



What's New in Pro Tools

Version 2026.11



1 What's New in Pro Tools 2026.11

New Features and Enhancements

Pro Tools® software version 2026.11 provides the following new features and enhancements:

- [Pro Tools Extensions](#)
- [Pro Tools Stem Separator](#)
- [MIDI Polyphonic Expression \(MPE\)](#)
- [Miscellaneous Features and Enhancements:](#)
 - [Auto-Color Alternate Takes Option](#)
 - [Support for Windows HiDPI and Display Scaling](#)
 - [Keyboard Shortcut to Toggle Focus Between Pinned Tracks Pane and Non-Pinned Tracks](#)

2 Pro Tools Extensions

Pro Tools Extensions use a new AAX plugin format to provide production workflow tools directly within the Pro Tools application. For example, Extensions provide in-application access to sound libraries, AI-powered assistants, workflow utilities, and other tools that are not necessarily tied to tracks, clips, or audio processing. Unlike traditional AAX plugins, Extensions remain available even when no session is open.



Pro Tools Stem Separator, Splice, and SoundFlow appear as Extensions in Pro Tools.

The Pro Tools **Extensions** menu provides access to:

- [Pro Tools Stem Separator](#)
- Splice
- SoundFlow
- Any other installed third-party Extensions



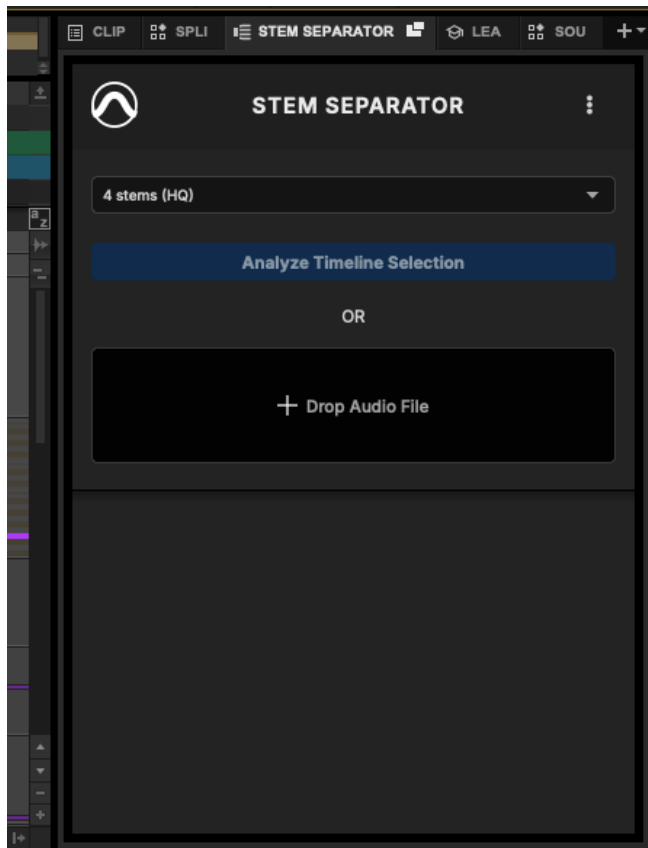
For a list of all available Pro Tools Extensions, visit avid.com/pro-tools/extensions.

Extensions open in the right-side panel of the Edit window (with the Clips List), but they can tear off to be in their own floating window.



For information about Stem Separator, see [Pro Tools Stem Separator](#).

Refined Side Panel Experience



Updated Tab Behavior

Side panel tabs behave like tabs found in modern web browsers, providing a familiar and intuitive navigation experience. You can easily switch between different panels while maintaining a clean and organized workspace.

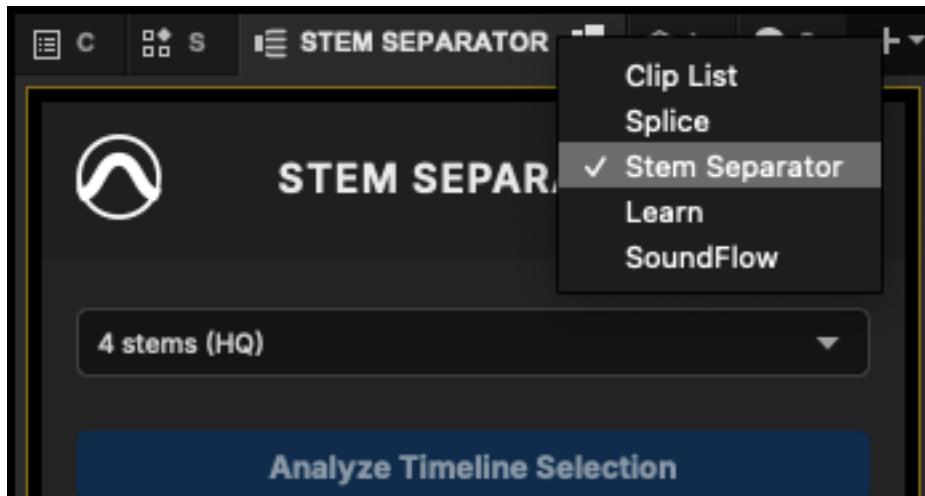
Detach/Dock tabs: When a tab is detached from the right panel, it appears in its own floating window and its tab plate is removed from the tab row. Docking the tab to the Edit Window puts the tab plate back into the tab row.

Drag to Detach/Dock tabs: You can drag the tabs out of the side panel (Detach to a window) or back into the side panel (Dock to Edit window) in a similar fashion to browser tabs.

Reordering tabs: Tabs can be reordered in the tab row by clicking the tab and dragging left or right to place it where you want in the tab order.

Add/Select Tabs Menu

Pro Tools provides a dedicated Add/Select Tabs menu.



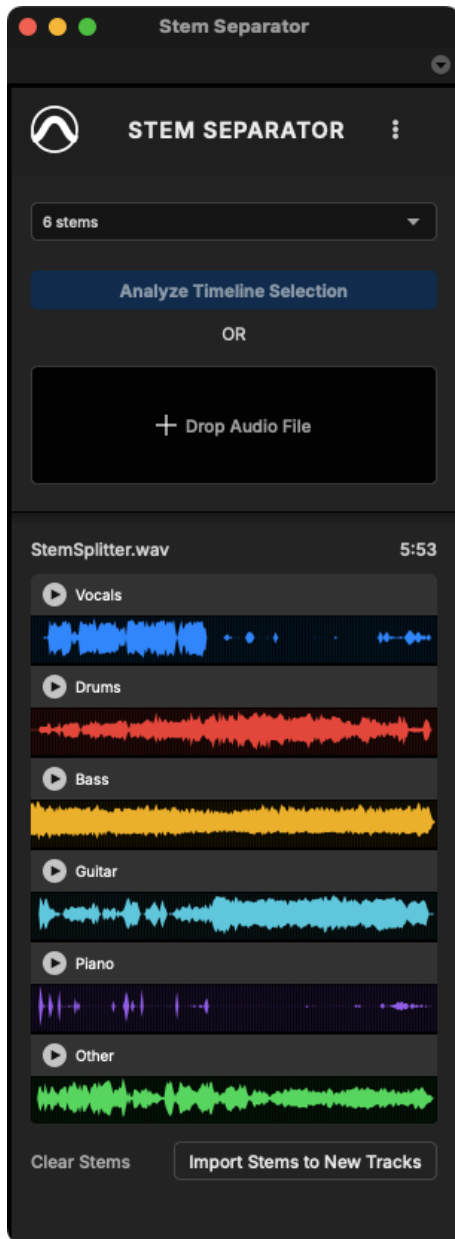
This menu provides a centralized place to:

- Add available Extensions/tabs to the side panel.
- Switch directly to another tab.
- View all available panel options in one location.

