

___the story behind README.txt

The story behind the Axe-Fx II PRESETS (based on FW14.02):

----- Reu-O-Grande -----

This Preset represent the summary of two AB comparisons:

1) AB Reußenzehn Reu-O-Grande (Raw Plexi Type from german Tube-Amp Guru Thomas Reußenzehn) vs. Axe-Fx II Sim amplified by Matrix GT1000. Comparison: Guitar -> A/B Box. A -> Reußenzehn -> Diezel 2x12 -> Speaker left. B -> Axe-Fx Amp-Sim -> Matrix GT1000 -> Diezel 2x12 -> Speaker right. The Reußenzehn Reu-O-Grande is a beast of Amp: Raw, gritty, dirty, cleans perfectly up with guitar volume. Volume fully -> A blast of Vintage Rock'n Roll! Everybody was stunning how incredible this Amp sounds through the also superb Diezel 2x12 cabinet. Some Axe-Owners said "... no, I don't believe, the Axe can do that, really". We tried the "Plexi 100W High" Sim. Everything (!) on default. AB'ed: BAM! Same grit, punch, gain structure, dirt, pressure. But still a bit darker than the Reußenzehn. So, we did ONE tweak: Presence to 10. AB'ed: STUNNING. Both sounds (nearly) identical. Unbelievable. Let's do a blind test: a hand in front of the Input LEDs, somebody else switched between the two chains - no audible difference. We asked the player: "Which one did you play? Reußenzehn or Axe-Fx?" He answered: "Reußenzehn". Removing the hand from the Input LEDs, they flicker when playin'. "No MAN, you play actual the Axe-Fx!". End of the story :)

Conclusion: Reußenzehn Amp = Axe-Fx "Plexi 100W High", everything (!) default, but Presence to 10 + Matrix GT1000.

2) Diezel 2x12 cabinet vs. Cab IRs of the actual cabinet through Matrix Q12a. Chains: "Axe-Fx Reußenzehn" Sim + Matrix GT1000 -> Diezel 2x12 vs. "Axe-Fx Reußenzehn" + CAB Block with captured IR's of the Diezel 2x12. We found out, that the Cab was really good represented with a 50/50 MIX using the Neumann TLM103 + Audio Technica 2035. Same punch and pressure, the character of the actual cabinet was really well represented. Frequency wise not 100% the same, but absolutely in the same ballpark. Many of the people said, that they like now the Q12a with the "Diezel 2x12 G12K100 MIX N+R" IR more, than the actual cabinet!

So, try it out for yourself: Put the "Diezel 2x12 G12K100 MIX N+R" IR in the Cab Block and rock on!

----- Vox AC30 -----

This Preset represent the following comparison:

Guitar -> Vox AC30, loaded with 2x12" Celestions Blue "Bulldog" Speakers vs. Guitar -> Axe-Fx II "Class-A 30W" X/Y "Class-A 30W TB" through Matrix Q12a. Our User Pacosipulami knows a lot of AC30's, because he makes his living with repairing Amps! He stated, that this Exemplar was one of the best AC30's, he ever played through. Switching just the guitar cable between the actual Amp and the Axe-Rig, we cannot believe it, but we heard it: No (NO!) difference in the "amp-in-the-room" area. Also soundwise/frequency wise, both Rigs sound damn close! We prefer again a combination of two IRs: "Vox AC30 Blue TLM103 N" + "Vox AC30 Blue AT2035 R". The "Vox AC30 Blue MIX N+R" IR in this package represent this mix.

You want a clean AC30? Keep the Input Drive there, where the Input drive (= Volume on the Amp) is on the actual amp: slightly under 9 o'clock! Raise instead the Amp-Sim volume!
You want grid and dirt and gain on the real Amp? We raised the volume to 12 o'clock. It was DAMN LOUD and the actual Amp was everything, but NOT CLEAN! Exactly like the Axe-Fx!

Conclusion: The "right" Cab IR and therefor the "best" matching FRFR Speaker can emulate the real-deal soundwise AND feel-wise very well! This was our experience. Nothing more. Nothing less. Yeah!

So, try it out for yourself: Put the "Vox AC30 Blue MIX N+R" IR in the Cab Block and rock on! If it's too bright, raise a bit the Hi-Cut (ca. 10 o'clock). Nothing more to do to match the real deal.