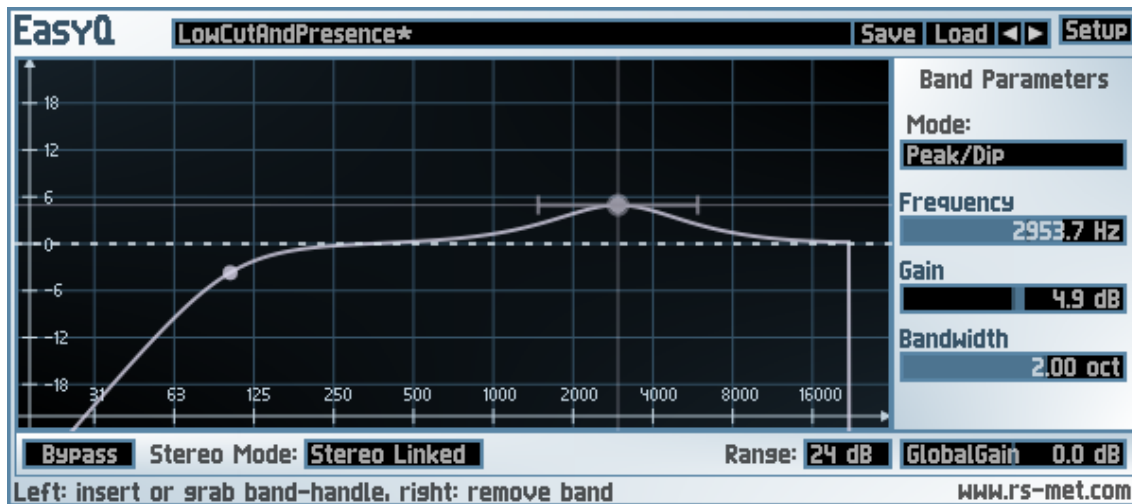# EasyQ - User Manual



## What is EasyQ?

EasyQ is an easy-to-use equalizer with an arbitrary number of filter stages in series connection. Each of the filter stages can operate in one of the following modes: peak/cut (aka bell or parametric EQ), high- or low-shelving, notch and low- or highpass (both with either 6 or 12 dB/oct slope). EasyQ is also easy on the CPU and just does what an EQ is supposed to do without performing any additional voodoo. As such, it is well suited to serve as a go-to EQ for the routine equalizing tasks.

## Setting it up

**The frequency response plot:** The main area of the user interface is devoted to a plot of the frequency response of the equalizer in which also most of the editing actions may be performed. Each filter stage is represented by a dot-like handle that can be selected by left-clicking on it. New stages can be inserted by left-clicking into some empty area. Filter stages can be removed by right-clicking on them. Once a handle for a filter stage is selected, it can dragged horizontally to adjust the characteristic frequency of the stage and/or dragged vertically to adjust the gain of the stage (when the mode doesn't support a gain parameter, the vertical position has no effect). Some filter modes also support a bandwidth parameter in which case a horizontal line through the handle appears on selection. This horizontal line indicates the bandwidth and provides additional handles at its left and right borders to adjust the bandwidth. Finally, a global gain factor may be adjusted in the plot by dragging the dashed horizontal line.

**Bypass:** This button switches the EQ into bypass mode - this is mainly intended for quick A/B comparisons with the original signal.

**Stereo Mode:** Selects, how a stereo signal is processed. The following modes are available:

- **Stereo Linked:** Left and right channel are processed independently but with the same filter settings for each channel.

- **Stereo Left/Right:** Left and right channel are processed independently with possibly different filter settings for each channel.

- **Stereo Mid/Side:** Left and right channel are converted into mid- and side signals, these are then processed independently with possibly different filter settings and converted back to left and right signals.

- **Mono:** Only the left channel is processed and the result is copied into the right output channel as well. This is useful to reduce the computational load when the input signal is actually a mono signal (albeit on two channels).

When "Stereo Left/Right" or "Stereo Mid/Side" is selected, a pair of buttons (labeled "L", "R" or "M", "S", respectively) appears. These select, which of the two channels is to be edited in the frequency response plot.

**Range:** Selects the range of the y-axis in terms of plus/minus some number of decibels. When you need only gentle boosts and/or cuts, you may want to see only a small range in order to edit more precisely. Conversely, when you need heavy boosts and/or cuts, you will need to see a larger range.

**GlobalGain:** A global gain that can be applied to compensate for an overall gain or attenuation due to the boosting/cutting/filtering action of the equalizer.

**Band Parameters:** Right to the frequency response plot, there is an area, labeled "Band Parameters", where widgets appear and disappear dynamically. These are associated with the settings of the currently selected filter stage. They are there to allow for finer adjustments of the selected filter stage and for displaying and entering exact numeric values of the parameters. Also, you may select the mode of the selected stage via the respective menu. They all disappear when no stage is selected and some of them may be present or not according to the mode of the selected stage.