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RICE CAKE DELAY

by George Ergemlidze



USER MANUAL

VERSION 1.1.0
AU • VST3 • STANDALONE

A delay with a VHS soul

Rice Cake Delay is a free stereo delay for your DAW. Echoes bounce left and right, run through a tape-style loop filter and a warm saturator, and wobble like an old cassette. The big rice cake in the middle is the Time knob – turn it and the echoes follow.

Everything that matters is on one screen: five knobs, the rice cake, an echo map that draws every repeat as you play, and a **More** panel for the deeper controls. Nothing is hidden behind menus, and the plugin window never changes size.

What's new in 1.1

- **Pan** – move the echoes left or right while your dry sound stays put.
- **Go Crazy** – brings back runaway feedback and saturation when you want it.
- **Safe tails** – high Feedback or Heat no longer ring forever when you stop playback.
- **Click STOP to clear** – one click silences every echo instantly.
- **Ducking** – echoes dip while you play and swell back in the gaps.
- **Filter dots** – drag Low cut and High cut straight on the curve in More.
- The More panel now follows your chosen colour.

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Installing

Mac

Double-click **Rice Cake Delay Installer (Mac).pkg**. The installer is signed and notarized by Apple, so it opens without warnings.

On the **Installation Type** step, click **Customize** and tick the formats you want:

Audio Unit (AU)	Logic Pro, GarageBand, Ableton Live and others /Library/Audio/Plug-Ins/Components
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VST3	Ableton Live, Cubase, Reaper, FL Studio, Studio One... /Library/Audio/Plug-Ins/VST3
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Standalone	Runs on its own without a DAW /Applications
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Needs macOS 11 Big Sur or newer on an Apple Silicon Mac (M1 or later).

Windows

Run **Rice Cake Delay Setup (Windows).exe** and follow the steps. On the components page choose what to install:

VST3	Any VST3 host – Ableton Live, Cubase, Reaper, FL Studio, Studio One... C:\Program Files\Common Files\VST3
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Standalone	Runs on its own, with a Start menu shortcut
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Needs 64-bit Windows 10 or 11. If SmartScreen shows “Windows protected your PC”, click **More info** → **Run anyway**.

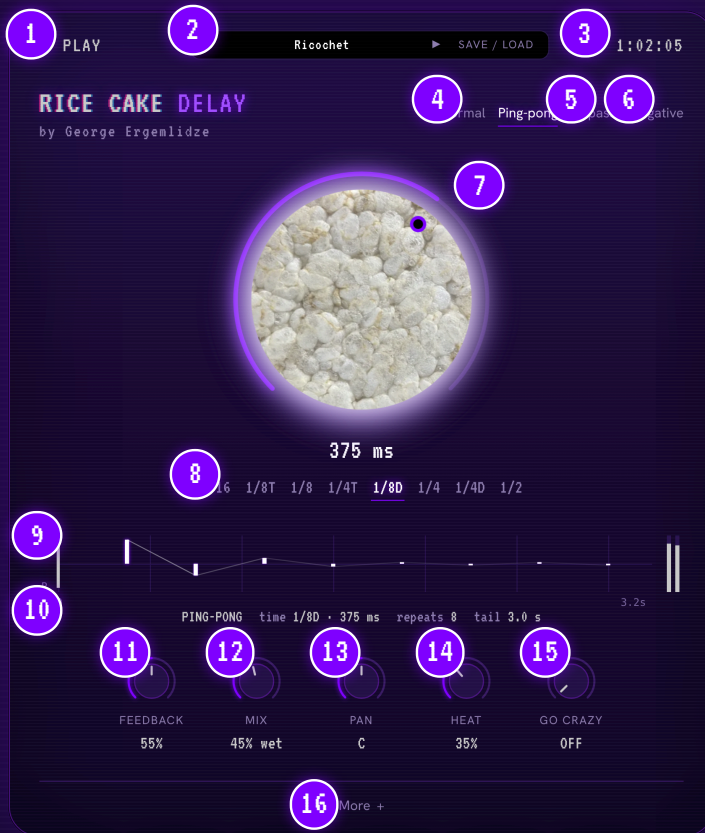
After installing

- Restart your DAW and let it **rescan plugins**. Look for **Rice Cake Delay** under the maker **George Ergemlidze**.
- Put it on an **insert** of a track, or on a **send/return** bus. On a return bus, use **Kill dry** (in More) so only the echoes come back.
- It is a stereo effect. On a mono track it still works – Ping-pong will make the echoes bounce across the stereo field.