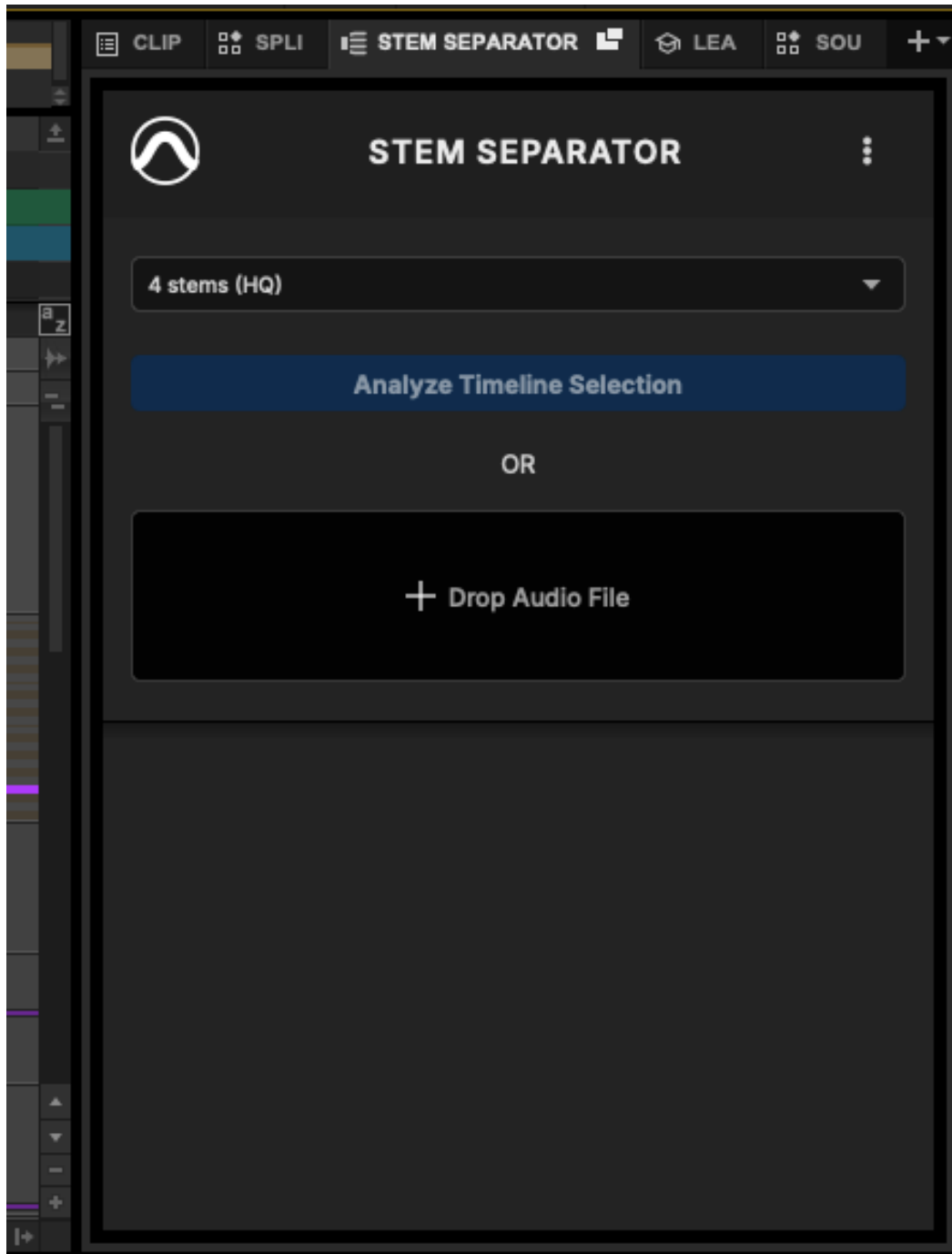
The currently active tab is indicated by a check mark within the menu.

3 Pro Tools Stem Separator

Pro Tools Stem Separator is an Extension for Pro Tools that lets you separate audio into individual stems by category. Available in all versions of Pro Tools, this Extension separates any audio into a number of stems according to the chosen separation model. You can drag audio clips or files into the Extension (or process a timeline selection), preview results, and then drag stems back into the session or write them as new tracks from the insertion point.



Stem Separator window



Stem Separator tab

Stem Separator AI Models and Privacy

Pro Tools Stem Separator performs local stem separation, meaning all analysis and processing occur directly on your computer using built-in fine-tuned transformer-based [Demucs](#) music source separation models.

Pro Tools Stem Separator is designed with your privacy and content security in mind:

- All audio analysis and stem separation processing occurs locally on your machine.
- No internet connection is required to analyze or process audio.
- Audio content is never uploaded to the cloud during stem separation.

- Audio files are never shared with any third-party service.
- The AI models included with Pro Tools Stem Separator are used solely for local inference.
- No AI training or model training is performed on your audio content.
- Your audio remains under your control throughout the entire workflow.

Installing Pro Tools Stem Separator

To install Pro Tools Stem Separator:

- ▶ Download the Pro Tools Stem Separator installer from your MyAvid.com account and run it following the onscreen instructions.
- ▶ Install the Pro Tools Stem Separator using Avid Link.

Using Pro Tools Stem Separator

The Stem Separator Extension separates stems from an audio selection in a Pro Tools session or from an audio file using locally installed AI models.

 *As a Pro Tools Extension, Stem Separator can be used whether you have a session open or not.*

Stem Separation Models

Pro Tools Stem Separator includes the following locally installed full and single stem separation models.

Full Stem Models:

- 4 Stems
 - Vocals
 - Drums
 - Bass
 - Other
- 6 Stem
 - Vocal
 - Drums
 - Bass
 - Guitar
 - Piano
 - Other
- 4 Stems (High Quality: uses enhanced processing for improved stem quality, but with a slightly increased processing time).
 - Vocals
 - Drums
 - Bass
 - Other

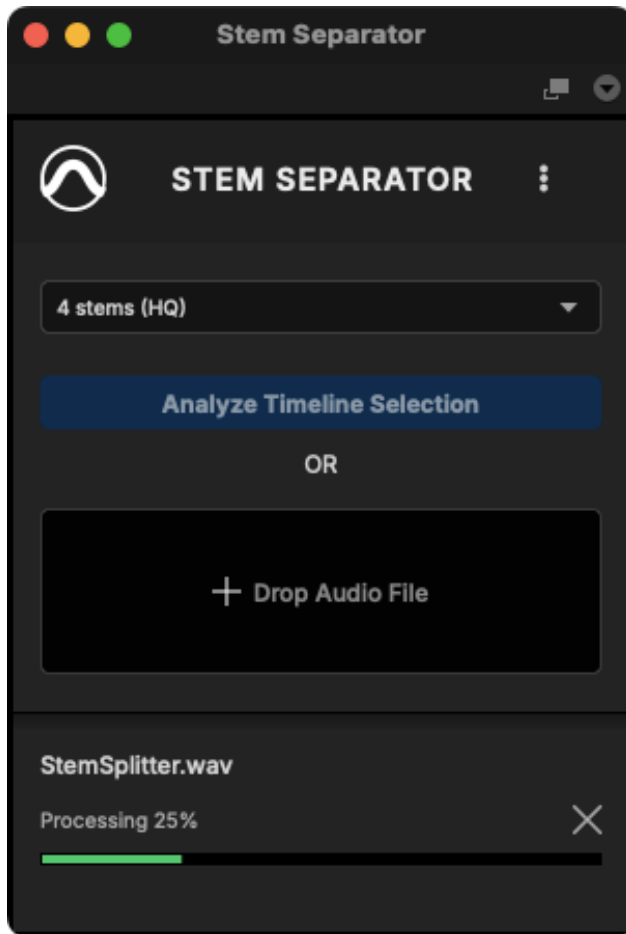
Single Stem Models

- Vocals (only)
- Drums (only)
- Bass (only)
- Other (only)

