



**dbmx
1980**

36db
Max for live

36db dbmx-1980

- The 36db dbmx-1980 Max for Live Device
- 3 x 36db dbmx-1980 effects racks variations
- Max Devices (Push 3 Compatible)
- 128 Custom Presets in each effects rack
- Randomise Button to easily create your own custom Presets

The screenshot displays the 36db dbmx-1980 Max for Live device interface, which is a dark-themed software interface for audio processing. It features several control panels:

- Delay Time (a):** A digital display showing 2.43 s and a green 'GE' button.
- Delay Time (b):** A digital display showing 3.23 s and a green 'GE' button.
- Regen(a):** A knob set to 0.21 %.
- Regen(b):** A knob set to 0.82 %.
- SYNC:** Two dropdown menus set to 9/16 and 9/8.
- Invert (b):** A button.
- Pitch Shift (a):** A digital display showing -3.29 and a green 'GE' button.
- Pitch Shift (b):** A digital display showing -10.68 and a green 'GE' button.
- Delay LFO:** Includes OSCDepth (48.8 %) and OSCRate (0.04 Hz) knobs, and Time(a) and Time(b) buttons.
- Filter:** Includes a Filter LFO section with Rate (1/64) and Depth (95.3) knobs, and a Shape knob set to 0 %.
- Filter Cutoff:** A knob set to 4.19 kHz.
- Filter Res:** A knob set to 74.
- Nudge Selector:** Includes DOWN and UP buttons.
- Drive:** A knob set to 4.
- Bit Rate:** A knob set to 7 Bits.
- Degrade:** A knob set to 24.0.
- Output:** Includes Dry and Wet level meters, and Pan... knobs set to 50L and 50R.

At the bottom of the interface, there is a HELP button, a model name 'model: dbmx - 1980', and a list of rack variations: 'panner / delay / pitch shifter / chorus / width / bitcrush'. The 36db logo and website 'www.36db.live' are also visible in the bottom right corner.

Please follow the Elements install guide also included with your download.

Introduction

Welcome to 36db, and thanks for choosing the **dbmx-1980** for **Ableton Live 12.2**.

After years of working in studios and shaping sounds, we have developed a deep respect for the vintage synths and processors that helped **define modern music**. These machines shaped how we hear tone, space and movement, and they continue to influence how we approach sound today. The **dbmx-1980** is our way of carrying that spirit forward.

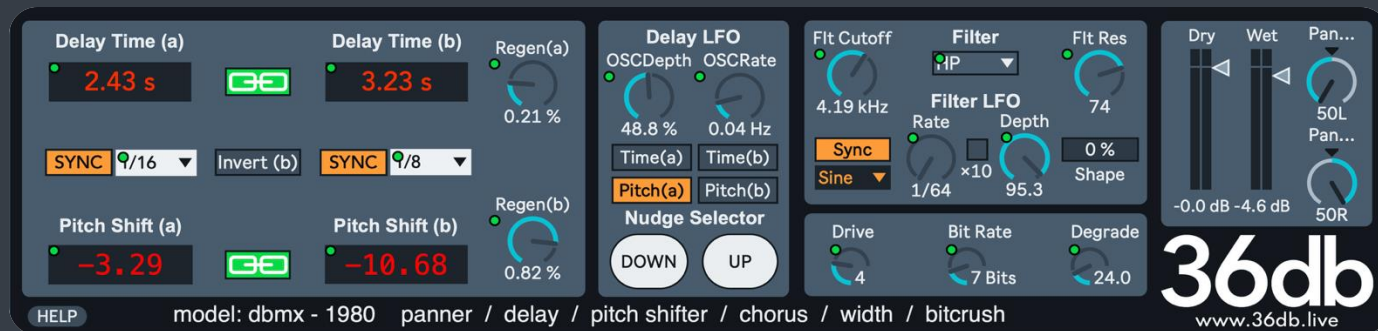
One of the main inspirations behind this device is the **AMS 1580S**, a late 1970s delay with a character that is instantly recognisable. It became a staple for artists such as Brian Eno, Jean Michel Jarre, Tangerine Dream, Peter Gabriel, Pink Floyd, Radiohead, The Chemical Brothers, Erol Alkan, Bicep, Orbital and Leftfield. Many units are still running today, but finding one in great condition is rare, and when you do, the price is on another level.



