



Focus Pocus Fidibus

Quick Start & User Guide

Smart navigation and compact working views for large Pro Tools sessions.

VERSION 1.0.0

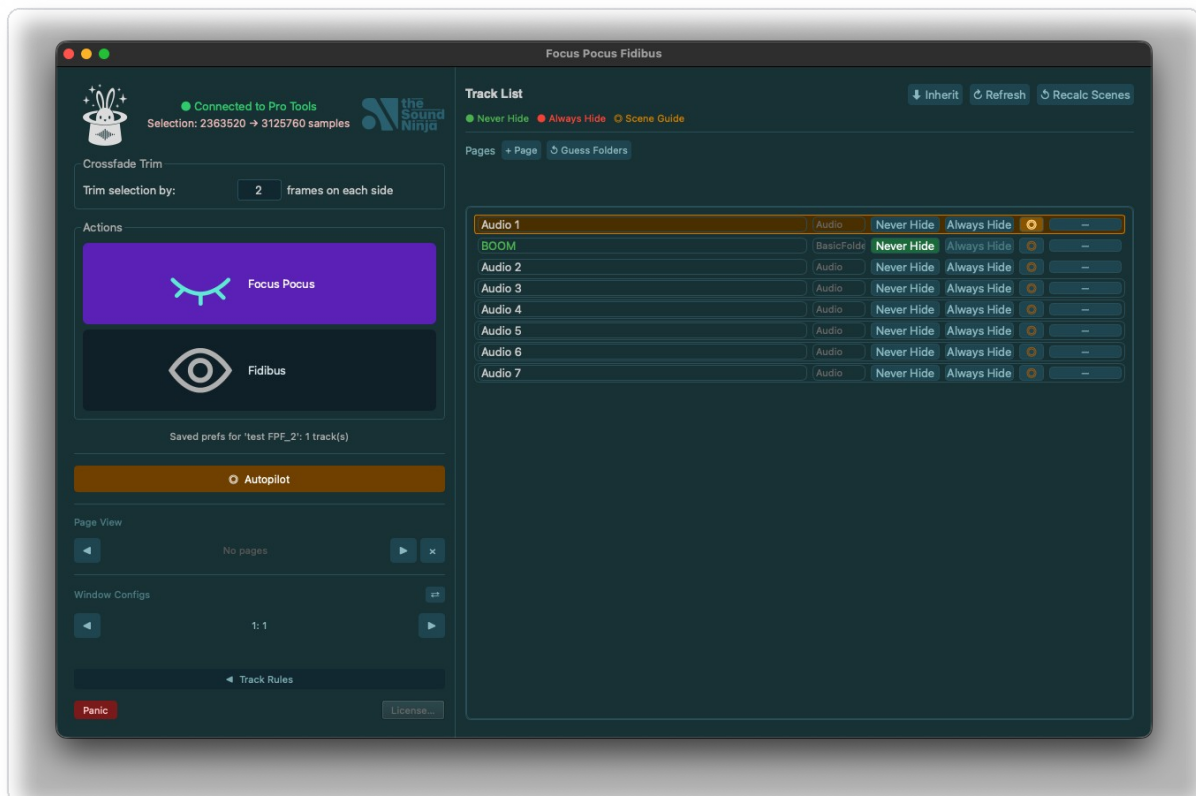
thesound.ninja

Quick start: focus on a scene

PREPARE Open the required Pro Tools session. For a first test, simply make a timeline selection across one scene.

1. Launch Focus Pocus Fidibus and confirm the green Connected to Pro Tools status.
2. Select the time range you want to work on in the Pro Tools timeline.
3. Leave Crossfade Trim at its default of 2 frames on each side for now.
4. Click Focus Pocus. Tracks without clips in the relevant range are hidden and the visible tracks are presented more compactly.
5. When you are finished, click Fidibus to restore the previous track visibility and track heights.

NO CHANGE? If every track contains clips in the selected range, the view remains unchanged. This is not an error.



Main window with Focus Pocus, Fidibus, Autopilot, Page View, Window Configs, and expanded Track Rules.

Installation and first launch

1. Download the DMG from the product page at thesound.ninja.
2. Double-click the DMG and drag the app to the Applications folder.
3. Focus Pocus Fidibus: if required, double-click the included Stream Deck plugin. The Stream Deck app opens automatically to install it.
4. Launch the app from Applications and accept the License Agreement on first launch.
5. Paste the Activation Key from your purchase email and click Activate.

SYSTEM macOS 13 or later, an Apple silicon Mac, and Pro Tools 25.6 or later. A Pro Tools session must be open.