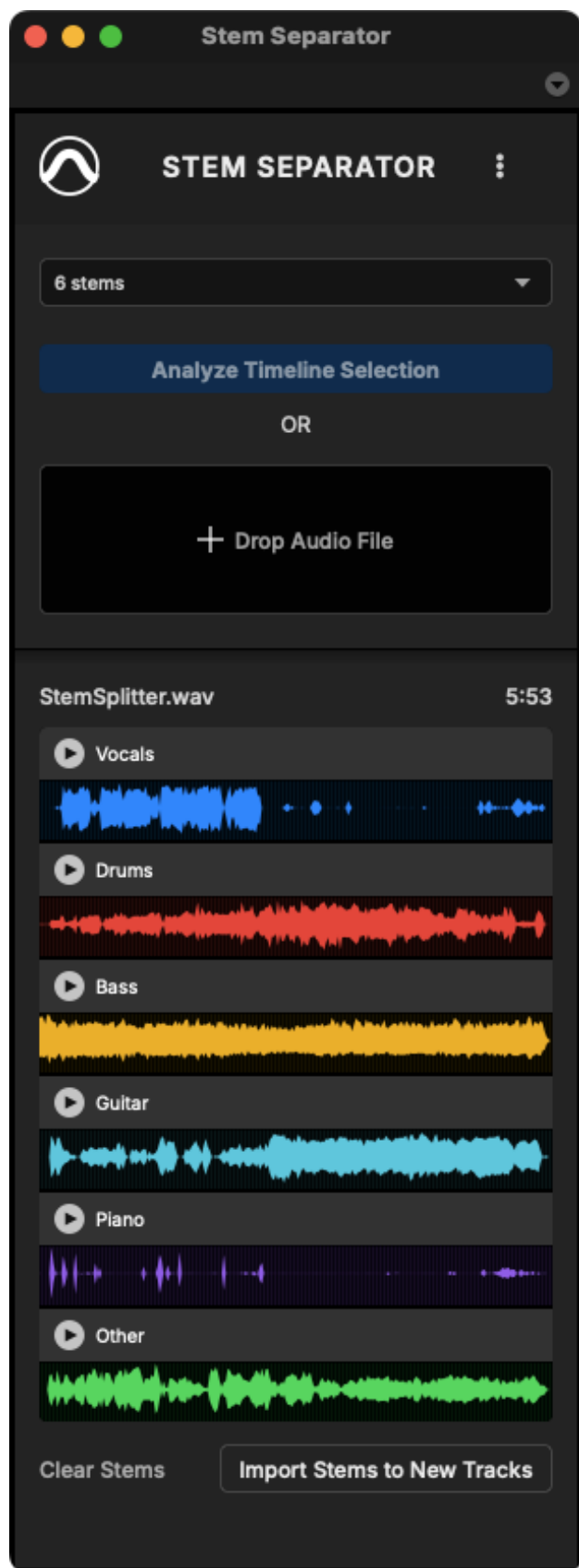
Processing Audio from the Timeline

To separate stems from a selection on the timeline:

1. Make an audio selection on the Pro Tools timeline.
2. Choose **Extensions > Stem Separator**.
3. Select the desired Stem model.
4. Click **Analyze Timeline Selection**.
5. Stem Separator bounces the audio and processes it using the selected model.



6. Once processing is complete, the separated stems appear in the Extension panel.



Process External Audio Files

You can also use the Drop Audio target to analyze audio files directly whether or not a Pro Tools session is open.

To separate stems from an audio file:

1. In Pro Tools, choose **Extensions > Stem Separator**.
2. Drag an audio file from Finder (macOS) or File Explorer (Windows), or from a Workspace Browser (Pro Tools) and drop it on the Drop Audio area in the Stem Separator window.

Pro Tools Stem Separator analyzes and processes the file, and the resulting stems appear in the Extension panel.

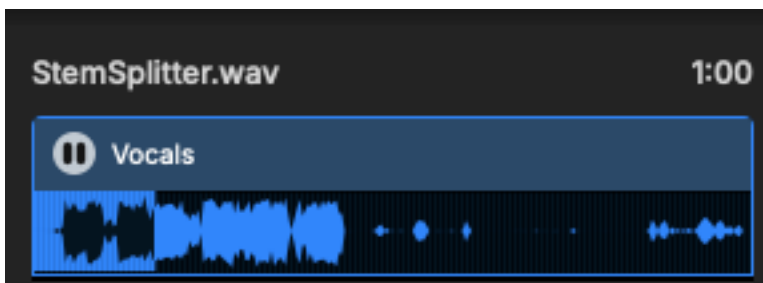
Auditioning Stems

Auditioning Individual Stems

Stem Separator lets you audition individual stems before importing them to new tracks in a Pro Tools session.

To audition a stem in the Stem Separator window:

- Click the Play button on an individual stem.



Auditioning Multiple Stems Simultaneously

You can audition more than one stem at a time in the Stem Separator window.

To audition multiple stems simultaneously:

1. Shift-click, or Command-click (Mac) or Control-click (Windows) to select (or deselect) the stems you want to audition.
2. Click Play on any selected stem.

All selected stems play together.

To audition all stems simultaneously:

1. Option-click (Mac) or Alt-click (Windows) any stem in the Stem Separator window to select all stems.
2. Click Play on any selected stem.

All stems play together.

Stem Transport Navigation

To reposition the playhead for auditioning stems:

- Click anywhere within a stem waveform display.

Pro Tools Stem Separator Audition Path

Stem Separator uses the Audition Path selected in I/O Setup for stem audio preview. When you audition stems from the Stem Separator window, audio is routed through the currently assigned Audition Path.

