



79SIGNAL PLAYER

USER MANUAL

Professional cue-based audio playback for macOS

Version 1.1 | September 2026

CueLabs

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A practical reference for preparing and running live cue-based shows.

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About 79Signal Player

79Signal Player is a focused audio playback system for theatre, concerts, dance, broadcast, events and other live productions. It keeps the operator's cue list, timing, waveform, transport, routing and notes in one workspace. Cue edits are non-destructive: your original audio files are never changed.

IMPORTANT 79Signal Player stores references to the audio files used by a show. Keep the show file and its source audio together when moving a production to another Mac, then use Relink Audio Files if paths change.

System requirements

- macOS 13.0 or later.
- Apple silicon or Intel Mac (79Signal Player is a Universal application).
- Built-in audio output or a Core Audio compatible interface.
- A local network connection only when using two-Mac redundancy.

Supported playback formats include WAV, AIFF, CAF, MP3, AAC, M4A and FLAC.

VERSION 1.1

What is new

New preparation tools for stereo material and synchronized two-cue playback.

Feature	What changed
Stereo waveforms	The main workspace presents stereo detail, while the Waveform Editor separates left and right channels for clearer inspection.
Phase analysis	A progress-based scan marks stable areas in green and increasingly problematic regions in stronger red.
Phase correction	Compare Original and Phase Correct in stereo or with Mono Check, then save the preferred correction for normal playback.
Linked cue pairs	Join two adjacent cues for sample-aligned starts, paired transport, MAIN/BUS1 routing and a shared two-waveform overview.
Notes size	The separate Notes window now provides A- and A+ controls from 12 to 32 pt without changing the note text.
Keyboard focus	Space remains a transport shortcut in the main workspace but no longer starts a list cue while typing notes or working in the editor.

Compatibility note: Track linking, phase analysis, phase correction, Mono Check and L/R polarity controls are available in Standalone mode only. Master/Slave redundancy remains available for ordinary, unlinked cues without phase processing.

FIVE-MINUTE SETUP

1. Getting started

Build a small show, choose an output and run a preflight check.

1. Open 79Signal Player and click Add Cue to select one or more supported audio files. Use Add Folder to import every supported audio file from a folder.
2. Click a cue in the list. Confirm that its waveform, elapsed time, remaining time and transport controls appear on the right.
3. Click Output and select the intended audio device. For a live show, pin a specific device instead of relying on System Default.
4. Press Space or click GO to start the selected cue. Press Space again to perform the cue's assigned Pause or Fade action.
5. Set A/B points, fades, volume, Loop, Auto Follow, BUS1 routing and notes as required.
6. Choose File > Save, then click Preflight and resolve any critical issue before entering Show Mode.

OPERATOR TIP Keep Show Tooltips enabled while learning 79Signal Player. Choose Show > Show Tooltips to turn them on or off.

How selection works

- Click a cue to select it; use Up Arrow and Down Arrow to move through the cue list.
- Shift-click or Shift+Arrow selects a range; Command-click toggles individual cues.
- While editing is unlocked, Delete removes the selection and dragging reorders cues.

INTERFACE TOUR

2. Main workspace

The editing view keeps preparation and live controls visible together.

