

HALion 3

Read Me - HALion 3.1



Welcome !

First of all we would like to thank you for purchasing a high quality product from Steinberg.

We are sure you'll enjoy all existing and especially the new features in HALion 3 as much as we do!

This document contains information about installing and using HALion 3 on your computer.

HALion 3 - most important news

- **New file browser** with drag and drop support, favourites system, sound categorization and database indexing. An impressive set of powerful new sound management tools gives you a clear overview over all your sound files. The intuitive sound categories system lets you group related sounds, making it easy to find them quickly!
- **Dazzling new Insert and Send Effects section.** 27 quality effects encompass just about any effect requirement. They can be applied to individual samples, sample groups or entire programs. Effect sends can be sent to HALion's internal FX section or even directly to the VST mixer to share plug-in resources between the host and HALion.
- **HALion 3 now offers RAMSave™**, a new feature created to keep in check the RAM resources needed by even the most extensive sample instruments, resulting in low RAM usage and faster project load and save times, a boon for pro users using large, intricate sampled instruments such as big orchestral patches or large drum kits.
- **Alternate mode** - adds a range of functions, including playing a different sample with each new Note On message, introducing more spontaneity and feeling, especially useful for realistic drum-sounds or string bow up/down action.
- **Q-Control Feature** – add 8 macro edit controls to each program for faster access and setup of modulations. Each Q-Control features a parameter curve, “to folder” restrictions and can learn its remote MIDI CC.
- **Even more file formats** - HALion 3 adds support for Kurzweil and Kontakt sounds as well as for the Zero-X BeatCreator and BeatQuantizer Groove-Slice formats. You can find a 15 day limited Demo version of ZeroX BeatQuantizer in the 3rd party Demo folder on the DVD.
- **Sleek and clean user interface:** the easiest to use sampler in the world! HALion itself explains its intuitive GUI with the new and improved ToolTip Help. Presets let you recall frequently used settings for envelopes, modulations and FX. Many views can be opened in separate windows.
- **Tons of smaller enhancements and Fixes!**

Important

Read the Software Licensing Contract supplied with the software. By installing the software or sending back the registration card, you are declaring yourself to be in agreement with the conditions in the contract. If you want to read the Software Licensing Contract independently from the installation process, or if you want to print out the contract, you'll find the text file on the CD-ROM in the "License" directory. The text file is available in several languages, simply select the file in the language of your choice.

System Requirements

Macintosh	Windows
Required: Power Mac G4 867 MHz 384 MB RAM OS X Version 10.3.3 or higher CoreAudio compatible audio hardware For using HALion as plug-in, a VST2 or AU compatible host is required Steinberg Key and USB component connector required Display resolution 1024 x 768 pixels DVD-ROM required for installation	Required: Pentium / Athlon 800 MHz 384 MB RAM Windows XP Home and XP Professional Windows MME compatible audio hardware (ASIO recommended) For using HALion as plug-in, a VST2 or DXi2 compatible host is required Steinberg Key and USB component connector required Display resolution 1024 x 768 pixels DVD-ROM required for installation
Recommended: Power Mac G4 Dual 1.25 GHz or faster 512 MB RAM Display resolution 1152 x 864 pixels, dual monitor setup	Recommended: Pentium / Athlon 1.4 GHz or faster 512 MB RAM Display resolution 1152 x 864 pixels, dual monitor setup

Installation

The installation of the software and the Steinberg Key authorization is covered in detail in the manual.

PC ->

- 1) If you are updating to HALion 3: deinstall any previous HALion versions first! Parallel installations are untested and unsupported!
- 2) Make sure the HALion dongle is NOT plugged in.
- 3) Insert the HALion DVD into your DVD drive, launch the Explorer or open the "My Computer" window and double click on the symbol for the DVD drive that holds the HALion DVD. If autostart is activated the DVD contents will open in a new window automatically.
- 4) Double click on the HALion Installer symbol to launch the installation program and follow the instructions on screen.
- 5) After installation of the dongle drivers, the installation routine may initiate a restart of your computer. The installation routine will continue automatically after this restart.
- 6) After the automatic restart, make sure the dongle is plugged into the USB port! Simply plug the dongle into the USB port while the system is booting up. In case there is no restart, simply follow the instructions on screen.
- 7) When the installation process is completed, restart your computer. After installing the HALion software and the dongle drivers, HALion 3 is ready to use.

