorial on [**CrossGridder's YouTube Channel**](CrossGridder's YouTube Channel)

. Select **CrossGridder** from Crossover SideBar

. Pin AudioGridderServer and System Monitor to Menu Bar

. Open both, the server splash screen will be transparent.

. Kill the AudioGridderServer process with ± 25 RAM in use .
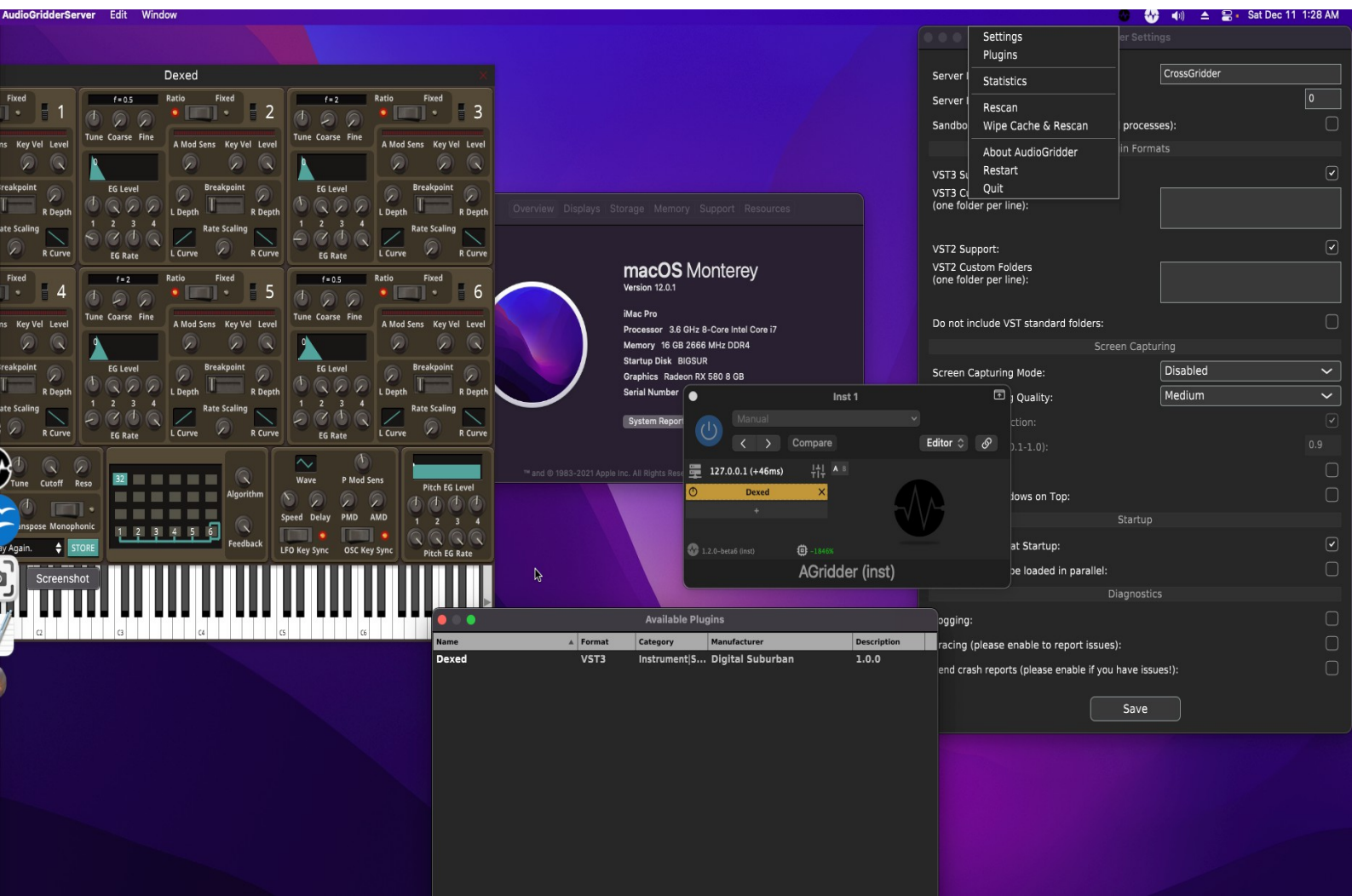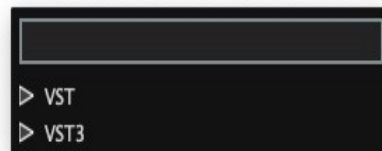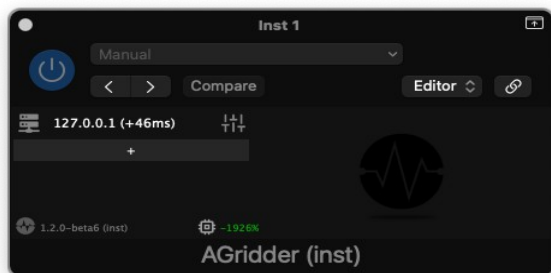
. Plugin setup