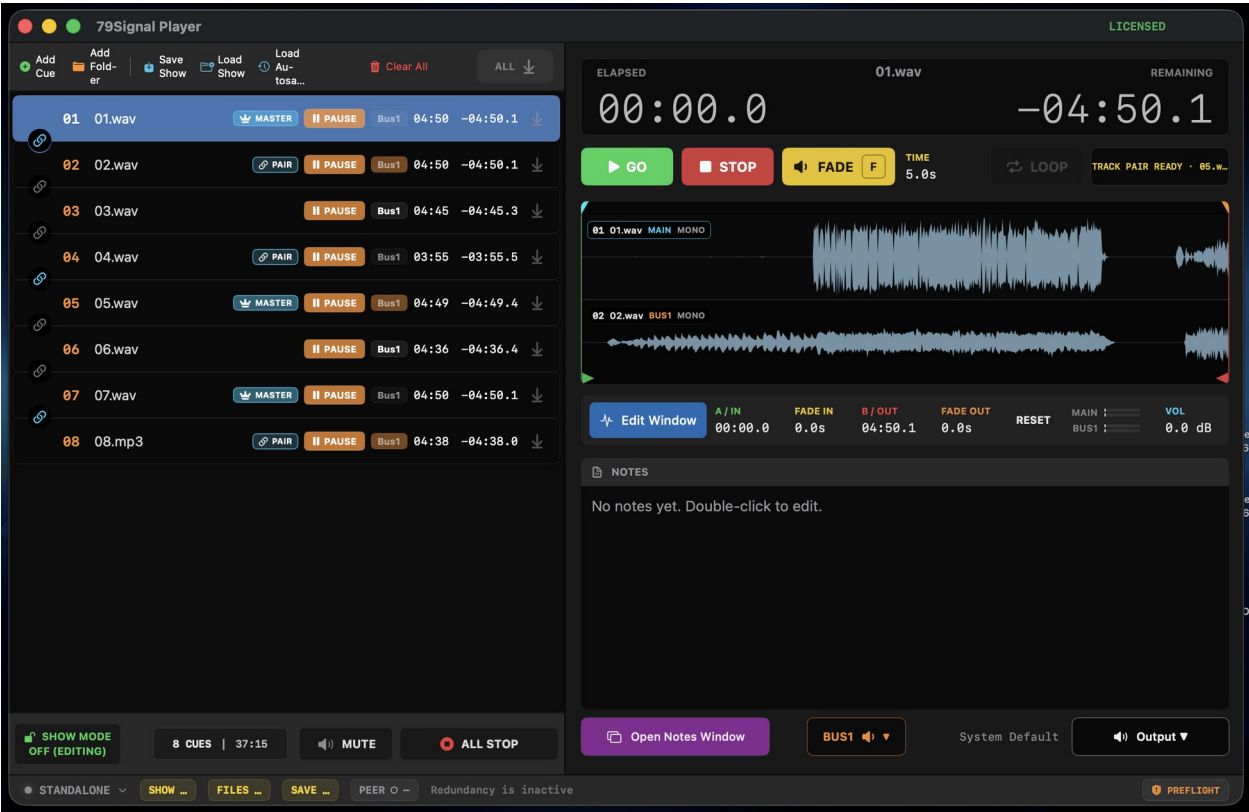


Figure 1. 79Signal Player main window with linked cues loaded.

Area	Purpose
Cue list	Ordered cues, per-cue Space action, BUS1 assignment, duration, remaining time and Auto Follow.
Counters	Large elapsed and remaining-time displays for the selected cue.
Transport	GO, STOP, manual FADE, Loop and status feedback.
Waveform and edit strip	Stereo playback overview, A/B limits, fade lengths, level meters, volume and editor access.
Notes	Per-cue operator notes plus a detachable window with 12-32 pt font-size controls.
Show controls	Show Mode, global Mute, All Stop, output routing and BUS1.
Status bar	Standalone/Master/Slave role, peer checks and Preflight.

PREPARATION

3. Building and managing a show

Add cues

Add Cue imports one or more files in the order selected. Add Folder scans the selected folder for supported audio files and adds the accepted files as cues. The free edition accepts up to eight cues.

- 79Signal Player rejects unreadable or unsupported files without changing the current show.
- A cue initially uses the source filename as its name.
- The first imported cue becomes selected automatically.
- New and changed cues are included in the recovery autosave after a short delay.

Save, load and recent shows

Command	Result
Save	Updates the current .qplayershow file. Shortcut: Command-S.
Save As	Writes the show under a new name or location. Shortcut: Shift-Command-S.
Load Show	Opens a saved 79Signal Player show. Shortcut: Command-L.
Recent Shows	Opens a recently saved or loaded show from the File menu.
Load Autosave	Restores the latest recovery snapshot when available.
Clear All	Stops playback and clears the current workspace and its autosave snapshot.

FILE FORMAT A 79Signal Player show stores cue order and settings, including file paths, timing, fades, volume, notes, routing, loop state, Auto Follow, mute regions, linked pairs, polarity and saved phase correction. It does not embed or copy the source audio.

Missing audio and relinking

1. Load the show. Missing cues remain in the list and are not deleted.
2. Choose File > Relink Audio Files, or use the Relink button offered by the warning or Preflight report.
3. Select a folder containing the missing files. 79Signal Player also searches its subfolders.
4. Run Preflight again and confirm that all cue files are available.