Updating from 1.0

Just install 1.1 over the old version. Your songs and saved presets keep working; the new Pan and Go Crazy controls start at centre and off.

The main screen



- 1 **STOP / PLAY** – shows whether your DAW is playing. Click it to clear all echoes instantly.
- 2 **Presets** – ◀▶ to step through, the name to pick, **Save / Load** to manage.
- 3 **Song position** from your DAW.
- 4 **Normal / Ping-pong** delay mode.
- 5 **Bypass** – passes your sound through untouched.
- 6 **Negative** – inverted colour theme.
- 7 **The rice cake** – the Time knob.
- 8 **Note divisions** – sync the time to your song.
- 9 **Echo map** – every repeat, its level and its side.
- 10 **Readout** – mode, time, number of repeats and tail length.
- 11 **Feedback**
- 12 **Mix**
- 13 **Pan**
- 14 **Heat**
- 15 **Go Crazy**
- 16 **More** – opens the deeper controls.

Every knob works the same way: drag up/down to turn it, hold **Shift** for fine moves, scroll with the mouse wheel, **double-click the knob** to reset it, and **double-click the value** under it to type an exact number.

Time & the rice cake

The rice cake sets how far apart the echoes are, from **20 ms** up to **2 seconds**.

Synced to your song

Click a **note division** under the cake and the delay locks to your DAW's tempo. Change the song tempo and the echoes follow.

Division	Feel
1/16	fast, rhythmic flutter
1/8T	triplet eighths – swingy
1/8	the classic (default)
1/4T	triplet quarters
1/8D	dotted eighth – the “U2 / The Edge” bounce
1/4	one beat
1/4D	dotted quarter – wide, dubby
1/2	half bar – big spaces

Free time

Turn the rice cake (drag up/down or scroll) and the delay switches to free milliseconds. Double-click the value under the cake to type an exact time, e.g. **95** for a slapback.

You can also **drag left/right on the echo map** to change the time while you watch the repeats move.

Time changes glide smoothly, like speeding up a tape, so you can automate or sweep it without clicks.

Normal or Ping-pong

Normal keeps each echo on the side it came from. **Ping-pong** sums your input and bounces each repeat from left to right and back.

The echo map

Each bar is one repeat: its position is the time, its height the level, and its place above or below the line shows left or right. The readout underneath counts the audible **repeats** and the **tail** length – it shows **∞ endless** when the echoes will never die out.

The five knobs

Knob	Range	What it does
Feedback	0 - 110 %	How much of each echo is fed back in, so how many repeats you hear. Low = one or two slaps, high = long trails. Above 100 % the knob turns red: the echoes grow instead of fading, and Auto gain keeps them from exploding.
Mix	DRY - WET	Balance between your original sound and the echoes. Around 25-40 % sits nicely on an insert. On a send bus, set it to WET or use Kill dry.
Pan new	L 100 - C - R 100	Moves the echoes towards the left or right speaker. Your dry sound is not moved. Great for putting the delay on the opposite side of a guitar or vocal.
Heat	0 - 100 %	Drives the echoes into the saturator chosen in More (Tape, Tube or Fuzz). Each repeat gets warmer and dirtier than the one before. Heat colours the tone but no longer makes the echoes louder.
Go Crazy new	OFF - 100 %	Unlocks the wild behaviour. With Go Crazy up, Heat adds gain inside the loop , so high Feedback and Heat can self-oscillate, scream and keep ringing after you stop the song. Turn it down to get the safe, polite delay back.

Why do my echoes stop when I press stop?

When your DAW stops, Rice Cake Delay gently lets any **runaway feedback** (100 % and above) fade out so it doesn't keep howling in the background. Normal tails ring out as usual. If you *want* endless feedback after stopping – for drones or performance – turn up **Go Crazy**.

