Harmonic Seed Pro - Installation Guide

X-Audio - Harmonic Seed Pro v1.0 - macOS

Thank you for purchasing Harmonic Seed Pro. This guide gets you installed, allowed through macOS security, and making sound in a few minutes.

What Harmonic Seed Pro is - read this first

Harmonic Seed Pro is a **MIDI generator, not a sound source.** It creates MIDI notes - melodies, chords, arpeggios, drones and evolving ideas - but it **does not produce** any audio on its own.

To hear sound, Harmonic Seed Pro must feed a **software or hardware instrument** (an Ableton/Logic instrument, a synth, a sampler, etc.). If you press **Generate** and **Play** but hear nothing, that is expected until an instrument is receiving the MIDI. Section 6 shows the quickest way to hear it; Section 7 covers sending Tracks 1/2/3 to three separate instruments.

1. What's in your download

Inside `HarmonicSeedPro_v1.0.zip`:

- `HarmonicSeedPro.component` (AU) and `HarmonicSeedPro.vst3` (VST3) - the plugin
- `Harmonic_Seed_Pro_Ableton_Template.als` - a ready-routed Ableton Live template
- `Harmonic_Seed_Pro_Ableton_Setup_Guide.pdf` - Ableton External MIDI routing, with screenshots
- `HarmonicSeedPro-Installation-Guide.pdf` - this guide
- `README.txt` - package overview and quick start
- `LICENSE.txt` - your licence details

Harmonic Seed Pro is currently **macOS only** (AU & VST3).

2. Install the plugins

1. Unzip `HarmonicSeedPro_v1.0.zip`.
2. Copy the plugin(s) to the standard macOS plugin folders:
   - **VST3:** copy `HarmonicSeedPro.vst3` to `~/Library/Audio/Plug-Ins/VST3/`
   - **AU:** copy `HarmonicSeedPro.component` to `~/Library/Audio/Plug-Ins/Components/`
3. Restart your DAW so it rescans plugins.

*Tip: `~/Library` is hidden by default. In Finder, use **Go -> Go to Folder...***

(Shift-Cmd -G) and paste the path above.

3. Important - Ableton Live users must use the VST3

If you use Ableton Live, use the VST3 version of Harmonic Seed Pro, not the AU.

Ableton Live does **not** route MIDI-generator output correctly from the AU version. For multi-track output and External MIDI routing to work as designed in Ableton, load the **VST3**.

- Other hosts (Cubase, Studio One, Bitwig, Reaper, etc.) can use the AU or VST3.
- Logic Pro users: use the **AU** (Logic does not load MIDI-effect VST3s).

This single choice avoids almost all routing confusion in Ableton.

4. Make your DAW find the plugin

1. **Quit and reopen** your DAW after copying the plugin.
2. **In Ableton Live:** open **Settings** (Live -> Settings..., or Cmd ,) -> **Plug-Ins**. Under "Plug-In Sources," turn **Use VST3 Plug-In System Folders ON**, then click **Rescan** (hold **Alt/Option** while clicking Rescan to force a full rescan). Audio Units are scanned automatically, but Ableton users should use the **VST3** (Section 3).
3. Harmonic Seed Pro now appears in the Ableton browser under **Plug-Ins**. Drag it onto a **MIDI track**.
4. If it still doesn't appear: confirm the file is in `~/Library/Audio/Plug-Ins/VST3/` (or `.../Components/` for the AU), then rescan again. In other DAWs, trigger a manual plugin rescan in the plugin/preferences pane.

5. First launch & macOS Gatekeeper

Harmonic Seed Pro v1.0 is **not yet Apple-notarized**, so the first time your DAW loads it, macOS may block it with a message like *"Harmonic Seed Pro can't be opened because Apple cannot check it for malicious software."* This is expected. To allow it:

1. Open **System Settings -> Privacy & Security**.
2. Scroll to the **Security** section - you'll see a message naming Harmonic Seed Pro. Click **Open Anyway** (confirm with your Mac password / Touch ID if asked).
3. Reload or rescan the plugin in your DAW.