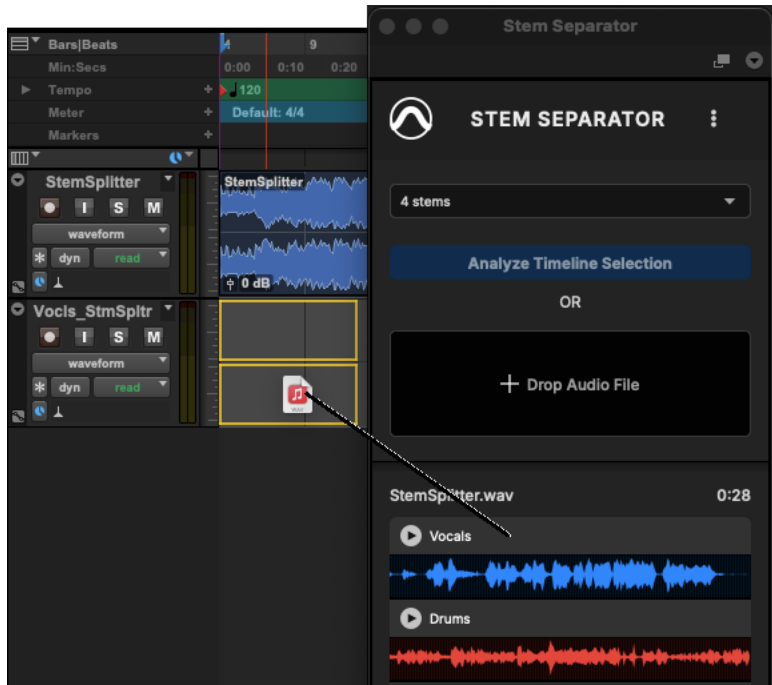
Importing Stems to the Timeline

You can import stems from Stem Separator either by dragging and dropping stems to the timeline in a session or by importing stems to new tracks.

Drag and Drop

To import stems to existing tracks:

- Drag an individual stem onto the Pro Tools timeline or select multiple stems and drag them together.

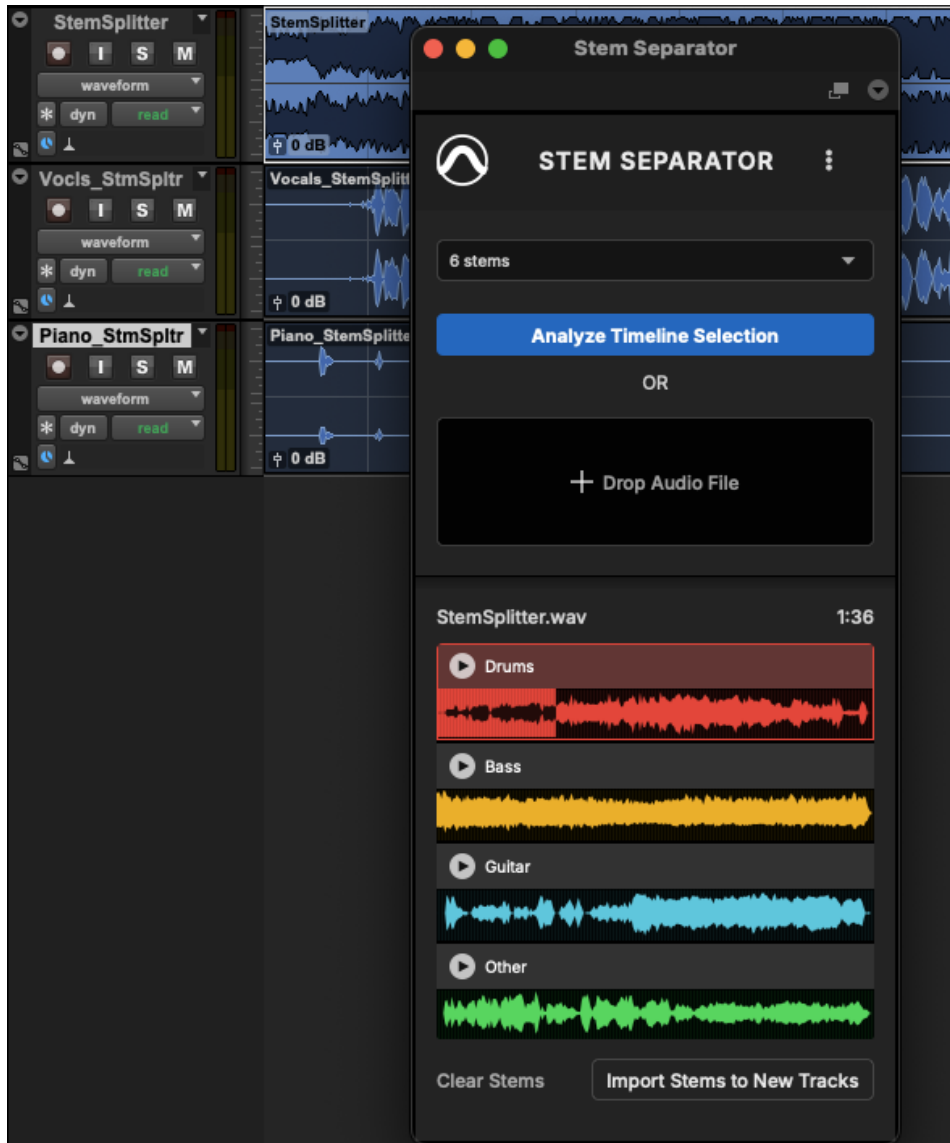


Import Stems to New Tracks

You can import any or all stems to new tracks in a session. If one or more stems are selected, only those stems are imported. If no stems are selected, all available stems are imported. New tracks are automatically created for each stem.

To import stems to new tracks:

- Select one or more stems (or none) and click the **Import Stems to New Tracks** button.



Clear Stems

To clear all stems:

- Click **Clear Stems**.

All currently cached stems are removed and Stem Separator is ready for new audio analysis and processing.

4 MIDI Polyphonic Expression (MPE)

Pro Tools supports recording, playing back, and editing MIDI Polyphonic Expression (MPE). MPE provides individual note-by-note continuous control data (such as pitch bend or modulation) for exceptional expressive control over each individual note in a MIDI performance. MPE also delivers advanced, real-time sound design possibilities, letting you morph timbre, filters, and effects dynamically during a live performance.

MIDI control messages, such as pitch bend or modulation (CC1), apply to all notes played on a single MIDI channel simultaneously. However, with MPE, each note is assigned its own dedicated MIDI channel (within a range of 15 channels). This means that expressive gestures (such as finger pressure, slide, or per-note pitch bend/vibrato), can be applied to individual notes in a chord, offering a level of nuanced performance control not possible with regular MIDI.



Note that only certain MIDI controllers (such as Expressive E Osmose and ROLI Seaboard), external MIDI devices (such as Modal Electronics Cobalt 8), and Virtual Instrument plugins (such GForce MAP or Serum 2) support MPE.



Per-note controller data will be lost when opening a Pro Tools 2026.11 session in an earlier version of Pro Tools (Pro Tools 2026.4 or earlier).



For information about the MPE specification, visit <https://midi.org/mpe-midi-polyphonic-expression>.

MPE and Pro Tools

To use MPE in Pro Tools, you need:

- ▶ MPE-compatible controller (optional)
- ▶ MPE-enabled Instrument or MIDI track
- ▶ MPE-compatible MIDI device or Virtual Instrument plugin



*Depending on your MPE-capable MIDI controller, you will use either **Poly** or **Mono** mode for MPE (configured in MIDI Input Devices (**Setup > MIDI > Input Devices**)). Similarly, when you assign your MIDI input device to a MIDI or Instrument track, set that track to MPE **Poly** or **Mono**.*

MPE Modes

MPE can be used in either **Poly** or **Mono** mode depending on the sort of MPE-capable MIDI controller you use.

Poly Mode

An MPE controller (like the Roli Seaboard) lets you play polyphonically, assigning MIDI channels 2–16 to the notes you play. Any per-note expression for that note (such as pitch bend, pressure, and CC74) is recorded on the same channel as the note. As long as you don't play 15 notes at the same time, there is no loss or interference of data.

