

Helgobox Reference

2024-10-22

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Introduction

[Helgobox](#) is an instrument plug-in for [REAPER](#) that unites the products [ReaLearn](#) and [Playtime](#) under one roof.

In addition to the plug-in, it comes with the Helgobox App, a modern user interface for the Helgobox Instrument. It runs embedded in REAPER and in the future also as a separate mobile app (iOS, Android).

The reference of Helgobox itself is mainly about its installation process. If you want to learn more about the contained products, please refer to the [ReaLearn Reference](#) or [Playtime Reference](#).

Installation

REAPER fans will be glad to know that Helgobox is provided as a [ReaPack](#) package. ReaPack is a popular 3rd-party package manager for REAPER that makes installing add-ons easy and keeps your installation up to date effortlessly.

Installing Helgobox

Please choose:

- a. [I don't have ReaPack. Just give me Helgobox](#) ☐
- b. [I have ReaPack and want to use it to install Helgobox](#)
- c. [I don't have ReaPack but want to use it to install Helgobox](#)
- d. [I want to install Helgobox manually, without ReaPack](#)

I don't have ReaPack. Just give me Helgobox ☐

For users who don't have ReaPack installed already, there's a **convenient installer** that automatically installs both ReaPack and Helgobox. It gets you up and running in no time!

Simply press the following link and follow the instructions: [Install Helgobox](#)



The installer is currently in beta!

If you encounter any issues, please go to [I don't have ReaPack but want to use it to install Helgobox](#). Report any installer problems to info@helgoboss.org. Thank you!

Known issues

Installer shows error "no column found for name: flags"

It's an issue related to having an older ReaPack version installed. I need to look into it. Because this means that you have ReaPack installed already, a simple workaround is to follow the instructions in [I have ReaPack and want to use it to install Helgobox](#).

I have ReaPack and want to use it to install Helgobox

Here's how you can install Helgobox via ReaPack:

1. In REAPER, select **Extensions** › **ReaPack** › **Import repositories...**
2. Copy and paste the following repository URL into the text area:

```
https://github.com/helgoboss/reaper-packages/raw/master/index.xml
```

3. Select **Extensions** › **ReaPack** › **Browse packages...**
4. Search for **helgobox**

5. Right mouse click on the package "Helgobox: ReaLearn & Playtime" and choose **Install...**
6. Press [**OK**] or [**Apply**]
7. Restart REAPER

I don't have ReaPack but want to use it to install Helgobox

1. Install ReaPack, following the [installation section of its user guide](#)
2. Restart REAPER
3. Follow the instructions in [I have ReaPack and want to use it to install Helgobox](#)

I want to install Helgobox manually, without ReaPack

If you are more the download type of person, you can find the latest `dll`, `dylib` and `so` files here at GitHub on the [releases page](#) for manual installation.

You also must install Helgobox manually if you plan to use it in both REAPER for Windows 32-bit and REAPER for Windows 64-bit because then it's important to use two separate VST plug-in directories.

Validating the installation

You know that Helgobox is installed successfully if you see the menu **Extensions > Helgobox**.

In addition, you should see a plug-in entry "VSTi: Helgobox - ReaLearn & Playtime (Helgoboss)" after right-clicking the empty area of REAPER's track panel and choosing **Insert virtual instrument on new track....**



On Helgobox for Linux, the extension menu entry doesn't exist yet. But the plug-in should be there.

Troubleshooting

Helgobox plug-in doesn't appear in the list of plug-ins

If the plug-in "VSTi: Helgobox - ReaLearn & Playtime (Helgoboss)" doesn't appear in the list of plug-ins, please proceed as follows:

1. If you are on Linux, make sure that `libxdo` is installed!
 - On Debian/Ubuntu: `sudo apt-get install -y libxdo-dev`
2. Make sure that Helgobox runs as native plug-in!
 - By default, each plug-in runs as native plug-in. If not, you probably changed the configuration at some point.
 - You can fix that by right-clicking "VSTi: Helgobox - ReaLearn & Playtime (Helgoboss)" in the plug-in list and select **Run as > Native only (prevent bridging)**.

- It's technically impossible to run Helgobox as a bridged plug-in!

Updating Helgobox

Helgobox development moves fast! In order to take advantage of latest features, improvements and fixes, you should check the [Helgobox homepage](#) for updates from time to time.

Here's how you can install the latest stable Helgobox version:

1. Run **Extensions › ReaPack › Synchronize packages**
 - ReaPack will show you a summary at the end, which tells you whether a new Helgobox version has been installed.
2. Restart REAPER

Testing new features and improvements

If you want to get access to cutting-edge but untested versions of Helgobox, you can install Helgobox pre-releases.