. Open your DAW, create an empty project.

. Create a midi track, insert an AudioGridder plugin.

. Click the Net icon to reveal "Buffering" "Servers" and "Add".

. Change Buffer Size to 2 or more blocks

. Click "Add", type 127.0.0.1 and "Add" once more.
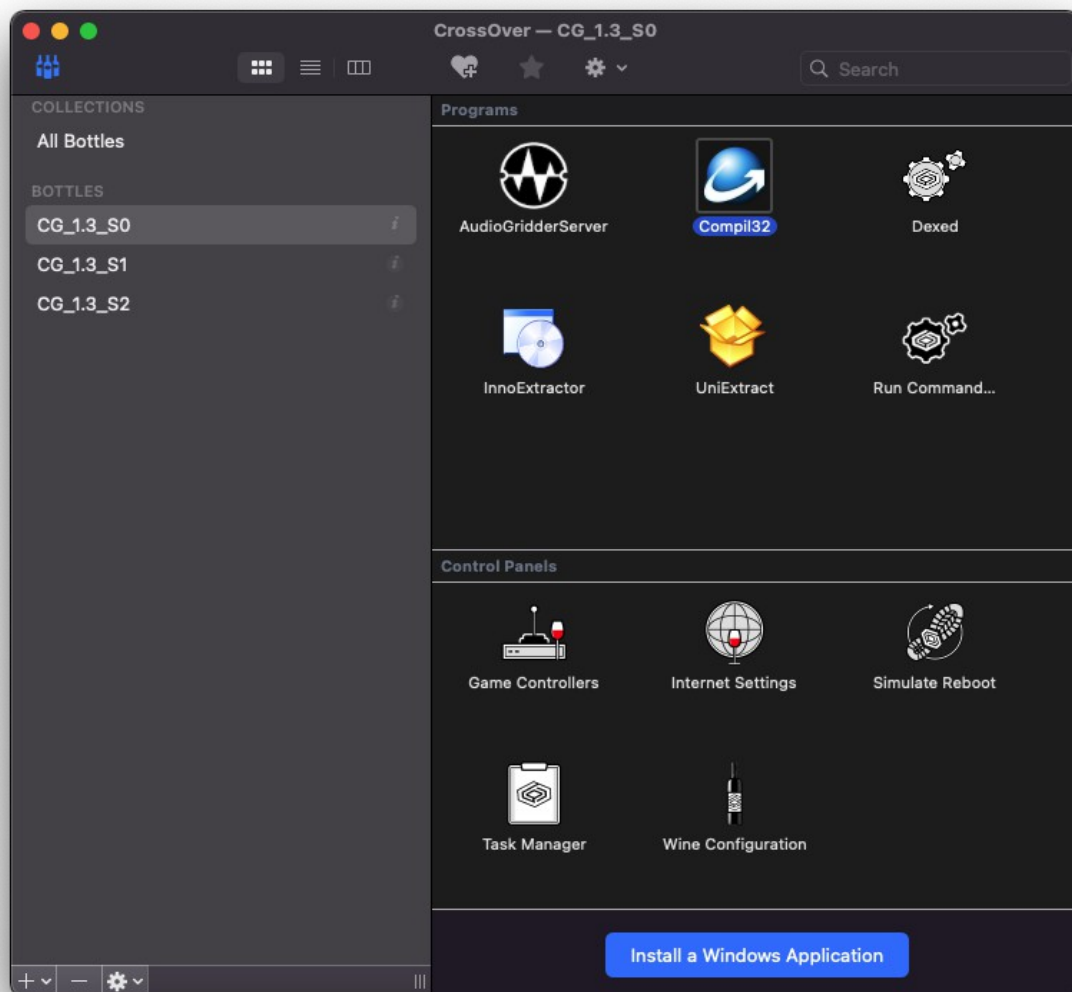