Focus Pocus Fidibus requires Screen Recording and Accessibility permissions, particularly for Window Configuration Transfer.

License, offline use, and updates

- An internet connection is required for activation. Once activated, all product features work offline.
- A temporary license or version-check outage does not block an already activated app.
- Use License... to review the license status and deactivate the current machine.
- Updates are installed manually: download the new DMG and replace the existing app in Applications. Settings are retained.

PERMISSIONS When macOS requests Screen Recording or Accessibility access, grant both permissions. Depending on the system, the affected app may need to be restarted afterwards.

Core functions

Function	What it does
Focus Pocus	Shows only tracks with clips inside the timeline selection or at the current insertion point.
Fidibus	Ends the latest Focus or Page state and restores its previous view.
Autopilot	Follows clips on a Scene Guide Track and focuses automatically when the scene changes.
Pages	Shows freely defined track groups and fits their heights to the Pro Tools window.
Window Configs	Navigates existing Pro Tools Window Configurations and transfers layouts between workstations.
Panic	Ends all Focus, Page, and Autopilot states and restores the complete baseline.

Crossfade Trim

Trim selection by: 2 frames on each side shortens the analyzed range at both boundaries. This prevents clips that enter the boundary only through a transition from unnecessarily triggering a track display. Change the value only when your workflow requires different edge handling.

What the app changes

- track visibility and track height
- the active Window Configuration, depending on the function
- session-specific Focus settings in a dedicated Memory Location

NON-DESTRUCTIVE The core functions do not change audio files, clips, clip positions, automation, or mix data.

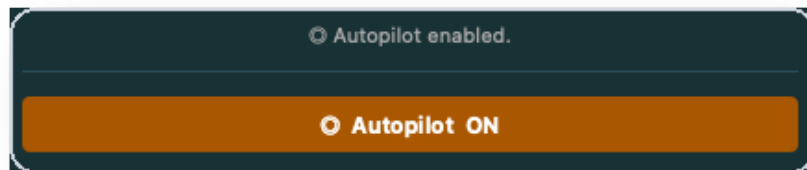
Track Rules and Scene Guide

Open Track Rules to define session exceptions and advanced workflows.

Control	Meaning
Never Hide	Keeps the track visible in Focus views.
Always Hide	Consistently hides the track in the Focus context.
Scene Guide	Marks the track whose clips define scene boundaries for Autopilot.
Refresh	Reloads the current track list and visible session data.
Recalc Scenes	Reloads the Scene Guide Track clips after scene-boundary changes.
Inherit	Loads a Focus configuration from another PTX file or the last matching session.

Set up Autopilot

1. Open Track Rules and mark the track whose clips represent your scenes as Scene Guide.
2. Click Autopilot. The status changes to Autopilot ON.
3. Click a clip on the Scene Guide Track in Pro Tools. Focus updates automatically to that clip's time range.
4. If the guide clips have changed, click Recalc Scenes.
5. Disable Autopilot when you want to return to fully manual operation.



Autopilot ON: clicking a guide clip automatically focuses the corresponding scene.

TIP Never Hide is useful for master, print, or reference tracks that should remain available. Always Hide is intended for tracks that should not appear in Focus views.

Pages: track groups without scrolling

Pages are freely named groups such as DIA, BOOM, LAV, SFX, Foley, or ADR. When a Page is opened, Focus hides unassigned tracks and fits the visible tracks into approximately one Pro Tools window height.

1. Open Track Rules and click + Page.
2. Give the Page a short, recognizable name.
3. Assign the required tracks. A track may belong to multiple Pages.
4. Use the arrows in Page View to move to the previous or next Page.
5. Click x or Fidibus to close the Page view.



Page View shows the Page name and its position within the available Pages.