In Poly mode, if you record from your controller in one take, and play it through your external MPE sound module or MPE plugin, there is no overlap of notes on a channel, and per-note controllers do not interfere with each other. However, if you do overdub recording, especially with MIDI Merge enabled, or if you edit the track by moving notes around, changing their duration, or pasting notes from elsewhere, it is possible to get overlapping notes and controller data. In this mode, Pro Tools allocates available channels automatically to prevent overlaps.

 While unlikely, it is possible to have overlapping note channels in Poly mode. If this occurs, you can re-channelize notes by changing the Track MPE setting from Poly to Off and back again. You can also move, trim, or otherwise edit a note with channel overlap to initiate re-channelization.

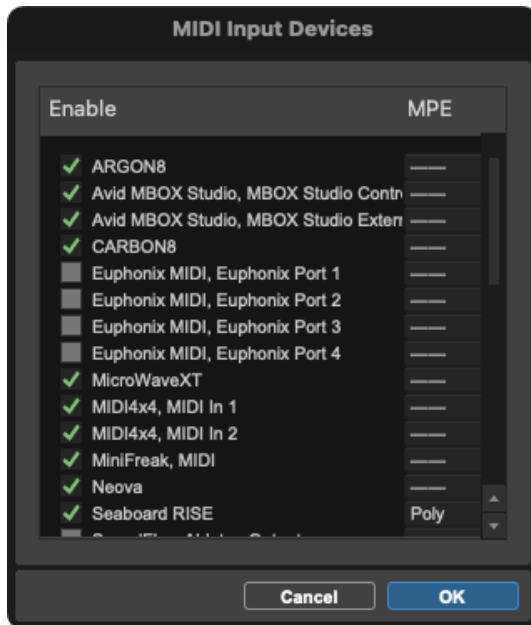
Mono Mode

An MPE controller with a small number of "rows" or "strings" (such as a MIDI guitar) assigns a channel to each row, and generally refrains from playing more than one note at a time on each row. In Mono mode, no automatic re-channelization occurs.

MPE MIDI Input Devices

To enable MPE for a MIDI input device:

1. Choose **Setup > MIDI > MIDI Input Devices**.



2. Select either **Poly** or **Mono** (depending on your MPE MIDI controller—see [MPE Modes](#)).



3. Click **OK**.

MPE Instrument and MIDI Tracks

Pro Tools lets you set individual Instrument and MIDI tracks to use MPE. MPE-enabled tracks let you record, edit, and play back MPE data.

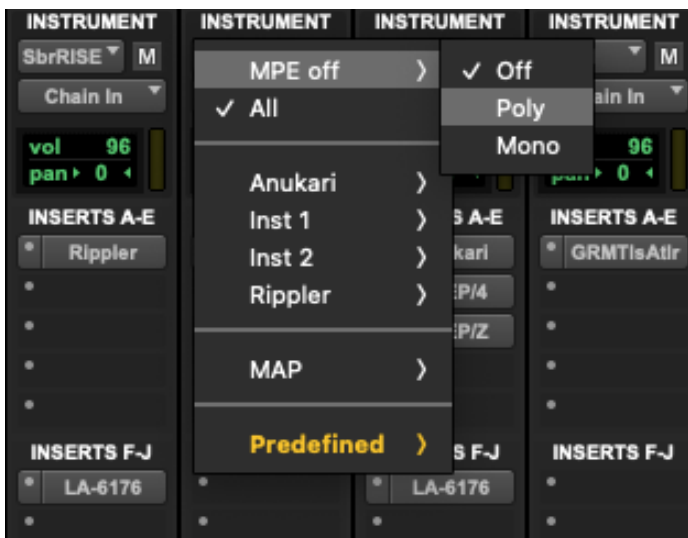
 *Pro Tools preserves both per-note controller data and note channelization when switching between MPE and non-MPE tracks.*

To set a MIDI or Instrument track to use MPE:

- From the track MIDI Input selector, select either **MPE > Poly** or **MPE > Mono** accordingly (see [MPE Modes](#)).



Selecting MPE Input mode on a MIDI track



Selecting MPE Input mode on an Instrument track

To disable MPE on a MIDI or Instrument track:

- From the track MIDI Input selector, select **MPE > Off**.

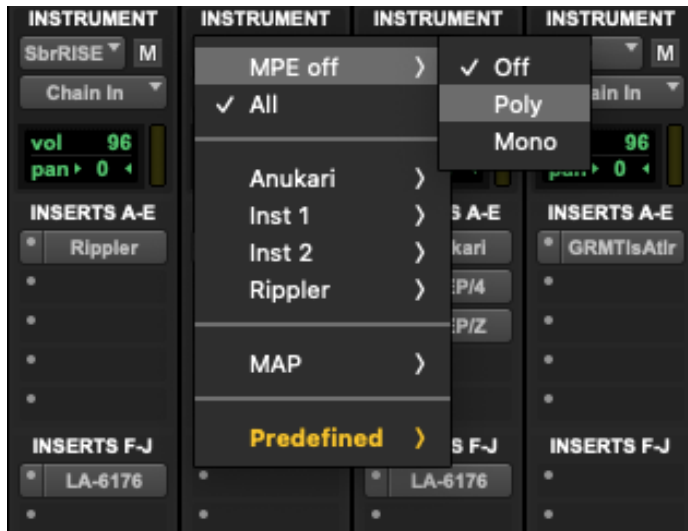
Recording MPE

Using an MPE-capable MIDI controller, you can record MPE performance data on MPE-enabled MIDI and Instrument tracks.

💡 *To be able to record per-note mono aftertouch with MPE-capable instruments, you must first ensure that **Mono Aftertouch** is disabled in the MIDI Input Filter dialog (**Setup > MIDI > MIDI Input Filter**).*

To record MPE data on a MIDI or Instrument track:

1. Set the track MIDI input to MPE **Poly** or **Mono** according to your MPE-capable MIDI controller.



2. Select your MPE controller as the MIDI input for your MIDI or Instrument track.
3. Do one of the following:
 - ▶ For an Instrument track, insert an MPE Instrument plugin on the track or assign the MIDI output to an external MPE-capable sound module.
 - ▶ For a MIDI track, assign the MIDI output to an MPE Instrument plugin on another track or to an external MPE-capable sound module.

💡 *You may need to enable MPE and configure MPE settings on your synth.*

4. Configure the MIDI Settings in the Transport window or in the Edit Window Toolbar.
5. Record-enable the MIDI or Instrument track.
6. Record-enable the Transport.
7. Start recording your MPE performance.
8. Stop recording at the end of your performance.

Editing MPE Data

Per-note MPE data can be edited in controller lanes on MPE-enabled MIDI and Instrument tracks in the Edit window and MIDI Editor windows. It can also be edited in the MIDI Event List.