. Click "+" to insert Windows VSTs.

. There are at least two valid reasons to adopt this configuration:

    . If one server freezes, only plugins from that server will freeze.

    . Have as many GUIs as you like.

> *** Tip:** Read it as 1 GUI x server, as many servers your system can support.
> **** Tip:** 4 Servers is a good starting point, more than 6 would mostly be not necessary.
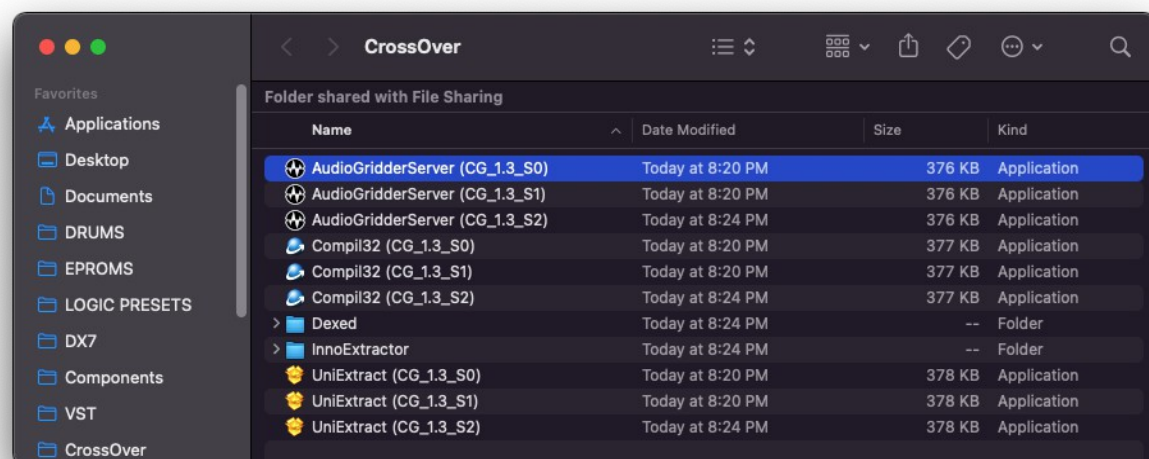
. Shared setup: first part

    1. Open **Crossover**

    2. **Create 2 CrossGridder copies** (right click bottle > Duplicate).
    . Rename all bottles as you wish + ID (i.e CG_1.4_S0,CG_1.4_S1...)
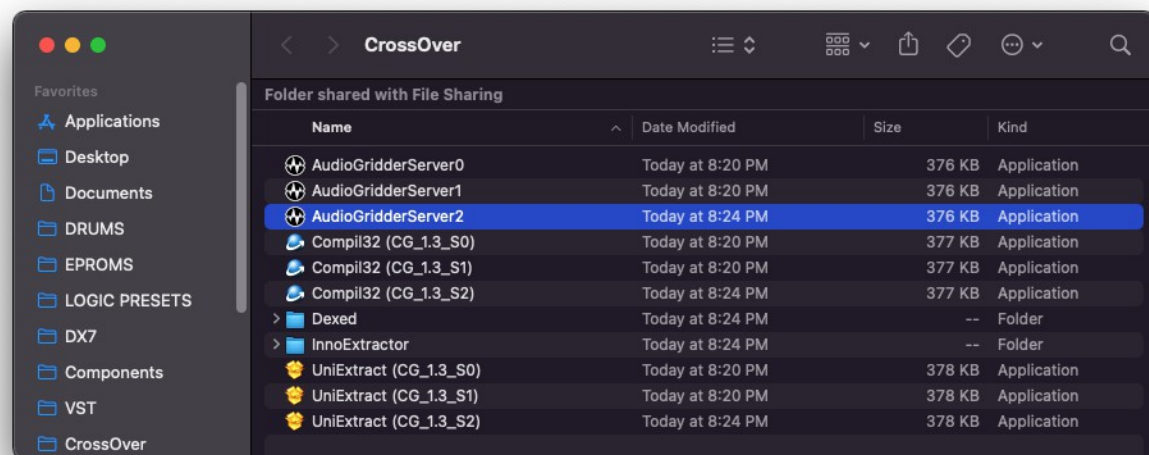