Panic button: whatever happens, click ■ **STOP** (or ► **PLAY**) in the top-left corner. The echo memory is wiped and the screen flashes ■ **CLEAR**. Your settings are not changed.

Getting started in 30 seconds

- Pick 1/8D under the cake, Feedback **35 %**, Mix **30 %**.
- Add a little **Heat** for warmth, and set **Pan** away from your instrument for space.
- Open **More** and drag the **HC** dot down to around 3-4 kHz so the echoes sit behind the dry sound.

The More panel

Click **More +** at the bottom to open the panel over the plugin. Close it with **✕**, by clicking **More** again, or with **Esc**.



- 1 Resonance
- 2 Wobble
- 3 Width
- 4 Loop filter with LC and HC dots
- 5 Ducking slider
- 6 Saturation on/off and type
- 7 Sync to DAW tempo
- 8 Auto gain and Kill dry
- 9 Echo limit meter

Control	Range	What it does
Resonance	-6 - +14 dB	Adds a peak at the filter corners, so the echoes sound honky, vocal or glassy. Below 0 dB it softens them.
Wobble	0 - 100 %	Tape wow and flutter: a slow drift plus a faster shimmer, slightly different on the left and right. 20 % is a gentle cassette; 70 % is a warped VHS.
Width	MONO - 100 %	Stereo spread of the echoes. At MONO both sides blend to the centre; at 100 % they are fully separated.

Filter, ducking & saturation

Loop filter - the LC and HC dots

The curve shows the filter that every repeat passes through. Drag the **LC** (Low cut, **20 Hz - 2 kHz**) and **HC** (High cut, **400 Hz - 18 kHz**) dots left or right. Double-click a dot to reset it (LC 120 Hz, HC 6 kHz).

Because the filter sits inside the feedback loop, each repeat gets thinner and darker than the last – just like a real tape echo. A high LC removes mud; a low HC pushes the echoes into the background.

Ducking

The white slider makes the echoes **step aside while you play** and swell back in the gaps, like sidechain compression from your own instrument. 0 = OFF, 100 = deep ducking. Perfect for vocals and lead lines that need to stay clear. Double-click the slider to turn it off.

Saturation

On / off	Turns the saturator in the loop on or off. Heat has no effect when it is off.
Tape	Smooth and round – soft compression and warmth. The default.
Tube	Brighter and a little uneven, adds harmonics that thicken each repeat.
Fuzz	Hard and gritty. Combine with Heat for lo-fi, broken echoes.

Sync, Auto gain, Kill dry, Echo limit

Sync	On: the time follows your DAW's tempo and the chosen note division. Off: the time is in milliseconds.
Auto gain	A limiter inside the feedback loop that stops the echoes from getting too loud, so you can push Feedback past 100 % safely. Leave it on unless you want raw, uncontrolled repeats.
Kill dry	Removes your original sound and leaves only the echoes. Use it when the plugin sits on a send/return bus.
Echo limit	Shows how many dB Auto gain is currently holding the echoes back. A busy meter means the loop is working hard.

An output safety limiter always sits at the very end, so Rice Cake Delay never clips your track.

Presets

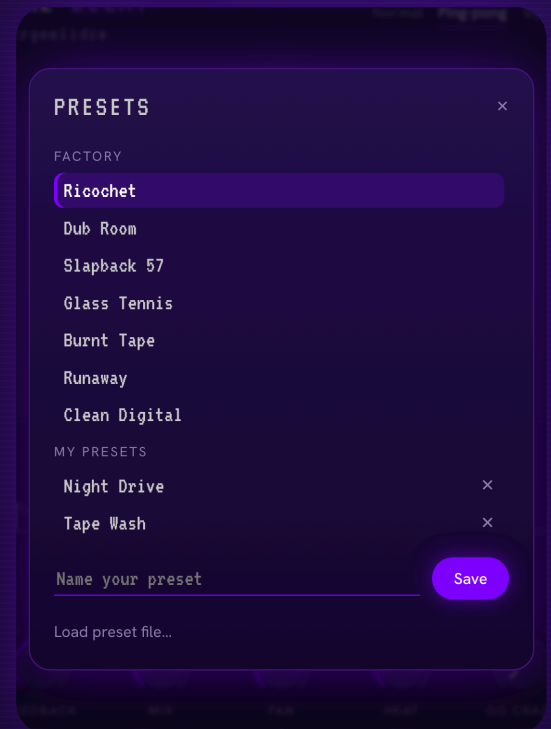
Step through presets with ◀▶ or pick one from the name in the top bar. Click **Save / Load** to open the preset window.

