

Eq Settings

General

20 Hz and below -	impossible to detect, remove as it only adds unnecessary energy to the total sound, thereby most probably holding down the overall volume of the track
60 Hz and below	sub bass (feel only)
80(-100) Hz -	feel AND hear bass
100-120 Hz -	the "club sound system punch" resides here
200 Hz and below	bottom
250 Hz -	notch filter here can add thump to a kick drum
150-400 Hz -	boxiness
200 Hz-1.5 KHz -	punch, fatness, impact
800 Hz-4 KHz -	edge, clarity, harshness, defines timbre
4500 Hz -	extremely tiring to the ears, add a slight notch here
5-7 KHz -	de-essing is done here
4-9 KHz -	brightness, presence, definition, sibilance, high frequency distortion
6-15 KHz -	air and presence
9-15 KHz -	adding will give sparkle, shimmer, bring out details - cutting will smooth out harshness and darken the mix

Kicks

60Hz with a Q of 1.4 Add fullness to kicks.
5Khz with a Q of 2.8 Adds attack to Kicks
EQ>Cut below 80Hz to remove rumble
Boost between 80 -125 Hz for bass

PROCESSING> Compression 4:1/6:1 slow attack med release.
Reverb: Tight room reverb (0.1-0.2ms)

General

Apply a little cut at 300Hz and some boost between 40Hz and 80Hz.
Control The Attack:
Apply boost or cut around 4KHz to 6KHz.
Treat Muddiness:
Apply cut somewhere in the 100Hz to 500Hz range.
kick>> bottom depth at 60 - 80 Hz, slap attack at 2.5Hz

Snares

200Hz - 250Hz with a Q of 1.4	Adds wood to snares
3Khz with a Q of 1.4	Adds attack to snare.
7Khz with a Q of 2.8	Adds Sharpness to snares and percussion
120-240Hz	fatness at
400Hz	boing
5kHz	crispness
10kHz	snap

EQ> Boost above 2kHz for that crisp edge
Cut at 1kHz to get rid of the sharp peak
Boost at 125Hz for a full snare sound
Cut at 80Hz to remove rumble
PROCESSING> Compression 4:1 slow attack med release.
Reverb: Tight room reverb (0.1-0.2ms)
snare>> fatness at 240HZ, crispness at 5 KHz

Vocals

General

Roll off below 60Hz using a High Pass Filter. This range is unlikely to contain anything useful, so you may as well reduce the noise the track contributes to the mix.

Treat Harsh Vocals:

To soften vocals apply cut in a narrow bandwidth somewhere in the 2.5KHz to 4KHz range.

Get An Open Sound:

Apply a gentle boost above 6KHz using a shelving filter.

Get Brightness, Not Harshness:

Apply a gentle boost using a wide-band Bandpass Filter above 6KHz. Use the Sweep control to sweep the frequencies to get it right.

Get Smoothness:

Apply some cut in a narrow band in the 1KHz to 2KHz range.

Bring Out The Bass:

Apply some boost in a reasonably narrow band somewhere in the 200Hz to 600Hz range.

Radio Vocal Effect:

Apply some cut at the High Frequencies, lots of boost about 1.5KHz and lots of cut below 700Hz.

Telephone Effect:

Apply lots of compression pre EQ, and a little analogue distortion by turning up the input gain.
Apply some cut at the High Frequencies, lots of boost about 1.5KHz and lots of cut below 700Hz.

vocals>> fullness at 120 Hz, boominess at 200 - 240 Hz, presence at 5 kHz, sibilance at 7.5 - 10 kHz

Hats

10Khz with a Q of 1.0 -- Adds brightness to hats and cymbals

Hi Hat & Cymbals: sizzle (7.5 - 10 kHz), clank (200 Hz)

EQ> Boost above 5kHz for sharp sparkle

Cut at 1kHz to remove jangling

PROCESSING> Compression use high ratio for high energy feel

Reverb: Looser than Bass n Snare allow the hats and especially the Rides to ring a little

Get Definition:

Roll off everything below 600Hz using a High Pass Filter.