LIVE TRANSPORT

4. Running cues

Control	What it does
GO / Space	Starts the selected cue. While it is playing, Space performs the cue's assigned Pause or Fade action.
STOP	Stops the selected cue immediately and returns it to its A point.
FADE / F	Applies the selected cue's manual fade time, then advances selection when the fade completes.
TIME	Sets the manual fade duration from 0.1 to 30 seconds.
LOOP	Repeats the selected cue continuously between its active A/B limits.
ALL STOP	Immediately stops all 79Signal Player playback. Shortcut: Command-period.
MUTE	Mutes or unmutes all 79Signal Player output without changing cue settings.

Pause or Fade on Space

Each cue row contains a PAUSE or FADE button. Click it to choose what Space does after that cue has started. PAUSE keeps the current position so playback can resume. FADE uses the manual fade duration and then advances selection.

Auto Follow

The arrow-at-end control on each row enables Auto Follow. When the cue reaches its B point, 79Signal Player selects the next cue. If Auto Follow is enabled, the next cue starts automatically; otherwise 79Signal Player advances selection and waits. Use ALL above the cue list to switch Auto Follow for every cue at once.

SHOW DISCIPLINE Use one deliberate GO action for every intended transition unless Auto Follow has been rehearsed. Keep the next cue selected and read the status message before firing it.

Elapsed and remaining time

Elapsed time is measured from the active A point. Remaining time counts down to B and excludes configured mute regions. The cue list also displays each cue's playable duration and remaining time.

SYNCHRONIZED PLAYBACK

Linked two-cue playback

Join two neighboring cues for one sample-aligned transport action.

Use the chain control between two adjacent cue rows to link them. 79Signal Player starts, pauses, seeks, fades and stops the pair together. The upper cue is routed to MAIN and the lower cue to BUS1; unlinking returns both cues to MAIN.

- Only neighboring cues can form a pair, and a cue can belong to one pair at a time.
- The longer playable cue becomes the pair Master and runs to its own B point; if lengths are equal, the upper cue is Master.
- The pair moves together when reordered and both waveforms appear in the main overview.
- Loop is disabled for linked pairs. Stop both tracks before linking or unlinking them.

NON-DESTRUCTIVE EDITING

5. Editing a cue

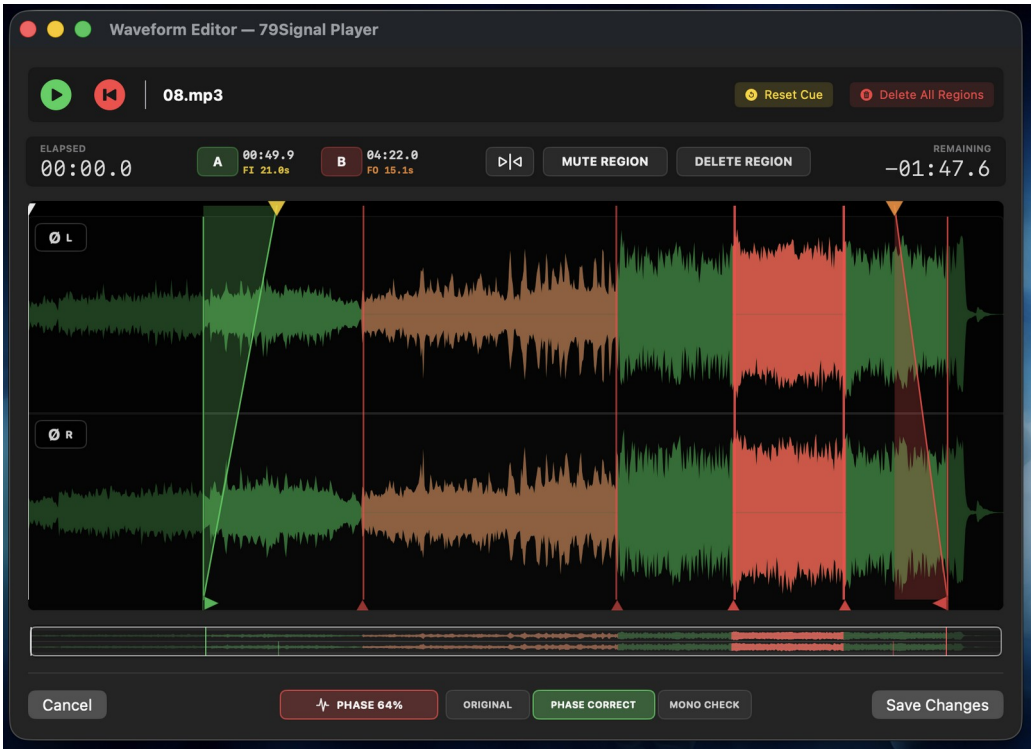


Figure 2. Waveform Editor for precise cue preparation.