Guess Folders

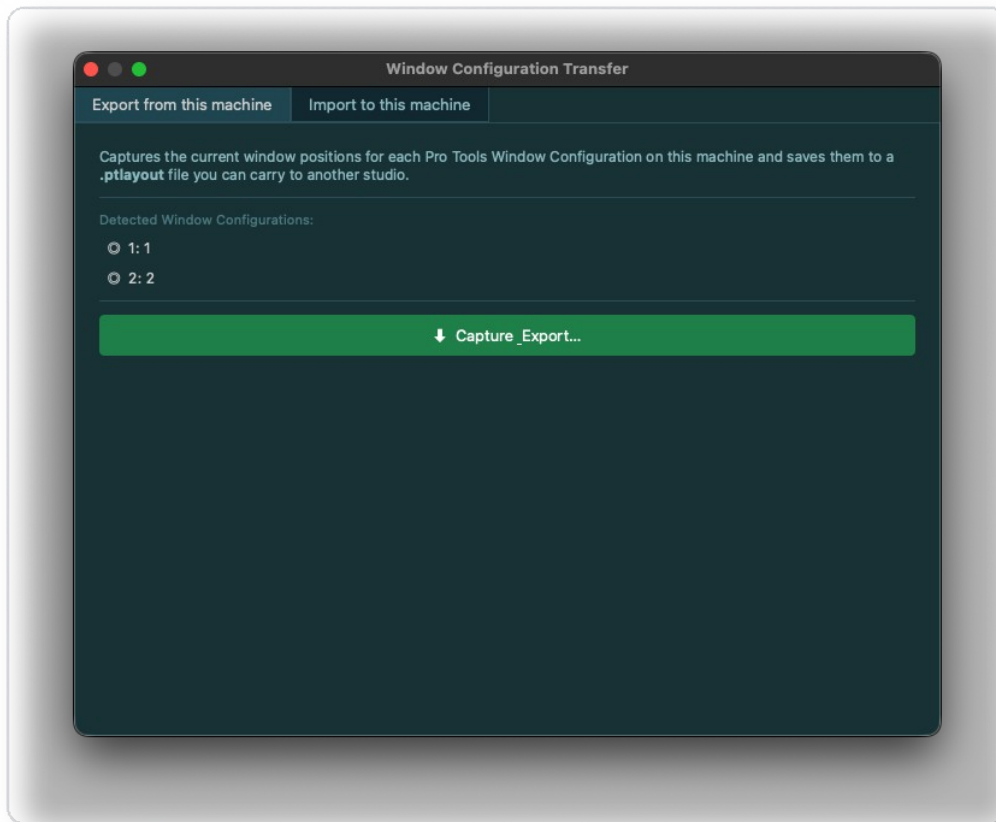
Guess Folders detects Basic Folder Tracks and can derive Pages and track assignments automatically. Review the proposed structure in Track Rules afterwards.

Transfer Window Configurations

Window Configuration Transfer stores the window positions of existing Pro Tools Window Configurations in a .ptlayout file. You can carry the layout to another workstation or mixing stage and map it to the destination monitors.

Export on the source machine

1. Open the transfer tool using the icon in Window Configs.
2. Choose Export from this machine.
3. Review the detected Window Configurations and click Capture & Export....
4. Save the .ptlayout file and move it to the destination machine.