Factory presets

Ricochet	The default: clean 1/8 ping-pong with a touch of tape wobble – ready for anything.
Dub Room	Dotted-quarter ping-pong through a dark, resonant tube filter.
Slapback 57	A short 95 ms tube slap for rockabilly vocals and guitars.
Glass Tennis	Bright, fast 1/16 ping-pong with a resonant, glassy top.
Burnt Tape	Heavy fuzz and lots of wobble – a melted cassette.
Runaway	Hot, wobbly 1/8 ping-pong with a resonant tape tone.
Clean Digital	No saturation, no wobble, full range – a pure digital delay.

Your own presets

- Type a name in **Name your preset** and click **Save**. It appears under **My presets**.
- Remove one with the ✕ next to it.
- Presets are saved as small **.ricecake** files you can back up or share with friends. Use **Load preset file...** to open one.
- Your DAW also saves the full plugin state with every song, as usual.



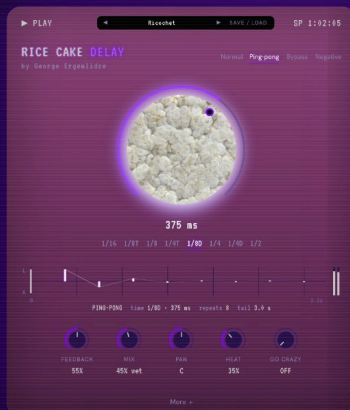
MAKE IT YOURS

Looks & window

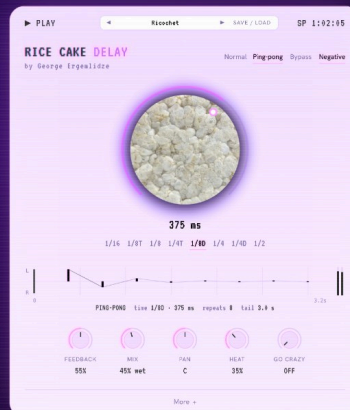
THREE MOODS



Midnight



Pink tint



Negative

Drag or scroll on empty space to tint · one click for Negative

Colour

Drag or scroll on any empty part of the plugin to tint it from deep **Midnight** purple to **Pink**. The More panel follows the same colour.

Click **Negative** at the top right for an inverted, light theme – handy in bright rooms.

Your choice is saved with the song.

Window size

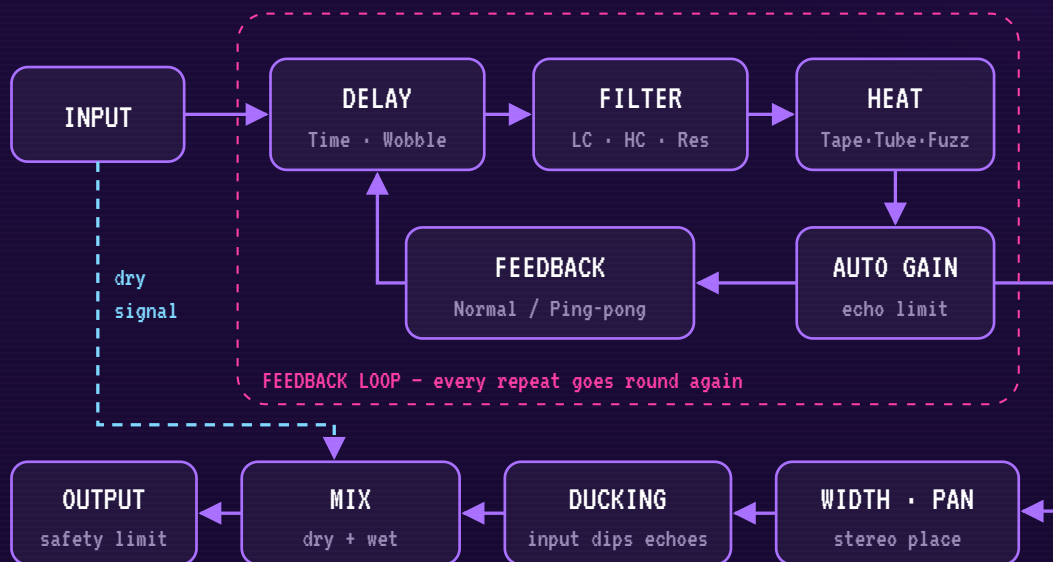
Drag the bottom-right corner of the plugin window in your DAW to make it bigger or smaller (60 % – 180 %). The layout always keeps its shape, nothing gets cut off.