We designed the **dbmx-1980** to capture the character of classic 1980s effects hardware and then push it further. The goal was never to clone the past, but to bring its **movement, colour and unpredictability** into a modern workflow inside **Live**.

From there, we expanded the palette. The **dbmx-1980** includes features the original hardware never offered, giving you **more range, more control and more freedom to experiment** without breaking your flow.

The familiar tones are here when you want them, quick to dial in and instantly musical. The device really comes alive when you move beyond vintage territory, with **evolving delays, detuned textures, warped atmospheres** and more **experimental and saturated spaces**.



Inside you will find tools for chorus, reverb, delay, pitch shifting, modulation, tone shaping, bit and sample reduction, drive, three resonant filters with dedicated LFOs, stereo movement and flexible routing. Everything is designed to be combined and pushed in any direction your track needs to go.

36db dbmx-1980 Features

The image shows a screenshot of the 36db dbmx-1980 software interface with several features highlighted by yellow callout boxes:

- Change Delay Time & Pitch With The Mouse:** Points to the Delay Time (a) and Pitch Shift (a) controls.
- Link Delay Times:** Points to the link icon between Delay Time (a) and (b).
- Feedback:** Points to the Regen(a) and Regen(b) knobs.
- Delay LFO:** Points to the Delay LFO section, including OSCDepth, OSCRate, Time(a), Time(b), Pitch(a), and Pitch(b) controls.
- Filter Section:** Points to the Filter section, including Filter LFO, Filter LFO Depth, and Filter LFO Rate controls.
- LFO To Audio Rate:** Points to the Filter LFO Rate control.
- Filter LFO:** Points to the Filter LFO Depth control.
- Link Pitch Shift:** Points to the link icon between Pitch Shift (a) and (b).
- Invert Phase (b):** Points to the Invert (b) button.
- Nudge Buttons:** Points to the DOWN and UP buttons in the Nudge Selector.
- Nudge Selector:** Points to the Nudge Selector section.
- Bit-reduction:** Points to the Bit Rate control.
- Drive:** Points to the Drive control.
- Pan - Post Effect:** Points to the Pan... controls.

The interface also displays the following parameters and controls:

- Delay Time (a): 2.43 s
- Delay Time (b): 3.23 s
- Pitch Shift (a): -3.29
- Pitch Shift (b): -10.68
- Regen(a): 0.21 %
- Regen(b): 0.82 %
- OSCDepth: 48.8 %
- OSCRate: 0.04 Hz
- Time(a): 48.8 %
- Time(b): 0.04 Hz
- Pitch(a): 48.8 %
- Pitch(b): 0.04 Hz
- Filter Cutoff: 4.19 kHz
- Filter: HP
- Filter LFO Rate: 1/64
- Filter LFO Depth: 95.3
- Flt Res: 74
- Flt Res Shape: 0 %
- Drive: 4
- Bit Rate: 7 Bits
- Degrade: 24.0
- Dry: -0.0 dB
- Wet: -4.6 dB
- Pan...: 50L, 50R

Model: dbmx - 1980 panner / delay / pitch shifter / chorus / width / bitcrush

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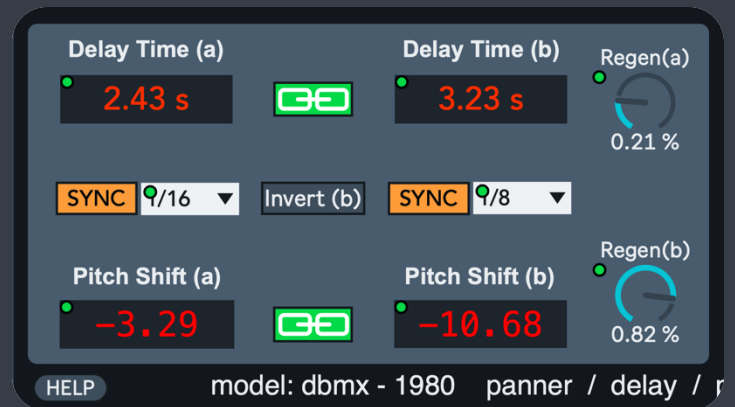
Features