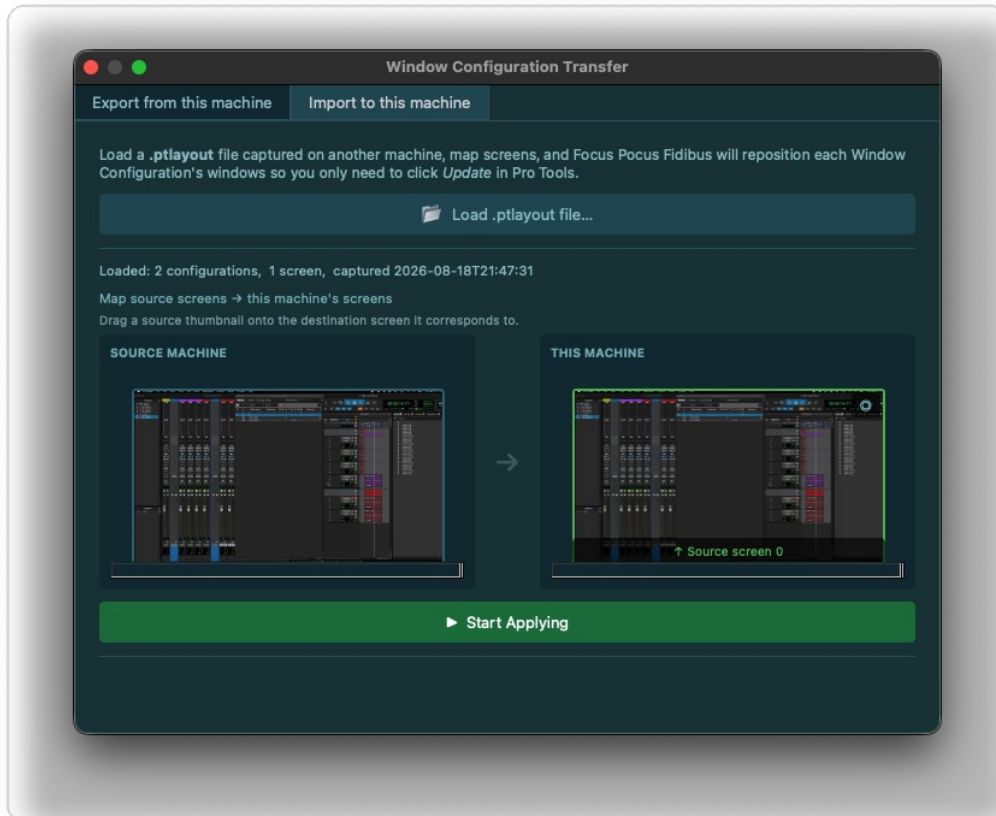


Export captures the window positions of all detected Pro Tools Window Configurations.

Import on the destination machine

1. Open Import to this machine and load the .ptlayout file.

2. Drag each Source Machine monitor preview onto its corresponding monitor under This Machine.
3. Click Start Applying.
4. Focus restores the Window Configurations one at a time. Confirm or update each configuration in Pro Tools until the transfer is complete.



During import, map the source and destination monitors by drag and drop.

Fidibus, Panic, and a safe way back

Fidibus

Fidibus cancels the latest Focus or Page view. If Autopilot remains enabled, its current scene focus may still be active.

Panic

Panic ends all Focus, Page, and Autopilot states and restores the complete baseline. Use Panic whenever you are unsure which view or automation is active.

Situation	Correct action
Undo the latest Focus	Fidibus
Close Page View	x or Fidibus
Stop Autopilot	Disable Autopilot
Reset everything	Panic

BASELINE The Panic baseline is refreshed when all app states have been ended normally and you resume manual work in the standard session view.

If an unusual view still remains, you can also correct Track Visibility and Track Height directly in Pro Tools.

Settings, portability, and Inherit

Session-specific storage

Track Rules, Scene Guide, Pages, and other session settings are stored in a dedicated Pro Tools Memory Location. The configuration therefore travels with the PTX file and can be read on another workstation.

Additional local preferences are stored under ~/Library/Application Support/ and support features including Inherit.

Use Inherit

1. Open a new session based on a familiar template or recurring track structure.
2. Open Track Rules and click Inherit.
3. Choose another PTX file or the last matching session as the source.
4. Review the inherited Never Hide, Always Hide, Scene Guide, Page, and Crossfade Trim settings.

MADE FOR TEMPLATES Inherit avoids repeating the same setup in sessions with identical or very similar track names and structures.

Typical performance

A Focus Pocus operation normally completes in less than ten seconds, even in a large production-scale session. No fixed guarantee is made for theoretical extreme session sizes.

What Focus is not designed to do

- Focus does not edit, move, or delete clips or audio files.
- The app does not change automation or mix parameters.
- It does not replace session backups or deliberate session organization.
- Focus extends Pro Tools show/hide with Autopilot, Pages, Track Rules, automatic track heights, portable session settings, Stream Deck, Panic, and Window Configuration Transfer.
- A closed or unsupported Pro Tools session cannot be processed.

Troubleshooting and support

Issue	Check first
Waiting for Pro Tools	Launch Pro Tools and open a session. The connection is restored automatically.
Process cancelled	Restart the full process; there is no resume function.
Activation fails	Check the internet connection, Activation Key, and existing device activations.
No visible change	All tracks may contain clips. Check the selection, insertion point, and Track Rules.
Unexpected view	Exit the last view with Fidibus; use Panic for a complete restore.

Send diagnostics

Both apps create diagnostics.log. In the app menu, choose Show Diagnostics Log in Finder or Copy Diagnostics to Clipboard.

- Describe the reproduction steps, expected and actual behavior, app, macOS, and Pro Tools versions, and the Mac model.
- Attach the exact error text or a screenshot and diagnostics.log when possible. Anonymize confidential details; send sessions or audio files only after consulting support.

Support: support@thesound.ninja

Privacy, uninstall, and links

Privacy

The apps do not upload audio, session content, or file names. Internet connections are used only for license actions, license validation, and version checks. There is no telemetry and no automatic crash reporting.

Complete uninstall

Move the app from Applications to the Trash and, if required, delete its folder under ~/Library/Application Support/. Session-specific Focus settings stored in existing PTX files are not removed.

Useful links

Product and download: thesound.ninja/focus-pocus-fidibus.html

License management: thesound.ninja/manage-license.html

Lost license key: [Lemon Squeezy - My Orders](#)

The License Agreement, Privacy Policy, version number, and third-party licenses are available in the app's About view.