Mac ->

- 1) If you are updating to HALion 3: deinstall any previous HALion versions first! Parallel installations are untested and unsupported!
- The HALion 3 OSX Installer application will overwrite any previous versions of HALion that may be found.
- 2) Quit all other applications so that you return to the Finder. Disable any system activity monitoring software or extension, in particular anti-virus software. Now, insert the HALion DVD into the computer's DVD drive.
 - 3) If it doesn't do so automatically, double-click the HALion icon to open the CD window.

4) Double-click on the HALion Installer symbol to load the installation software. Follow the instructions on screen. After installing the HALion software and the dongle drivers, HALion 3 is ready to use.

Updating from the Web

As the development of Software is an ongoing process that gets closer and closer to perfection without ever achieving it, we encourage you to always make sure you are using the latest version of HALion 3:

Download the proper install / update utility from the Support / Download section at <http://www.steinberg.net/Steinberg/Downloads.asp>

Double-click the file, and follow the on-screen prompts to install / update the appropriate version of HALion 3 for your computer.

HALion 3 General Notes

We strongly recommend to deinstall HALion 1 + 2 before installing HALion 3!

If not, any VSTi / DXi hosts may be unable to decide which version to load with your projects as both HALion 2 + 3 are using the same VST identifier (if they didn't you wouldn't be able to load old projects with HALion 3). The same applies to the DXi version.

Parallel installation of previous versions and HALion 3 is untested and completely unsupported. Parallel installation of HALion V2 + V3 may lead to being unable to deinstall HALion 2 from the Software Add/Remove Panel in Windows.

Keep in mind that projects and programs created with HALion 1/2/3 are compatible with HALion 3.1, but previous versions can't read HALion 3.1 Programs or Projects due to the new file format !

Available outputs per HALion instance may be limited, depending on the host application and Plug-in interface you use.

DXi-version: deactivating the "FastBounce" option when using "Bounce to Tracks" in Sonar is recommended if you experience cut off or missing notes.

Note Hanging may occur if 2 notes were played at exactly the same time. Note: to avoid note-hanging in Cubase you need to activate the Option "Reset on Stop".

Standalone version only supports one physical stereo output pair, all HALion Outputs are summed and sent to the physical output defined in Preferences.

For best Performance in OSX, set the "Processor Performance" to "Highest" in the System Preferences.

The advanced disk-streaming mode for optimal stream performance is set to on by default on Options page. In case you encounter any problems with disk-streaming try disabling the advanced mode.

Additional Demos + Content

On the DVD in the **HALion 3rd party Demos** folder you'll find additional high quality demo content from 3rd parties like Gary Garritan, Scarbee, Vienna Symphonic Library and eLab. To make use of the provided *.HSB (HALionSoundBank files) you need to copy the HSB files to your HD and go to Options/Locate Content in HALion Player to register the Content. Look up the manual for "Locate Content" for a more detailed description for manually installing Content.

In addition to the demo content a fully functional 30 day trial version of **Zero-X Beat Quantizer** (PC only) is included, so you can check out the new *.zgr Groove-file format support in HALion 3 straight away!

If you are looking for the perfect Loop points in a Sample don't miss the 30 day trial version of **Zero-X Seamless Looper** in the same folder.

Getting more information

Don't miss the valuable information and tutorials in the printed HALion 3 documentation. This information is also available as a PDF document in the Global context menu of HALion by right-clicking in empty space on the HALion 3 user interface and choosing "Help" or from the Start menu entry Steinberg/HALion 3. You can also open the PDF directly from the HALion 3 DVD in the Documentation folder.

You can get an overview of new features in HALion 3 by right-clicking empty space on the HALion 3 User Interface and choosing "What's new".

Note: For viewing PDF files the Adobe Acrobat Reader is needed, which can be found on the DVD in the **Acrobat Reader** folder.

For technical questions and discussions regarding HALion 3, we have provided a Forum to communicate with other users here:

<http://www.cubase.net/>

Documentation Feedback

If you have suggestions for improving the HALion 3 documentation, we sure want to hear from you.

Please send your suggestions for enhancements, clarifications, or corrections to steinberg-documentation@steinberg.de.

For avoiding spam any mail is filtered out that doesn't begin with the following subject: [HALion3-documentation]. Please make sure your subject begins with this term so the mail can get thru to our documentation team.

Technical Support

Steinberg product specialists are also on hand to provide individual assistance:

http://www.steinberg.net/wwwmenu_sb.asp

Please note, in order to receive technical support and information, you have to register your product online while or after Installing.