> *** Tip:** Don't run AG servers at same time before each one has its ID, or you will get an error.

1. Right click an app in Program List > Show in Finder.

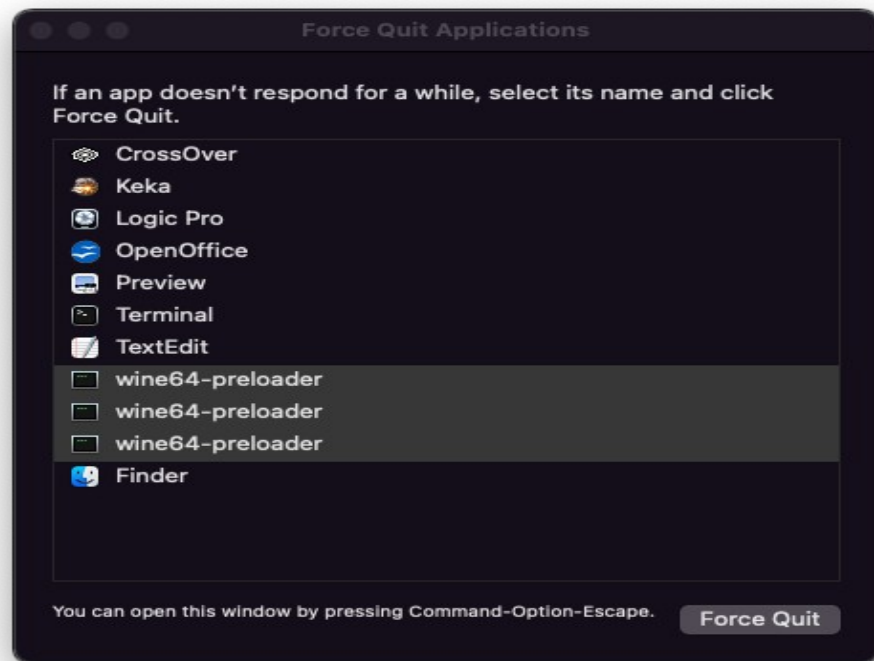**2.** Rename all AudioGridderServer apps adding their ID: AudioGridderServer0, AudioGridderServer1, etc..

3. Drag them into the Dock

4. Launch the first server from the Dock

    . Wait for the server splash screen

    . Check that wine64-preloader is active in the Dock

    . Quit **AudioGridderServer(n)** from the Dock

    . Repeat the same steps for the remaining servers

. Ubuntu Studio 21 setup

Check the tutorial on the CrossGridder's YouTube Channel

1. Pin each AudioGridderServer from its CG bottle to the Menu bar, from left to right, from first to last, to identify them.

2. Repeat these steps for each AudioGridderServer in the Menu bar:
. Launch the server
. Wait for the server splash screen, It will be transparent.
. Open System Monitor > Processes
. End the AudioGridderServer process using less RAM, ± 25 MB.
. The server splash screen is released and the server is ready.
. If not done, certain plugins will freeze when loading them.

. Shared setup: final part

. Open the **DAW**
. Load the first AudioGridder plugin.
. Server 0 is ready as **127.0.0.1** after the First Run.
. Connect the plugin to the server if they aren't.
. Load a Windows VST into the AudioGridder plugin.

. Load the second AudioGridder plugin.
. Click on "Add" , type **127.0.0.1:1** then "Add" again.
. Load a Windows VST into the AudioGridder plugin.

