LIVE VOCALS / BEHRINGER X32

Vocal EQ: Male & Female

Quick-reference starting points for church sound operators

BEFORE YOU TURN A KNOB

EQ changes tone; the fader changes volume. Match the singer, mic and room.
Start with all four EQ bands at 0 dB. Change only what needs help.

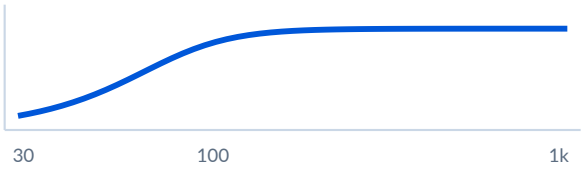
01 START WITH LOW CUT (HPF)

Raise the cutoff slowly to remove rumble. If the voice loses fullness, back it down.

MALE / LOWER VOICE

Start at **80 Hz**

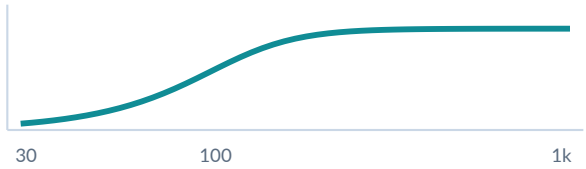
Try 70-100 Hz; deep voices may need 60 Hz.



FEMALE / HIGHER VOICE

Start at **120 Hz**

Try 100-150 Hz; lower voices may need 80-100 Hz.



02 LISTEN FOR A PROBLEM, THEN MAKE A SMALL MOVE

The ranges below work for both male and female vocals.

WHAT YOU HEAR	FREQUENCY	STARTING ADJUSTMENT
Rumbly / boomy	80-200 Hz	Raise Low Cut slightly or cut 2-3 dB.
Muddy / boxy	200-500 Hz	Try a 2-3 dB cut. Stop before it sounds thin.
Nasal / honky	700 Hz-1.2 kHz	Try a 2 dB cut at the offending tone.
Dull / buried words	2-4 kHz	Try a broad 1-2 dB boost.
Sharp / painful	2.5-5 kHz	Cut about 2 dB; remove boosts first.
Loud S / SH	5-8 kHz	Use small cuts; a de-esser works better.
Thin / weak body	120-350 Hz	Undo low-mid cuts or lower Low Cut.
Needs a little air	10-12 kHz	Optional high shelf: +1 dB if not hissy.

BEGINNER RULE **Change one band by 1-3 dB, listen with the band playing, and compare EQ on/off.**

X32 CONSOLE GUIDE

Which Control Do I Turn?

A practical walkthrough: select, adjust, compare and listen

01 SELECT THE VOCAL CHANNEL

Press SELECT above the singer's channel fader. Confirm the channel name. Press VIEW in the EQUALIZER section to see the EQ graph.

THE X32 EQ CONTROLS



FREQ
Where?



GAIN
How much?



Q
How wide?

FOUR BANDS

- LOW
- LOW MID
- HIGH MID
- HIGH

FREQ: Pick the frequency

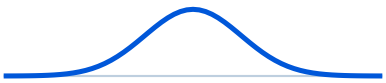
GAIN: Cut or boost in dB

Q: Wide or narrow

GAIN: negative dB cuts, positive dB boosts. Q: low = broader changes; high = narrower. Low Cut is separate from the four EQ bands.

02 CHOOSE A SHAPE AND A WIDTH

PEQ / BELL



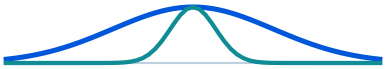
Most tone cuts and clarity boosts.

HIGH SHELF



Optional air above 10 kHz.

Q: WIDE VS. NARROW



Wide Q ~1; narrow Q ~4.

Choose a band and use MODE for PEQ (bell) or High Shelf. Start near Q 1-1.5 for broad tone changes, or Q 3-5 for a specific resonance.

03 A SIMPLE SOUNDCHECK ROUTINE

1. Have the singer perform normally and loudly. Set input gain without clipping.
2. Enable Low Cut in PREAMP. Start with the suggested range on page 1.
3. Fix the most obvious tone problem. Compare EQ on/off at similar loudness.
4. Listen with the full band. Lower competing instruments before over-boosting vocals.

References: Behringer X32 User Manual (pp. 12, 45); Avid, How to EQ Vocals (2024).

FEEDBACK? Lower the affected channel or monitor level first.
Keep the mic close, avoid cupping the grille and check monitor positioning.