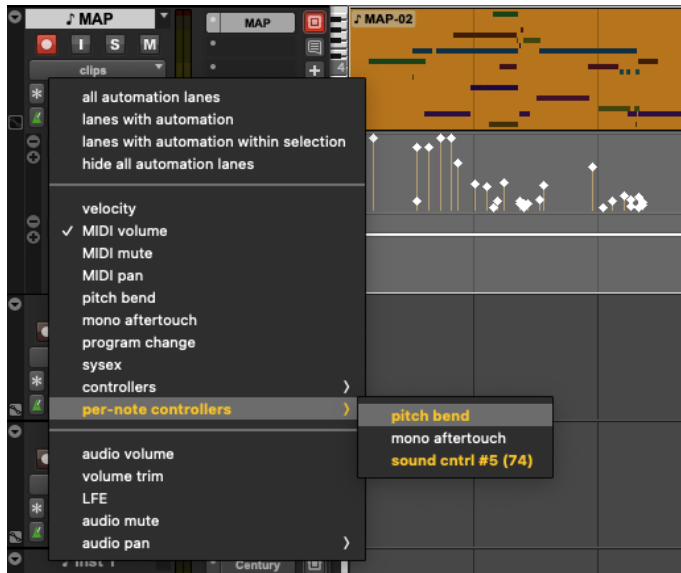
💡 *Transposing a note has no effect on the automation.*

💡 *You can use the Pencil tool to manually enter MPE data in per-note controllers lanes.*

Viewing MPE Data

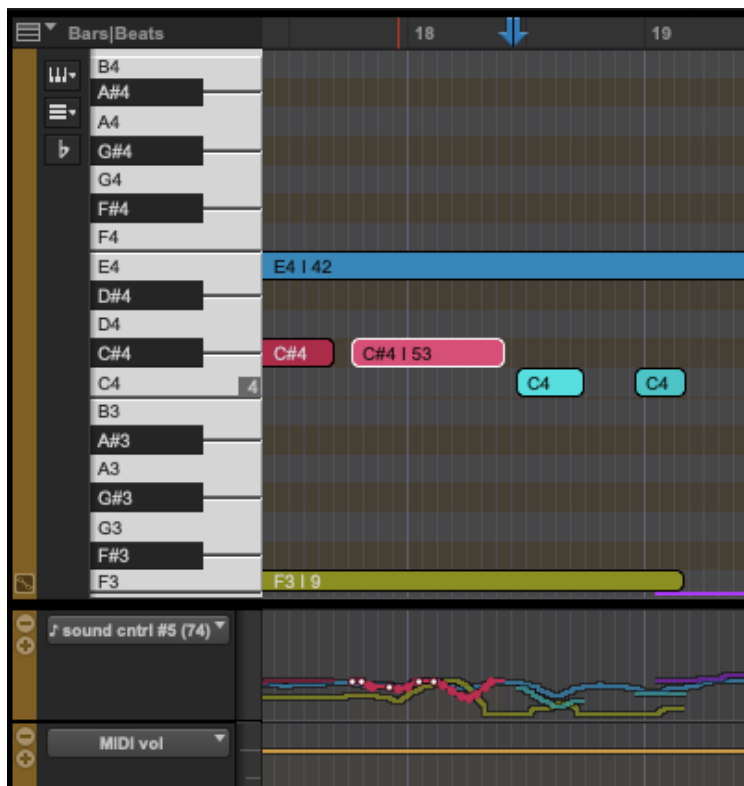
To view per-note controller data, do one of the following:

1. In the Edit window or in a MIDI Editor, click the Reveal Controller Lanes button.
2. Select the controller you want to view from the **per note controllers** > submenu of the Controller Type selector.



Editing MPE Data in the Edit or a MIDI Editor Window

Generally, the same editing actions available for track automation and MIDI CC data work for MPE per-note controller data. However, you can only edit MPE data for selected notes.



An automation line is shown for each note in the track, spanning the length of the note. As you move or change the length of a note, the automation moves and scales with it.

Selector Tool

Use the Selector tool to make a timeline selection in an automation lane. As you drag, it sets the note selection for any notes above it.

Grabber Tool

Click and drag individual MPE data breakpoints with the Grabber tool to edit its value or location. Click to add, or Option-click (Mac) or Alt-click (Windows) to delete breakpoints.

Shift-click the notes you do not want to edit.

Trimmer Tool

Without a timeline selection, the Trim tool trims MPE data for all selected notes. With a timeline selection, it only trims data inside the selection.

Pencil Tool

The Pencil tool affects all MPE data for notes in the range of its gesture.

Deleting MPE Data

To delete MPE data:

1. Select the MPE data that you want to delete.
2. Choose **Edit > Clear**, or press Delete or Backspace.

MPE Editing Restrictions

The following MPE data editing actions are only supported on one note at a time:

- Duplicate time selection
- Cut/Copy time selection
- Paste at insertion point

Editing MPE Data in the MIDI Event List

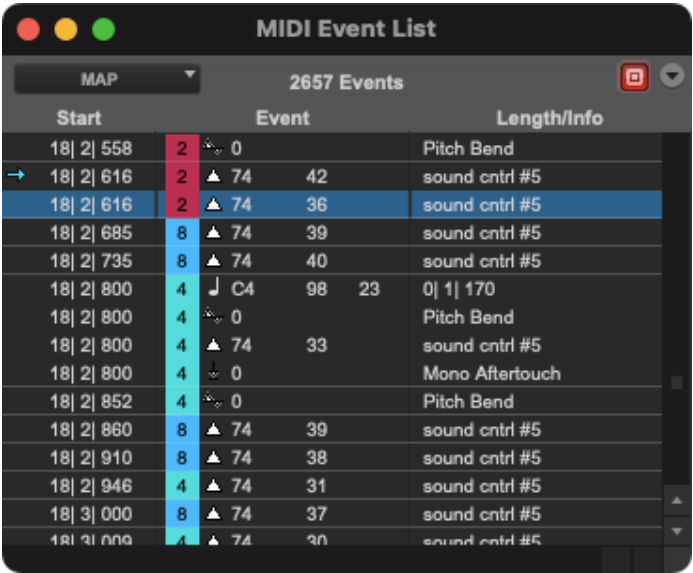
To edit MPE data in the MIDI Event List:

1. Choose **Window > MIDI Event List**.



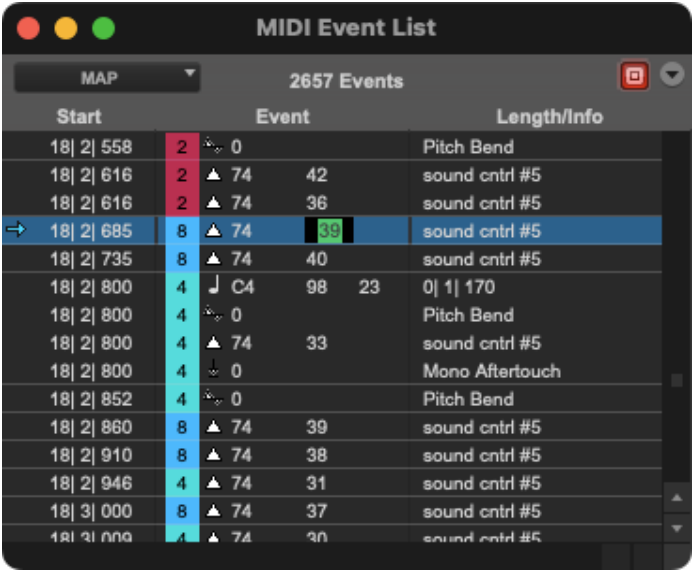
Notes selected in the Edit or a MIDI Editor window open focused in the MIDI Event List.