. Screens with max res = 1366x768 cut the bottom of the AudioGridder server settings, just turn on Hir Resultion Mode.

. It is turned off by default in CrossGridder when it's imported, to maximize the compatibility of the apps we are going to install in it.

. If you see that your plugin is not working with the High-Res mode, turn it on, modify the server configuration and turn it off.

Default server settings *** Don't change them unless stated otherwise ***

. Server name
. Default: **Crossgridder**
. It can be changed to any other preferred name.

. Server ID
. Default ID: **0**
. Use it as described in the chapters 4 and 5

. Sandboxing
. Default: **Off**
. Leave it off on a Local Setup to prevent a plugin chain reaction.

. Screen Capturing
. **Disabled**
. Leave it disabled for the CrossGridder Local Setup to work.

. Local Mode
. Default: **On**
. **On**: GUI sent by server moves while moving its AG plugin.
. **Off**: You can move the 2 windows independently.

. Keep Plugin Windows on Top
. Default: **Off**
. Can be turned **On** or **Off**. Self-explanatory.

. Allow Plugins to be loaded in parallel
. Default: **Off**
. Shouldn't be necessary for a Local Setup.

. Diagnostic settings
. Default: **Off**
. Keep them off and turn them on only for reproducible issues.

. AudioGridder Plugin settings

. Generic Editor

. Be sure to turn it off the first time the AG plugin is used.

. Buffersize

. Never leave it at 0 blocks, set it al least to 2 on recent CPUs. CPU usage drops and doesn't badly affect the latency due to the nature of CrossGridder running on a Local Setup.

. Plugin AppTray

. Plugin app tray disabled > Show Monitor > Any DAW crashes

* Tip: Use it to provoke an immediate DAW quit if necessary. BEWARE!!!

. Need help to install the AudioGridder plugin on Linux? Take a look at chapter 07.3.

01. Server's freeze

. Abusing server restarts while composing could freeze it.

Solution: force quit its wine64-preload, simulate windows reboot from within the bottle containing the frozen server to restart it.

. The server icon doesn't go away after force quit wine-64 preloader

Solution: Kill any **wine*** process.

In any case, it's difficult to reproduce the issue unless stressing the servers with frequent restarts while connected to the AudioGridder plugin.
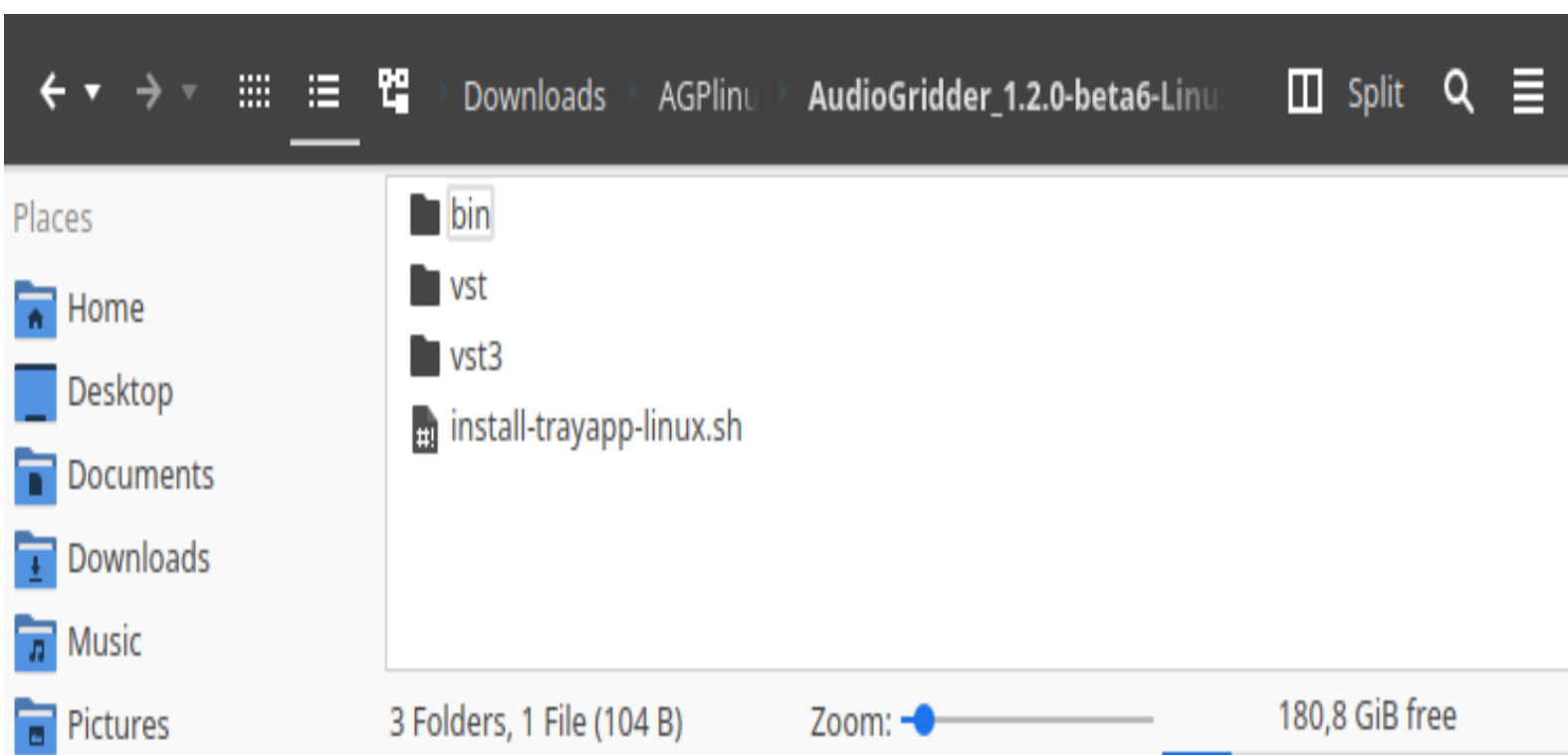
02. Windows installer can't create a folder and fails

