

Arcus Audio – Unity Mixer

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[Unity Mixer Manual PDF](#)

Creative Uses for the Arcus Audio Unity Mixer in Eurorack Systems

The Unity Mixer from Arcus Audio is a compact (2hp) dual 3:1 unity gain summing mixer that can also serve as a single 6:1 mixer. With DC-coupled inputs (for audio or CV), bi-color LEDs for signal level and polarity, and minimal power draw, it's a versatile utility.

1. Merging Multiple Modulation Sources

How: Patch several LFOs, envelopes, or random CV sources into the inputs, sum them, and send the mixed output to a filter cutoff, oscillator pitch, or effect parameter.

Creative Tip: Combining static (LFO), dynamic (envelope), and chaotic (Sample & Hold) modulation sources through the Unity Mixer results in unique, evolving modulations for more nuanced patches.

Module Recommendations:

- Make Noise Maths (LFO/Envelope) - Mutable Instruments Tides (LFO/Envelope) - Doepfer A-148 (Sample & Hold)

2. Mixing Audio Signals Before a Waveshaper or Effects

How: Patch multiple VCO waveforms (for example, sine, triangle, and PWM square) into one section of the Unity Mixer. Sum them into a single chain—then process through a wavefolder, ring mod, or distortion.

Creative Tip: Unity gain summing allows you to blend waveforms without changing their amplitude. This can introduce interesting harmonic content when run into distortion, wavefolders, or resonators.

Module Recommendations:

- Befaco Wavefolder - Intellijel Bifold - Mutable Instruments Rings (resonator)
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3. Creating a Submix for FX Sends

How: Use the Unity Mixer to sum a few drum or percussion voices and send the output to a delay or reverb module's input.

Creative Tip: This enables you to apply collective FX processing (like sidechained reverb, compressed delay) to grouped signals—fine-tune your submix before the effect.

Module Recommendations:

- ALM S.B.G (for pedal interface) - Erica Synths Pico DSP (FX) - 2hp Verb (reverb)
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4. Summing Envelope or Gate Triggers for Rhythmic Complexity

How: Send multiple gate or trigger sources (sequencers, clock dividers, manual buttons) into the mixer and use the summed output for percussive voices, envelopes, or as a logic function (mixing triggers as 'OR').

Creative Tip: Summed gates can create slight timing overlaps, great for polyrhythmic or humanized percussion.

Module Recommendations:

- Mutable Instruments Grids (trigger sequencer) - 4ms QCD (Clock Divider)
 - Intellijel Steppy (trigger sequencer)
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5. Layering CV for Stereo or Multichannel Patches

How: Use each half of the mixer for left and right channel signals, layering stereo modulations or audio sources before routing to stereo processing or panning modules.

Creative Tip: Contrasting modulations per channel can create immersive stereo movement or spatialization.

Module Recommendations:

- Happy Nerding PanMix Jr (stereo panner) - WMD Overseer (stereo filter) - Make Noise Mimeophon (stereo delay)
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6. Mixing Audio for Feedback Patching

How: Patch the output of a filter or delay back into itself via the Unity Mixer, blending in external signals or modulations to control feedback level and timbre.

Creative Tip: Controlled feedback with summed signals can yield unique, evolving drones, textures, or noise beds.

Module Recommendations:

- Mutable Instruments Clouds (granular) - Make Noise QPAS (filter) - Tiptop Echoz (delay)
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7. Utility Functions

- **CV Normalization:** Take several unipolar or bipolar modulation signals and use the bi-color LEDs to visualize overall polarity—helpful for finding phase-correct blends.
 - **Unity Gain Mixing:** Mix multiple pitch CVs (multiple sequencers/arpeggiators) to drive a single VCO and create evolving melodic sequences (works best with precise sources so tuning isn't affected).
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For further ideas, you can pair the Unity Mixer with logic modules, complex envelopes, granular processors, or stereo imaging tools—the possibilities are wide open for creative utility!

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