The dbmx-1980 is built around four main sections. The first section features **four red LED displays** — (a) and (b) — representing the left and right channels.

- The top two displays show **delay time**, with the option to link both channels for unified control.
- The bottom two control **pitch**, ranging from -12 to +12 semitones (one octave up or down).

You can scroll through values using your mouse or select an LED and type directly from your keyboard, just like entering data on the original hardware's keypad.

Regen sets the feedback amount. When the filter resonance hits 100 and regen is maxed, the signal can self-oscillate — so keep an ear on your speakers. You can also sync delay times to your host tempo, and there's an option to invert channel (b) for creative stereo effects.



The next section introduces the **OSC LFO** for delay times. Below it, you'll find the **Nudge Selector** and **Nudge Buttons** — just like the original *AMS 1580S*.

These controls let you choose which LED display to adjust with the nudge buttons. Tap to increase or decrease a single step or hold to scroll continuously through values. It's a great way to add movement and unpredictability in real time, recreating the feel of hands-on hardware.



The final section is unique to the **dbmx-1980**. We've added **three resonant filters**, **overdrive**, a **second filter LFO** with nine waveforms, and a dedicated **LFO shape control**. You can sync this LFO to the host or use the **x10 button** to push it into audio-rate modulation for FM-style textures.

And for those who love grit — there's a **degrade / bit-rate control** for instant lo-fi character.

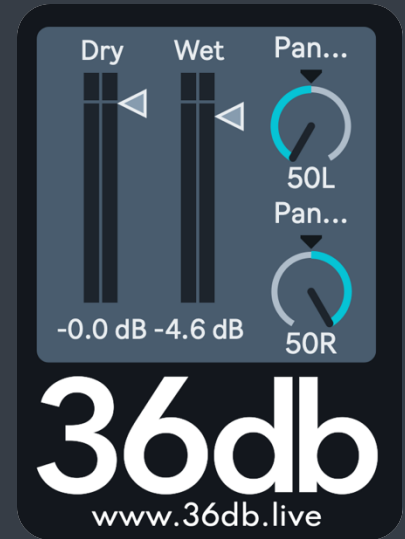


The output section features independent Dry & Wet controls, as well as left and right post-effected output pan controls. This feature allows you to set how wide the effect is or place it anywhere within the stereo field for more dramatic style effects.

Each of the three **dbmx-1980 racks** includes **128 presets** to get you started.

Because the dbmx-1980 offers more than 16 parameters, we created **three rack versions**, each with different controls mapped to macros. This gives you more ways to shape, tweak, and discover unique effect combinations.

The **36db dbmx-1980 Filters & Crunch rack** showcases the extended features we've added — pushing far beyond the original hardware's capabilities.



Minimum requirements to use our 36db Micro Element

Ableton Live 12.2 Suite™ or newer (Mac or PC). Max for Live V9, (this comes with Live 12.2). You will also need to have all additional library content that comes with Ableton Live 12.2 Suite™ version installed.

Mac or PC Intel Xeon & i7 or higher Core Processors with 16GB of memory. Mac OS Monterey or higher, Windows 7 64 or higher for PC.

If you have any issues with our products, please contact support@36db.live and we'll do our utmost to resolve any situation.

All the best,

36db.

Development Team

We would like to thank our development team for helping us create this amazing product.

Lewis Roberts, Barry Jamieson, Dave Gardner, Brad Sissons, Nándi from Elisabeth Homeland, and Darren Cowley from Isotonik Studios.

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