Solution: Recreate aliases with Wine Configuration.

03. AudioGridderPlugin – Linux Installation

. Download AG plugin for Linux and extract it. Be sure that the plugin and server versions are matching.

. In this example we create the folder AGPLinux into Ubuntu Downloads, where we move the extracted folder, which contains:

Downloads ▸ AGPlinu ▸ **AudioGridder_1.2.0-beta6-Linu**   Split

Places
- Home
- Desktop
- Documents
- Downloads
- Music
- Pictures

- bin
- vst
- vst3
- install-trayapp-linux.sh

3 Folders, 1 File (104 B)   Zoom: 180,8 GiB free

.Let's install the tray app first:

. Open Konsole (Ubuntu terminal)

. Copy and paste (change <user>):

```
cd /home/<user>/Downloads/AGPlinux/AudioGridder_1.2.0-beta6-Linux
```

. Press Enter

. Copy and paste (change <user>):

```
sudo /home/<user>/Downloads/AGPlinux/AudioGridder_1.2.0-beta6-Linux/install-trayapp-linux.sh
```

. Press Enter, type system password, press Enter. Done!

. **Now install the AudioGridder plugin:**

1) Choose **A** or **B:**

A) Move the AudioGridder VST2 and VST3 into VST system folders.

B) Add the path to the extracted folder into your DAW.

2) Open your DAW, create a track, insert an AudioGridder plugin. Done!

. How to remove the tray-app, if required.

. Open Konsole

. Repeat the following for each sudo command below :

. Copy and paste into Konsole

. Press Enter

. Type the system password

. Press Enter

```
sudo rm /usr/local/bin/crashpad_handler
```

```
sudo rm /usr/local/bin/AudioGridderPluginTray
```

08. Suggestions, Ideas, Reporting Issues

. Subscribe to my YouTube, GitHub and Facebook to obtain direct support.

09. Credits

. **AudioGridder** by Andreas Pohl/e47

. **Codeweavers** for Crossover. It's necessary to run CrossGridder

. **Inno Setup** by Jordan Russell

. **Me**, for the countless spent testing it.

. **You**, for trying CrossGridder...

... Consider buying their products or donate if the software is free.