Install a specific pre-release of Helgobox

1. **Extensions › ReaPack › Browse packages...**
2. Right-click the package "Helgobox: ReaLearn & Playtime" and navigate to the submenu **Versions**
3. Select the desired pre-release version (versions containing **-pre** or **-rc**)
4. Press **[OK]** or **[Apply]**
5. Restart REAPER

Enable pre-releases globally

1. **Extensions › ReaPack › Manage repositories**
2. **Options... › Enable pre-releases globally (bleeding edge)**
3. After that, whenever you synchronize packages, you will get the latest stuff.

Usage

This section illustrates the basics of using Helgobox. For more information, please refer to the [ReaLearn Reference](#) or [Playtime Reference](#).

Add plug-in instance

Helgobox is fired up just like any other VST instrument in REAPER: By adding an instance of it to an FX chain:

1. Right-click the empty space in REAPER's track control panel
2. Select **Insert virtual instrument on new track...**
3. Double-click entry "VSTi: Helgobox - ReaLearn & Playtime (Helgoboss)"

Initially, you see the Helgobox instrument plug-in, which primarily provides the user interface for [ReaLearn](#):

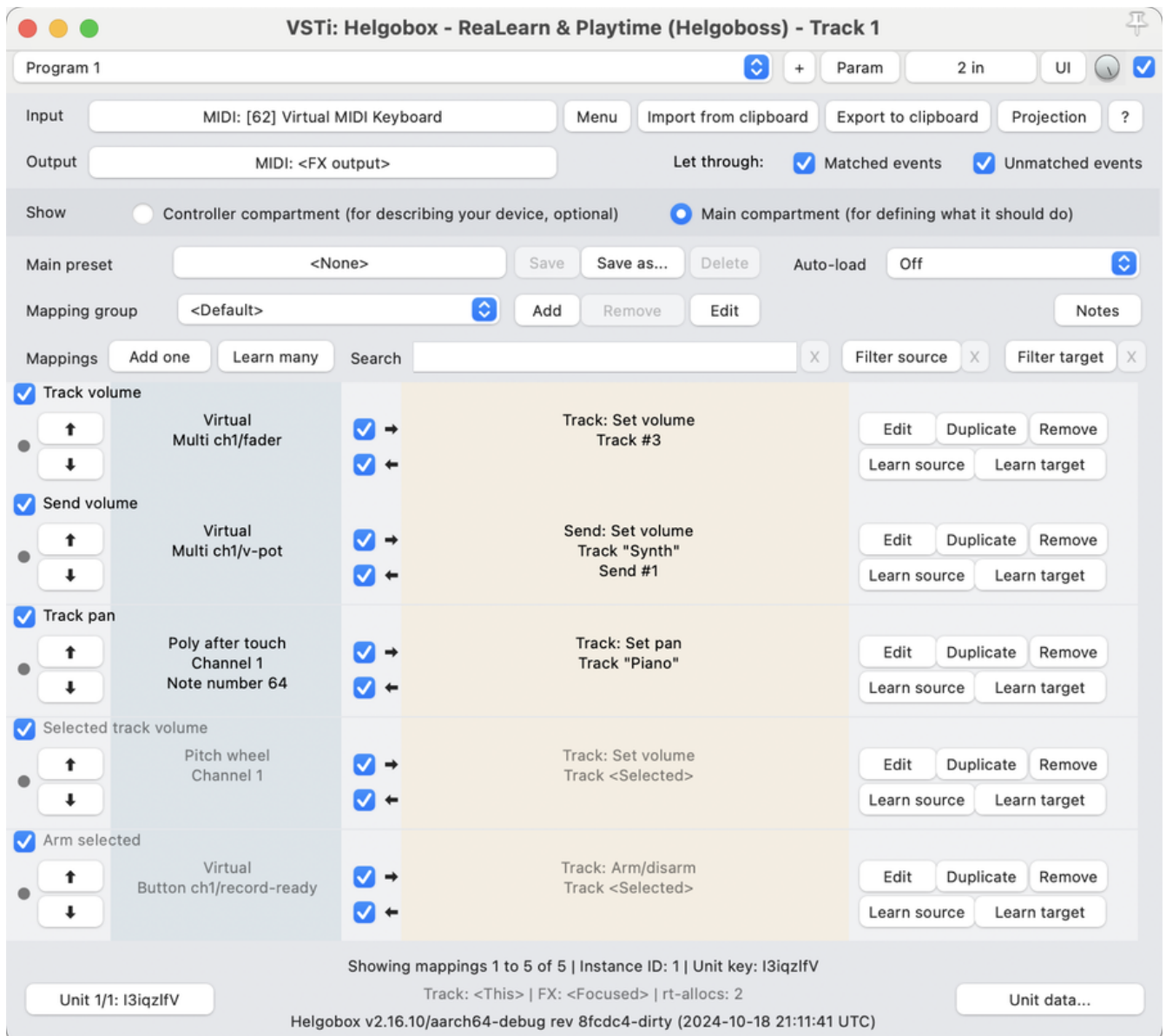


Figure 1. Plug-in window

Show the Helgobox App

Helgobox also provides an App, which primarily provides the user interface for [Playtime](#). Each Helgobox instance can display its own App window, embedded into REAPER:

