All the mic processing you need.

The dbx® 286s is a full featured Channel Strip Processor that delivers a studio quality microphone/instrument preamplifier and four processors that can be used independently or in any combination. Why mic up vocals and instruments through a noisy, blurry mixer? The sonically pristine dbx 286s Mic Preamp has all the features you need, including wide-ranging input gain control, switchable +48V phantom power, and an 80Hz high-pass filter to remove low frequency hum, rumble or wind. Use the patented dbx OverEasy® compressor to transparently smooth out uneven acoustic tracks or deliver that classic “in your face” vocal performance that only a dbx compressor can. Eliminate vocal sibilance and high frequency distortion from instruments such as cymbals with the frequency tunable De-Esser. Fine-tune the Enhancer HF Detail control to add sparkle and crispness to your tracks and make adjustments to the LF Detail control to add fullness and depth to vocals and bass instruments while cleaning up the muddy low midrange frequencies. And, the separate threshold and ratio controls on the Expander/Gate allow you to subtly reduce headphone leakage or radically gate noisy guitar amps.

The dbx 286s offers a full compliment of metering and status LEDs to visually guide you to achieving the right sound. The floating balanced XLR Mic Input accepts balanced or unbalanced inputs to easily connect to professional and home studio microphones. The additional 1/4” TRS Line Input can accept balanced/unbalanced signals to process live electronic instruments or pre-recorded tracks at mixdown. Use the Insert jack to interface between the Mic Preamp and the signal processing sections to “loop out” to external processors (such as EQ or delay unit) or to mix the Mic Preamp’s signal out to an external destination.

Features

- Studio quality Mic Preamp/Channel Strip Processor
- Classic dbx Compression puts great sound within easy reach
- Program adaptive Expander/Gate
- Frequency tunable De-Esser reduces sibilance and high frequency distortion
- Enhancer increases the detail and definition of the high and low frequencies
- Full compliment of meters and status LEDs
- Insert jack allows you to add an external processor
- +48V Phantom Power
- Precision detented controls
### Specifications

#### MIC INPUT:
- **Impedance**: ~4.2kΩ Balanced
- **Maximum Level**: 0.25Vrms, Gain = 30dB
- **Gain Adjustment Range**: +0dB to 60dB
- **Phantom Power**: +48VDC, applied to XLR pins 2 and 3 through 6.81kΩ resistors
- **CMRR**: >40dB, typically 55dB
- **EIN**: -125dBu, 22Hz-22kHz, 150Ω source impedance

#### LINE INPUT:
- **Impedance**:
  - 10kΩ unbalanced, 20kΩ balanced
  - >21dBu, balanced or unbalanced
- **Gain Adjustment Range**: -15dB to +45dB
- **CMRR**: >40dB, typically 55dB

#### INSERT (1/4" TRS):
- **Impedance**:
  - Tip: 100Ω, Maximum Level: >21dBu
  - Ring: 100Ω, Maximum Level: >21dBu, >20dBm (600Ω load)
- **Noise**:
  - >-89dBu, unweighted (20Hz-20kHz); LINE GAIN Control set to 0dB
  - >-90dBu, weighted (20Hz-20kHz)
- **Distortion**:
  - >0.01% THD, 20Hz-20kHz, +10dBu

#### LINE OUTPUT (1/4" TRS):
- **Impedance**:
  - Balanced: 100Ω unbalanced, 200Ω balanced
  - >21dBu, >20dBm (600Ω load)
- **Gain Adjustment Range**: -30dB to +10dB
- **Noise**:
  - >-85dBu unweighted (20Hz-20kHz); Both Gain Controls set for 0dB, all processing controls OFF
- **Frequency Response**:
  - 20Hz to 20kHz, +0.5/-0.5dB
- **Distortion**:
  - >0.01% THD, 20Hz-20kHz, +10dBu, all Processing Controls OFF

#### COMPRESSOR:
- **Threshold Range**: -40dBu to +20dBu
- **Threshold Characteristics**: OverEasy®
- **Compression Ratio**: 4:1 for input levels beyond 20dB above threshold
- **Maximum Compression**: 30dB

#### DE-esser:
- **Characteristics**:
  - Wideband Gain Reduction
  - Characteristic Frequency Range: 800Hz to 10kHz
  - Release Time: 800Hz to 1kHz High Pass, 12dB/octave
- **Program-Dependent**

#### ENHANCER:
- **HF Detail Characteristic**
  - Program-controlled shelving equalizer, approximately 15dB maximum HF boost
- **LF detail Characteristic**
  - Bell-shaped boost @ 80Hz, bell-shaped cut @ 250Hz, ratio is approximately 2:1

#### EXPANDER/GATE:
- **Threshold Range**: OFF to +15dBu
- **Expansion Ratio**: Adjustable 1.5:1 to 10:1
- **Maximum Depth**: >50dB
- **Attack Time**: Program-Dependent, approximately 2ms (at maximum attenuation)
- **Release Time**: Program-Dependent, approximately 10ms/dB

#### DYNAMIC RANGE:
- **Typically 105dB**

#### POWER SUPPLY:
- **Power Requirements**: 15 Watts
- **USA**: 120VAC 60Hz, 100VAC 50/60Hz
- **EU**: 230VAC 50/60Hz
- **Operating Temperature**: 0°C to 45°C (32°F to 113°F)

#### PHYSICAL:
- **Dimensions**: 1.75" x 5.75" x 19" (4.5cm x 14.6cm x 48.5cm)
- **Weight**: Net Weight: 4.5 lbs/2.04 Kg
- **Shipping Weight**: 6.54 lbs/2.97 Kg

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dbx engineers are constantly working to improve the quality of our products. Specifications are, therefore subject to change without notice.

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