Notes:

- Plugins are loaded by your DAW, so the Finder **"right-click -> Open"** trick used for apps does **not** apply here - use the System Settings step above.
- On some macOS versions the message appears the first time the DAW *validates or scans* the plugin rather than on first insert. Allow it, then rescan (Section 4).
- *Advanced (optional):* you can clear the quarantine flag in Terminal - `xattr -dr com.apple.quarantine ~/Library/Audio/Plug-Ins/VST3/HarmonicSeedPro.vst3` (and the same for the `.component` in `.../Components/`).

6. Hear sound - load or route an instrument

Remember: Harmonic Seed Pro makes **MIDI, not audio**. The fastest way to hear it on a single instrument in Ableton Live:

1. On a **MIDI track**, load **Harmonic Seed Pro (VST3)** as the first device.
2. **After it, on the same track,** add a software instrument (an Ableton instrument, or any AU/VST instrument). In Ableton's device chain, the instrument sits to the **right** of Harmonic Seed Pro.
3. Press **Generate** in Harmonic Seed Pro, then **Play** - the generated notes now play through that instrument.

To drive **three different instruments at once** (Bass / Chords / Lead), use the multi-track External MIDI routing in Section 7.

7. Multi-track routing in Ableton (T1 / T2 / T3)

Harmonic Seed Pro can output three independent parts - **T1, T2, T3** - on three MIDI channels through its own virtual port, **"Harmonic Seed Pro Out."** Full step-by-step screenshots are in `Harmonic_Seed_Pro_Ableton_Setup_Guide.pdf`, and the included `Harmonic_Seed_Pro_Ableton_Template.als` is already wired this way.

1. In the plugin, open the **gear menu** and choose **Enable External MIDI**. This creates the "Harmonic Seed Pro Out" port (the footer shows **EXT MIDI *** in green** when active).
2. Add **three instrument tracks** in Ableton (e.g. Bass, Chords, Lead) and load a software instrument on each.
3. On each instrument track, set **MIDI From -> Harmonic Seed Pro Out**.
4. Set each track's **input channel** and turn **Monitor** to **In**:

- Track 1 instrument -> **Ch. 1** (receives **T1**)
- Track 2 instrument -> **Ch. 2** (receives **T2**)
- Track 3 instrument -> **Ch. 3** (receives **T3**)

5. In Harmonic Seed Pro, use the **T1 / T2 / T3** tabs to edit each part. Each part is sent on its matching MIDI channel automatically.
6. Press **Generate**, then **Play** - each part now drives its own instrument.

Shortcut: instead of steps 2-4, open the included `Harmonic_Seed_Pro_Ableton_Template.als`, which already has three routed instrument tracks. Just add your instruments and press Generate.

8. Verify it's working

1. Add Harmonic Seed Pro to a MIDI track and put an instrument after it (Section 6).
2. Press **Generate** - you should see notes appear in the piano-roll view.
3. Press play in your DAW - the pattern plays in time and you hear the instrument.

If you see notes but hear nothing, an instrument isn't receiving the MIDI yet - recheck Section 6 (single instrument) or Section 7 (multi-track).

9. Troubleshooting

- **Plugin not appearing:** confirm it's in the correct folder (Section 2), enable VST3 scanning and **Rescan** (Section 4), then restart the DAW.
- **macOS blocks the plugin:** allow it via System Settings -> Privacy & Security -> **Open Anyway** (Section 5), then rescan.
- **I see notes but hear no sound:** Harmonic Seed Pro is a MIDI generator - load an instrument after it (Section 6) or route it to instrument tracks (Section 7).
- **Ableton: only one part reaches my other instruments:** make sure you loaded the **VST3** (Section 3), enabled **External MIDI**, and set each track's input channel to Ch. 1 / 2 / 3 (Section 7).
- **AU won't validate / load:** quit the DAW, reopen, and rescan. On macOS you can also reset the AU cache by logging out and back in. (Ableton users: use the VST3.)
- **Still stuck?** Email **hello@xaudio.store** with your DAW, macOS version and a short description (include your PayPal transaction ID if it's an access issue).

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