1. Open the Helgobox instrument plug-in
2. Press **Menu** > **Show App**

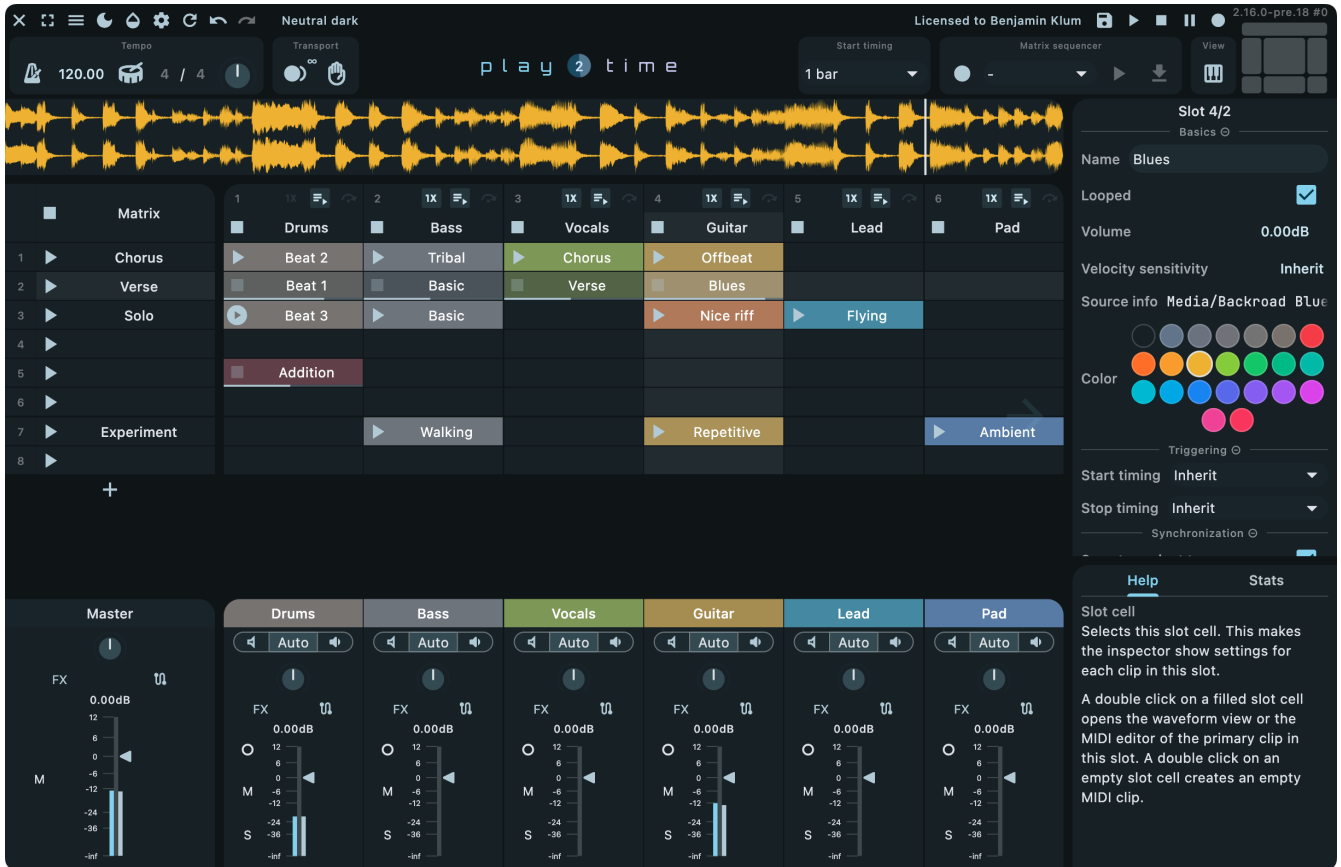


Figure 2. App window

As an alternative, you can use the convenient [**Playtime**] button in REAPER's main toolbar. If you don't see it, do this:

1. Select **Extensions** > **Helgobox** > **Show welcome screen**
2. Check "Add Playtime button to main toolbar"