Get Sizzle:

Apply boost at 10KHz using a Band Pass Filter. Adjust the bandwidth to get the sound right.

Treat Clangy Hats:

Apply some cut between 1KHz and 4KHz.

hi hats/cymbals>> clank or gong sound at 200 Hz, shimmer at 7.5 kHz - 12 kHz

Guitar

Treat Unclear Vocals:

Apply some cut to the guitar between 1KHz and 5KHz to bring the vocals to the front of the mix.

General

Apply a little boost between 100Hz and 250Hz and again between 10KHz and 12KHz.

Acoustic Guitar

Add Sparkle: Try some gentle boost at 10KHz using a Band Pass Filter with a medium bandwidth.

General:

Try applying some mid-range cut to the rhythm section to make vocals and other instruments more clearly heard.

Other:

Voice: presence (5 kHz), sibilance (7.5 - 10 kHz), boominess (200 - 240 kHz), fullness (120 Hz)

Electric Guitar: fullness (240 Hz), bite (2.5 kHz), air / sizzle (8 kHz)

Bass Guitar: bottom (60 - 80 Hz), attack (700 - 1000 Hz), string noise (2.5 kHz)

Toms: attack (5 kHz), fullness (120 - 240 Hz)

Acoustic Guitar: harshness / bite (2 kHz), boominess (120 - 200 Hz), cut (7 - 10 kHz)

Bass - Compressed, EQ'd with a full bottom end and some mids

rack toms>> fullness at 240 Hz, attack at 5 kHz

floor toms>> fullness at 80 - 120 Hz, attack at 5 kHz

horns>> fullness at 120 - 240 Hz, shrill at 5 - 7.5 kHz

strings>> fullness at 240 Hz, scratchiness at 7.5 - 10 kHz

conga/bongo>> resonance at 200 - 240 Hz, slap at 5 kHz

General Frequencies

EQ Reference: Frequencies

50Hz

Boost: To thicken up bass drums and sub-bass parts.

Cut: Below this frequency on all vocal tracks. This should reduce the effect of any microphone 'pops'.

70-100Hz

Boost: For bass lines and bass drums.

Cut: For vocals.

General: Be wary of boosting the bass of too many tracks. Low frequency sounds are particularly vulnerable to phase cancellation between sounds of similar frequency. This can result in a net 'cut' of the bass frequencies.

200-400Hz

Boost: To add warmth to vocals or to thicken a guitar sound.

Cut: To bring more clarity to vocals or to thin cymbals and higher frequency percussion.

Boost or Cut: to control the 'woody' sound of a snare.

400-800Hz

Boost: To add warmth to toms.

Boost or Cut: To control bass clarity, or to thicken or thin guitar sounds.

General: It can be worthwhile applying cut to some of the instruments in the mix to bring more clarity to the bass within the overall mix.

800Hz-1KHz

Boost: To thicken vocal tracks. At 1 KHz apply boost to add a knock to a bass drum.

1-3KHz

Boost: To make a piano more aggressive. Applying boost between 1KHz and 5KHz will also make guitars and basslines more cutting.

Cut: Apply cut between 2 KHz and 3KHz to smooth a harsh sounding vocal part.

General: This frequency range is often used to make instruments stand out in a mix.

3-6KHz

Boost: For a more 'plucked' sounding bass part. Apply boost at around 6KHz to add some definition to vocal parts and distorted guitars.

Cut: Apply cut at about 3KHz to remove the hard edge of piercing vocals. Apply cut between 5KHz and 6KHz to dull down some parts in a mix.

6-10KHz

Boost: To sweeten vocals. The higher the frequency you boost the more 'airy/breathy' the result will be. Also boost to add definition to the sound of acoustic guitars or to add edge to synth sounds or strings or to enhance the sound of a variety of percussion sounds. For example boost this range to:

Bring out cymbals.

Add ring to a snare.

Add edge to a bass drum.

10-16KHz

Boost: To make vocals more 'airy' or for crisp cymbals and percussion. Also boost this frequency to add sparkle to pads, but only if the frequency is present in the original sound, otherwise you will just be adding hiss to the recording.