2. Locate the MPE data you want to edit. (MPE note channels are listed and color coded.)



Start	Event	Length/Info
18 2 558	2 0	Pitch Bend
18 2 616	2 ▲ 74 42	sound cntrl #5
18 2 616	2 ▲ 74 36	sound cntrl #5
18 2 685	8 ▲ 74 39	sound cntrl #5
18 2 735	8 ▲ 74 40	sound cntrl #5
18 2 800	4 J C4 98 23	0 1 170
18 2 800	4 0	Pitch Bend
18 2 800	4 ▲ 74 33	sound cntrl #5
18 2 800	4 0	Mono Aftertouch
18 2 852	4 0	Pitch Bend
18 2 860	8 ▲ 74 39	sound cntrl #5
18 2 910	8 ▲ 74 38	sound cntrl #5
18 2 946	4 ▲ 74 31	sound cntrl #5
18 3 000	8 ▲ 74 37	sound cntrl #5
18 3 000	4 ▲ 74 30	sound cntrl #5

3. Double-click the Start, Event CC#, or CC value depending on which you want to edit.

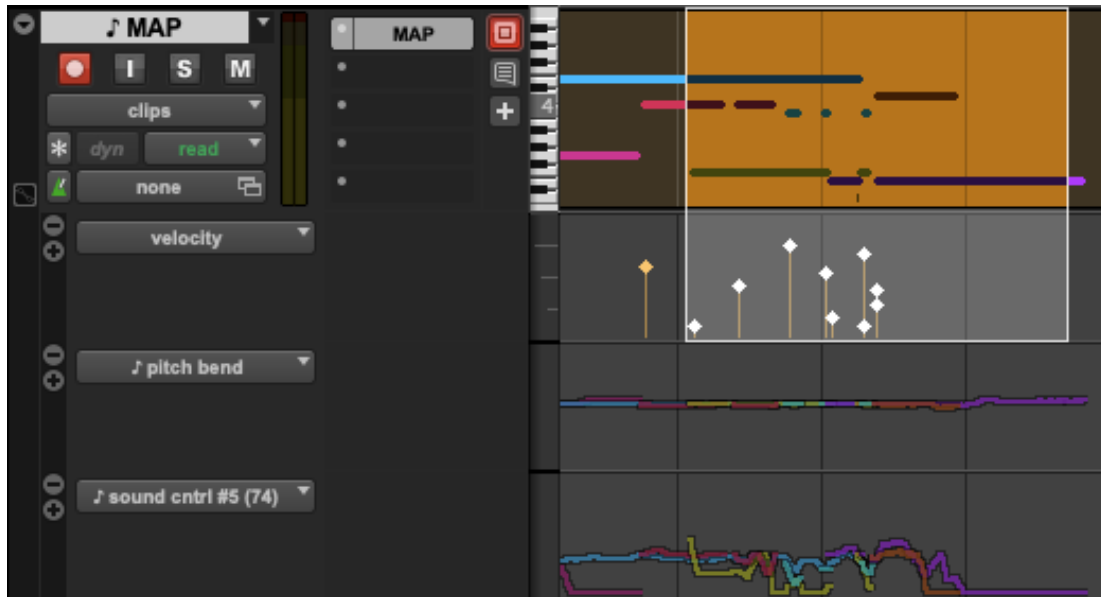


Start	Event	Length/Info
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18 2 735	8 ▲ 74 40	sound cntrl #5
18 2 800	4 J C4 98 23	0 1 170
18 2 800	4 0	Pitch Bend
18 2 800	4 ▲ 74 33	sound cntrl #5
18 2 800	4 0	Mono Aftertouch
18 2 852	4 0	Pitch Bend
18 2 860	8 ▲ 74 39	sound cntrl #5
18 2 910	8 ▲ 74 38	sound cntrl #5
18 2 946	4 ▲ 74 31	sound cntrl #5
18 3 000	8 ▲ 74 37	sound cntrl #5
18 3 000	4 ▲ 74 30	sound cntrl #5

4. Type the desired value for the MPE event and press Enter.

MPE Channel Color Coding

MPE controller data is color coded by channel by default. For example, if you record a performance that includes varying vibrato for 4 separate notes in a chord, the 4 channels of MPE control data are 4 different colors.



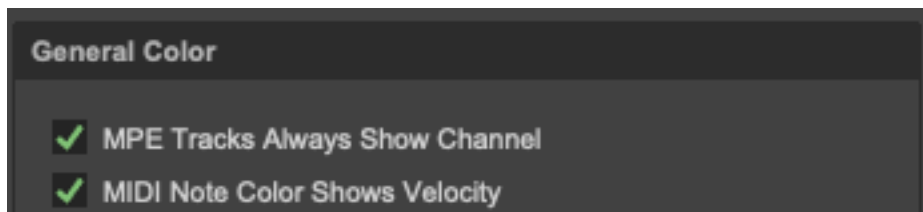
Color-coded notes display on Edit Window

MPE Tracks Always Show Channel Option

You can disable (or enable) MPE channel color coding.

To disable (or enable) MPE channel color coding:

1. Choose **Setup > Preferences > Display**.
2. Under **General Color**, disable (or enable) **MPE Tracks Always Show Channel**.



3. Click **OK**.

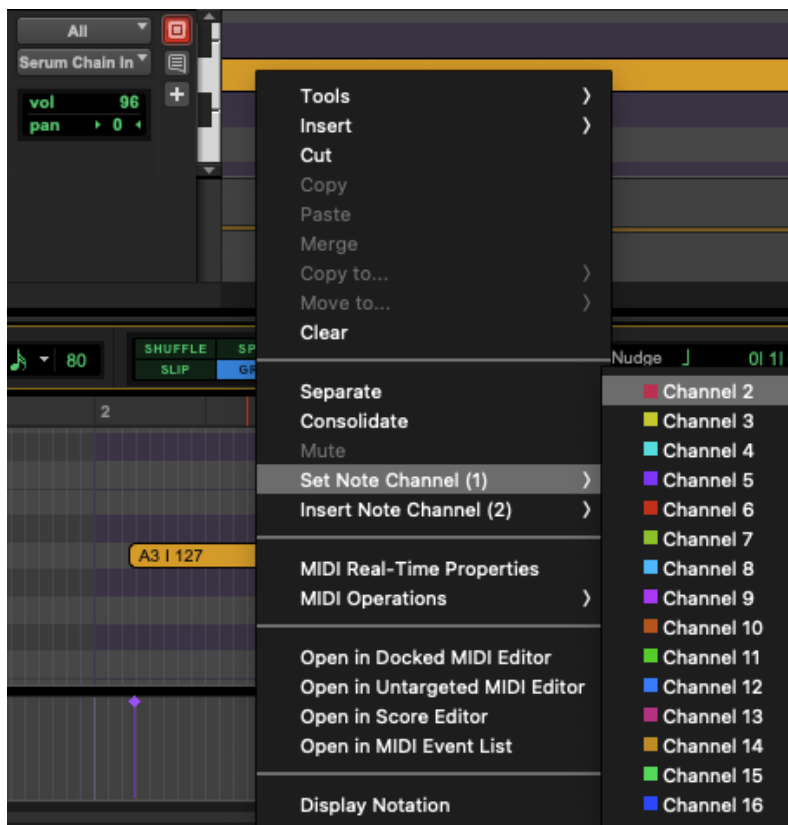
 Press **Command+Option+Control+M** (Mac) or **Control+Alt+Start+M** (Windows) to toggle the MPE Channel Color preference on or off.

Note-Channel Management in Mono Mode

In Mono mode, there is no note channelization. As such, if you need to manage note channel assignments in Mono mode, you can do so manually.

