

# 286s Mic Preamp

Channel Strip Processor

**dbx**  
by HARMAN



## Product Overview

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.

The cost and hassle of patching together multiple processors for use on one track can be frustrating. The dbx 286s provides you with all the mic processing you need in one box, with the shortest, cleanest signal path to keep your music sounding its best!

## Features

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

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Products

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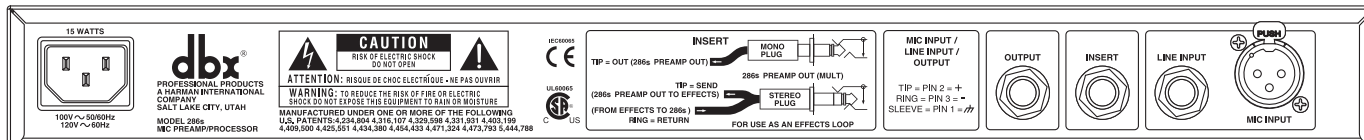
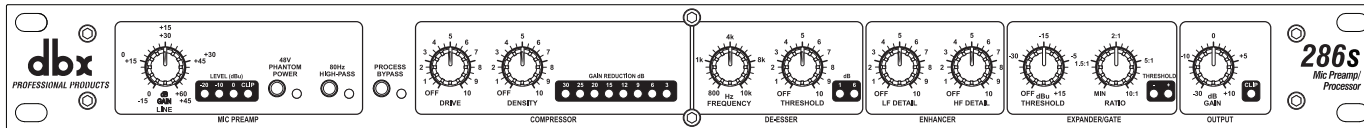
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## Channel Strip Processor



## Specifications

<b>MIC INPUT:</b>	Floating balanced, Pin 2 Hot Impedance ~ 4.2k $\Omega$ Balanced Maximum Level 0.25Vrms, Gain = 30dB Gain Adjustment Range +0dB to 60dB Phantom Power +48VDC, applied to XLR pins 2 and 3 through 6.81k $\Omega$ resistors CMRR >40dB, typically 55dB EIN -125dBu, 22Hz-22kHz, 150 $\Omega$ source impedance	Attack Time Program-Dependent; >1s for small level increases, down to 10ms for large increases Release Time Program-Dependent; adjustable between approximately 1dB/Sec and 75dB/Sec Distortion Typically <0.05%THD, 20Hz-20kHz, 15dB G/R, +10dBu Output, DENSITY @ 0 SMPT Intermodulation Distortion <0.05%; 60Hz/7kHz 4:1, 15dB G/R, +10dBu Output Level, DENSITY @ 0
<b>LINE INPUT:</b>	Floating balanced, TIP Hot Impedance 10k $\Omega$ unbalanced, 20k $\Omega$ balanced Maximum Level >+21dBu, balanced or unbalanced Gain Adjustment Range -15dB to +45dB CMRR >40dB, typically 55dB	<b>DE-SSER:</b> Characteristic Wideband Gain Reduction Frequency Range 800Hz to 10kHz High Pass, 12dB/octave Release Time Program-Dependent approximately 1ms/dB
<b>INSERT (1/4" TRS):</b>	Normal: tip is Send, ring is Return Ring: Impedance >5k $\Omega$ Maximum Level >+21dBu Tip: Impedance 100 $\Omega$ Maximum Level >+21dBu, >+20dBm (600 $\Omega$ load) Noise <-89dBu, unweighted (20Hz-20kHz); LINE GAIN Control set to 0dB Distortion <0.01% THD, 20Hz-20kHz, +10dBu	<b>ENHANCER:</b> 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
<b>LINE OUTPUT (1/4" TRS):</b>	Balanced/Unbalanced Impedance 100 $\Omega$ unbalanced, 200 $\Omega$ balanced Maximum Level >+21dBu, >+20dBm (600 $\Omega$ 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 - 20kHz, +0.5/-0.5dB Distortion <0.08%THD, 20Hz-20kHz, +10dBu, all Processing Controls OFF	<b>EXPANDER/GATE:</b> 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
<b>COMPRESSOR:</b>	Threshold Range -40dBu to +20dBu Threshold Characteristics OverEasy <sup>®</sup> Compression Ratio >4:1 For input levels beyond 20dB above threshold Maximum Compression 30dB	<b>DYNAMIC RANGE:</b> Typically 105dB <b>POWER SUPPLY:</b> Power Requirements 15 Watts Operating Voltage USA: 120VAC 60Hz, 100VAC 50/60Hz; EU: 230VAC 50/60Hz Operating Temperature 0°C to 45°C (32°F to 113°F)
		<b>PHYSICAL:</b> 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

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

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