Bypass

Bypass next to the mode buttons passes your sound through unchanged – quick for A/B comparisons. It can be automated from your DAW.

How the sound flows

Knowing the order helps you understand why some controls affect every repeat and others only the final echo sound.



- **Inside the loop** (Time, Wobble, Filter, Heat, Auto gain): changes build up on every repeat. A little goes a long way.
- **After the loop** (Width, Pan, Ducking, Mix): shapes how the finished echoes sit in your mix, without changing how they evolve.
- The dashed **dry signal** skips the effect and meets the echoes at Mix – **Kill dry** removes it.
- **Go Crazy** changes how much gain Heat adds inside the loop – that's why it can make the echoes run away.

Shortcuts & tips

Action	How
Turn a knob	Drag up/down · mouse wheel · arrow keys when selected
Fine adjust	Hold Shift while dragging, scrolling or using arrows
Reset a knob	Double-click the knob
Type an exact value	Double-click the value under a knob or the cake, type, Enter (Esc cancels)
Change time on the map	Drag left/right or scroll on the echo map
Reset LC / HC	Double-click the dot
Turn ducking off	Double-click the ducking slider
Clear all echoes	Click ■ STOP / ► PLAY top-left
Close More or Presets	Esc
Tint the plugin	Drag or scroll on empty space

Recipes

Vocal throw – 1/4, Feedback 30 %, Mix 35 %, Ducking 60, HC ~3 kHz, Pan slightly opposite. Automate Mix up on the last word.

Wide guitar – Ping-pong, 1/8D, Feedback 40 %, Width 100 %, Wobble 25 %, Heat 20 % Tape.

Slapback – load *Slapback 57*, or Normal mode, 90–120 ms, Feedback 5–10 %.

Dub siren – Ping-pong 1/4D, Feedback 105 %, Heat 60 % Tube, Go Crazy 50 %, LC 300 Hz. Ride the Time and click STOP to cut it.

Lo-fi tape – Fuzz, Heat 50 %, Wobble 60 %, HC 2.5 kHz, Resonance +4 dB.

Send bus – Kill dry on, Mix WET, then blend with the send level in your DAW.

Help & info

Troubleshooting

The plugin doesn't show up	Rescan plugins in your DAW. On Mac, check the format you use was ticked under Customize during install. Logic Pro needs the AU; most other hosts use VST3.
Echoes won't stop	Click ■ STOP in the top-left corner to clear them, lower Feedback below 100 %, or turn Go Crazy off.
Too loud or distorted	Turn on Auto gain , lower Heat, or switch saturation to Tape.
Echoes are out of time	Make sure Sync is on and a note division is selected; the plugin reads tempo from your DAW.
Echoes mask the vocal	Raise Ducking , lower HC , or move the echoes away with Pan .
No sound in Standalone	Open the audio settings in the Standalone app and choose your input and output device.

About

Rice Cake Delay is designed and made by **George Ergemlidze** – synthwave / alt-pop artist, producer and sound designer. It is free to use in your music, commercial releases included.

Built with the JUCE framework. VST is a trademark of Steinberg Media Technologies GmbH. Audio Units and macOS are trademarks of Apple Inc. All other names belong to their owners.

Stay in touch

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SoundCloud	soundcloud.com/georgeergemlidze
GitHub	github.com/georgeergemlidze/Rice-Cake-Delay

MADE ON MARS • ENJOY THE ECHOES