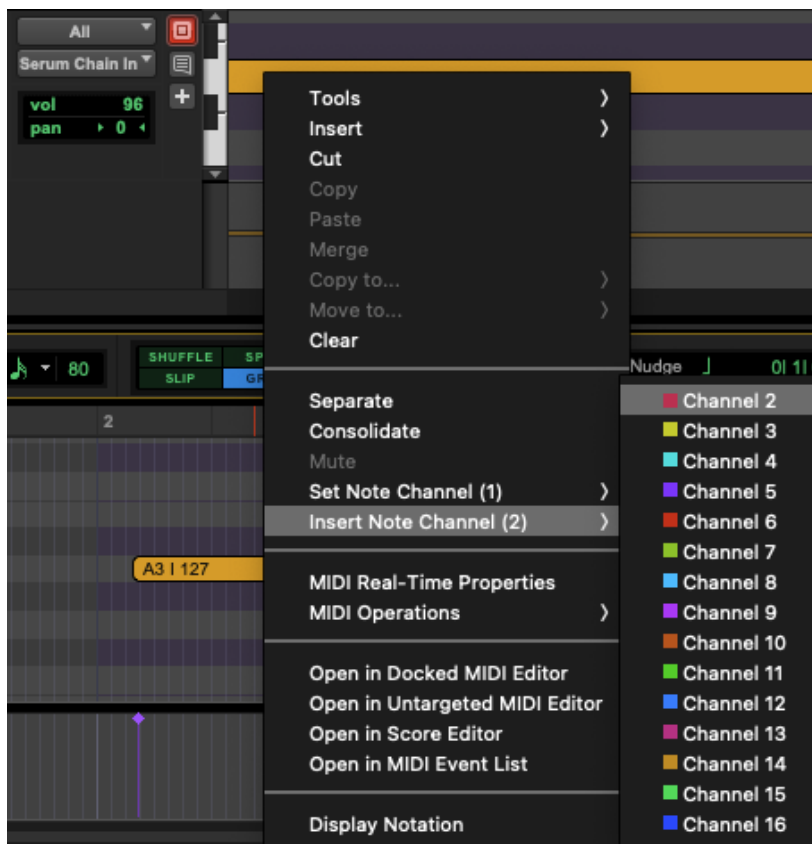
To set the MPE Note Channel for selected notes:

1. Make an MPE note selection in the Edit window or a MIDI Editor window.
2. Right-click the selection and select the desired channel from the **Set Note Channel** submenu.



To assign a Note Channel for inserted notes:

1. Make an MPE note selection in the Edit window or a MIDI Editor window.
2. Right-click the selection and select the desired channel from the **Insert Note Channel** submenu.



5 Miscellaneous Features and Enhancements

Auto-Color Alternate Takes Option

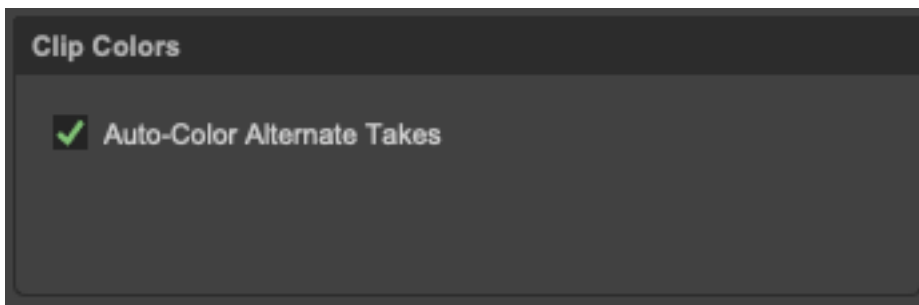
When the **Auto-Color Alternate Takes** option is enabled, alternate takes are automatically assigned distinct colors when they are created during loop recording, when manually creating a new playlist, or when sending fully overlapped clips to an available playlist.

Clips are colored at loop-record time or at alternate take creation, based on a stable take ID that is shared across all tracks captured in the same record pass. This provides consistent, predictable colors across tracks for each take.

Disable this option for full manual control over color coding alternate takes.

To enable (or disable) the Auto-Color Alternate Takes option:

1. Choose **Setup > Preferences**.
2. Under the Clip Colors section of the Display tab, select (or deselect) **Auto-Color Alternate Takes**.



3. Click **OK**.

Automatic Color-Coding Alternate Takes Behaviors and Caveats

When manually creating a new playlist, clips on the previous main playlist adapt the auto-color coding of that playlist if they have no explicit color. This does not apply to the **Duplicate Playlist** command. Undo restores the clips' default colors and redo reapplies the assigned color.

When sending fully overlapped clips to an available playlist, clips pushed by layered playlist editing or recording are colored based on the destination playlist, whether it is an existing or newly created playlist.

Explicitly colored clips are left unchanged, and MIDI playlists are excluded from both added cases.

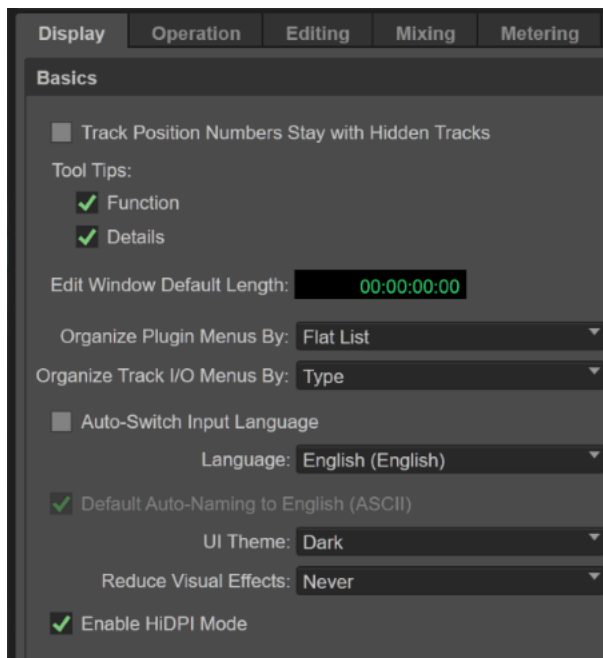
Support for Windows HiDPI and Display Scaling

Pro Tools provides native support for HiDPI (High Dots Per Inch) displays and Windows display scaling with Pro Tools and Avid plugins running natively with one or more HiDPI displays. HiDPI mode is enabled by default.

 **HiDPI mode only works if the High DPI scaling override option in Windows compatibility settings is not enabled for Pro Tools.**

To disable (or enable) HiDPI mode:

1. Choose **Setup > Preferences > Display**.
2. Deselect (or select) **Enable HiDPI Mode**.



3. Click **OK**.

HiDPI Scaling with Some 3rd-Party Plugins

Not all 3rd-party plugins support Pro Tools HiDPI Mode yet. Pro Tools provides an option in the Pro Tools Plugin window to use Windows OS HiDPI scaling for these plugins on a case-by-case basis.



To enable Windows HiDPI scaling for a plugin:

- Click the Scaling button in the upper-right corner of the plugin window (just under the Target button) to toggle Windows HiDPI Display Scaling on (blue) or off (gray).



The plugin UI scales to match the Windows OS display scaling.

Keyboard Shortcut to Toggle Focus Between Pinned Tracks Pane and Non-Pinned Tracks

To toggle keyboard focus between the Pinned Tracks pane and non-pinned tracks:

- Press Command+– ("minus") (Mac) or Control+– ("minus") (Windows).