HALion 3.1 - Feature Overview

General

Up to 32 Bit / 384 kHz file support (Host dependent)

256 Voices per instance, several instances loadable simultaneously

16-way multi-timbral with an individual editor for program selection

128 programs per instance, unlimited layers per program

Full individual parameter set for each sample if required, ideal for drum sounds

Notch / High Pass / Low Pass / Band Pass 12 dB and 24 dB Filter as well as fantastic sounding Waldorf filters, and Fatness function for Overdrive filter sounds

Keyzone Editor for quick mapping of keyzones, samples, sample layers and velocity values with drag n drop support and several automapping modes

Ultra-flexible internal routing management:

Up to 256 freely configurable outputs per instance

5.1 surround support

All new realtime FX: Reverb, Phaser, Talkbox, Delays, EQs, BitCrusher, AutoWahWah and much more (27 FX total)

Insert effects can be applied to individual samples, samplegroups or entire programs

Effects sends can be sent to HALions internal Send effects or directly to the VST mixer thru configurable outputs to share Plugin Resources between the Host and HALion

Integrated Waveloop Editor with crossfade, snap to zero, loop, release loop, loop tuning settings

Total recall: all settings are saved with your song

Sample-accurate timing and automation thanks to perfect VST integration

Archive function, transfer of entire projects to other computers with zero hassle

RAMSave™ technology: HALion 3 dynamically scans through an entire project, and unloads any sample from the computer's RAM that isn't needed. Samples can be reloaded by one mouse-click.

Modulation, Megatrig, Alternate and Browser view can be opened simultaneously in a separate window

Modulation

Huge array of modulation possibilities, HALions Modulation Matrix can modulate virtually anything by anything.

8 assignable Q-Controls per program allow for easy editing and remote controlling of the most important parameters for a program

2 synchronizable envelopes with up to 32 freely editable points, intuitive handling

32-stage STEPEnvelope as free modulation source

2 LFOs, synchronizable to the host application

MegaTrigg function to activate/switch samples via controllers or keys and trigger them with Pedal or NoteOff command for perfect GIGA import

Introduce Alternate Mode for most realistic Drum Sounds or Stringbow up/down movement emulation, etc. (during repetition a different sample with a slight variation will be played with each new note on message)

Second-Strike Technology allows overlapping Notes of the same pitch to play different Samples

Two different Legato Modes

Sample Start offset can be modulated by any Modulation source

Freely assignable MIDI Controllers

4 Velocity curves

Advanced GUI

Sleek GUI – HALions semi-modular approach shows the User all important sound shaping parameters on one page for always-easy editing

MacroPage View for small screen size and showing only the most important parameters!

Virtual keyboard for auditioning sounds

Stacking and layering of programs is only one mouse click away

Preset System for all envelopes, modulation setups and Keycommand settings for quick loading of individual settings for each program

Freely assignable Key Commands

Resource Browser

HALions new Browser features Drag & Drop and Preview support for easy loading and importing of programs, folders and samples!

Existing HALion programs or banks on the Harddisk can be "browsed" without loading, allowing Users to load only one program out of a bank file or a Samplegroup out of a programfile.

Advanced drag&drop and auto-mapping of Samples in the Keyzone: drag Parts from Cubase onto HALion, drag Samples from your Desktop to HALion, drag Samples, SampleFolders, Programs or several Programs at once from the Browser to HALions Programlist or Keyzone or Virtual Keyboard to load your sounds. Several Options

Assign dozens of HALion Sounds at once to a category in the Browser.

New database functions allow you to index all Sound Content on all your hard drives simultaneously and search by Keywords and Categories!

Powerfull Favorites System for jumping fast between often used Locations

Browser can be opened simultaneously in a separate resizable Window

Import Formats

HALion features the most top-rate format conversion available today:

AKAI, E-MU, Roland, Kurzweil, GIGA, Kontakt, EXS24, SF2, LM4, LM4 MkII, REX, ZeroX BeatCreator, WAV, AIF, SD II (Mac only), ISO & Nero & Toast Disc Image

Content

Wizoo Sound Library with high-quality sample content

5.1 surround content by Wizoo included

3rd party Demo Content

Effect List

Hall reverb
Non-linear reverb
Early reflections
Simple delay
Stereo delay
Tape delay
Chorus
Ensemble
Flanger
Phaser
Pan / Tremolo
Rotary speaker
Stereo width
Wah pedal
Talkbox
Shelf EQ
Parametric EQ
Enhancer
Limiter
Compressor
Multiband compressor
Gate
Distortion
Overdrive
Amp simulator
Bit reduction
Modulator (ring / amp / vocode)