Bastl Instruments — ABC Mixer

- [Manual PDF](#)

Bastl Instruments ABC 6 Channel Mixer Manual (PDF)

Using the Bastl Instruments ABC 6-Channel Mixer to Build Full Length Eurorack Songs

Overview

The Bastl Instruments ABC is a six-channel mixer specifically aimed at combining audio or CV signals in a compact 5HP format. It provides two summed outputs — A+B+C and D+E+F — and includes flexible normalization and solder jumpers for AC (audio) or DC (CV) mixing.

Key Features for Song Creation

- **6 Audio or CV Inputs** (A, B, C, D, E, F)
- **Two Summing Outs:** A+B+C & D+E+F; can become a single 6-channel mix
- **Normalization Jumpers:** Useful for stereo mixing or layer splitting
- **Individual Gain for Each Channel**
- **DC Coupling Option:** Lets you mix CVs for parameter control/ morphing

Creative Uses for Full-Length Song Construction

1. Dynamic Submixing of Groups (Song Parts)

Use the module as two 3-channel mixers for grouping instrumental layers: - **A+B+C:** Drums/perc, main synth, bass - **D+E+F:** Pads, leads, FX

Live Song Structure Tactic:
Patch all voices into the mixer, then perform transitions/muting by turning channel gains up & down or by patching in/out the group outputs. This helps create intros, breakdowns, drops, and outros by fading groups in/out.

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2. Manual Performance/Automation

Assign mixer channels to various song sections: - Channel A: Verse synth - Channel B: Chorus synth - Channel C: Bridge FX

Performance tip:
Use active muting (by turning the gain knob fully down) to bring parts in/out by hand—even if your sequencers are firing all patterns at once. This is a tactile way to "arrange" live.

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3. Morphing Between Song Sections Using CV Mixing

By modifying the mixer for DC coupling (solder jumpers), you can mix LFO/envelope CVs that control other modules (VCAs, filters, effect sends).

Example:
- Channel A: Envelope for verse intensity - Channel B: LFO for transitions - Channel C: Envelope for breakdown FX

Sum these, then send the output to modulate effects or VCAs—the evolving CV shapes can "morph" your song structures automatically.

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4. Stereo/Fake-Stereo Arrangements

Use the normalization jumpers on the back to pair: - A→D, B→E, C→F
Send different signals to the L/R outputs; pan drums left, synths right, FX center—giving your songs a sense of movement over time.

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5. Scene Switching with Shared Outputs

When nothing is plugged into A+B+C, this mix is summed into D+E+F.
- **Patch D+E+F to a master VCA or FX send:** This lets you crossfade between full arrangement (all 6 channels) and subgroup (3 channels only), building in/outro sections.

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6. Performance Combinations

Patch Scenario: - A: Kick - B: Snare - C: Hats - D: Bass - E: Chord synth - F: Lead melody

Full Mix to Output: All channels **Drop to Drums + Bass Only:** Mute E, F (turn down) **Breakdown:** Kill A, B, D (only hats + chords remain) **Drop:** Bring all channels back **Outro:** Fade down each group

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Practical Workflow for Full-Length Songs

1. **Pre-Patch Sections:** Pre-patch all instruments; decide what channels group into which song section.
2. **Manual or Automated Muting:** Use mixer channel knobs to "write" your arrangement in real-time.
3. **Send Mixes to Effects or Sidechains:** For further variation, patch outputs to FX modules or sidechains for builds and drops.
4. **Layer with Additional Automation:** Use CV mixing to organically morph sections (volume, modulation, FX sends).

Conclusion

The ABC mixer is not just utility—it's a hands-on performance and arrangement tool that lets you shape your eurorack jams into coherent, evolving full-length songs. Combine channel assignments, mutes, fades, CV mixing, and stereo tricks to perform or multitrack entire arrangements with structural change and dynamic interest.

For more utilities and generative eurorack workflows, check out:

Generated With Eurorack Processor