Setting	Use
A / IN	Sets the start of the playable cue. The green marker represents the cue start.
B / OUT	Sets the end of the playable cue. The red marker represents the cue end.
Fade In / Out	Fades the cue up after A or down before B without altering the source file.
Mute Region	Skips a selected interval while preserving timing before and after the region.
Stereo display	Shows left and right waveforms separately, with channel-specific L and R polarity controls.
Phase tools	Analyzes stereo correlation, displays green-to-red severity and prepares an auditionable correction.
Level and notes	Applies a per-cue level adjustment and stores operator information with the show.

Waveform workflow

1. Select a cue and click Edit Window.
2. Move the playhead, then click A or B to place the active boundary. Adjust fade lengths as required.
3. To skip an interval, choose Mute Region and drag across the waveform. Select a region and use Delete Region to remove it.

4. Audition the result with the Play button and use the follow-playhead control when navigating long files.
5. Click Save Changes to keep the edit, or Cancel to restore the cue state from before the editor opened.

RESET Reset Cue restores A/B markers and fade settings to their defaults. Delete All Regions removes every mute region. These actions affect only the 79Signal Player cue definition, never the source audio file.

Analyze and correct stereo phase

1. Open a stereo cue in the Waveform Editor and stop playback before starting the scan.
2. Click Phase Analysis. The progress fills on the button while 79Signal Player examines the complete file.
3. Review the waveform overlay: green indicates positive correlation; deeper red indicates a stronger phase problem.
4. Choose Original or Phase Correct and use Mono Check on either version to compare mono compatibility. The L and R polarity buttons provide a quick channel-specific polarity test when required.
5. Choose the preferred version and click Save Changes. The saved Phase Correct choice is then used during normal playback; closing with an unsaved choice produces a warning.

Standalone only: Phase analysis, Phase Correct audition, Mono Check, L/R polarity changes and track linking are disabled while MASTER or SLAVE is selected. Existing saved values remain in the show and become editable again after returning to STANDALONE.

AUDIO OUTPUT

6. MAIN and BUS1 routing

MAIN output

Click Output to choose the primary audio device. System Default follows macOS; a pinned device is safer for performance because 79Signal Player can detect its loss and stop rather than falling back silently to another output.

BUS1 output

BUS1 is an independent secondary stereo destination. Choose a device and stereo channel pair from the BUS1 menu, then enable Bus1 on the cues that should use it. Use Test BUS1 to verify the selected pair before rehearsal.

Check	Expected result
Output device	The intended interface is selected and available.
MAIN meter	Signal is visible when a MAIN cue plays.
BUS1 pair	The correct stereo pair is selected; Test BUS1 reaches only that destination.
Per-cue Bus1	Only cues intended for BUS1 show the Bus1 assignment.
XRUN	The overload counter remains at zero during rehearsal.
Master and cue level	No clipping; enough headroom remains for the output system.

DEVICE CHANGES If an audio device is disconnected or its channel layout changes, stop the show, reconnect it, reselect MAIN and BUS1 as needed, run Test BUS1, and repeat Preflight.

Level controls

- The per-cue volume changes only the selected cue.
- MASTER changes 79Signal Player's overall output level.
- MUTE silences 79Signal Player globally; it does not stop or rewind cues.
- Use the external interface or mixing console for system gain structure and final PA level.

SHOW SAFETY

7. Preflight and Show Mode

Run Preflight before every performance

Preflight checks the current show and reports passed items, warnings and critical issues.

Preflight item	What 79Signal Player verifies
Audio Files	Every cue's source file is available.
Main Output	The pinned MAIN device is present, or warns that System Default is active.
BUS1 Output	A valid BUS1 pair exists whenever any cue uses BUS1.
Redundancy	Peer connection and show/file/save matches when Master or Slave is selected.
Standalone-only features	Warns when the show contains linked pairs or saved phase/polarity processing that cannot be used in Master/Slave mode.
Full Unlock	The current App Store entitlement and cue limit state.
Autosave	A recovery snapshot exists for the current workspace.

Enter Show Mode

1. Save the show and run Preflight.
2. Resolve every critical issue. Review warnings and decide whether they are acceptable for this production.
3. Click SHOW MODE or press Shift-Command-M.
4. Confirm that the interface reads SHOW MODE ACTIVE (LOCKED). Editing controls are disabled while transport, Mute and All Stop remain available.
5. After the performance, press Shift-Command-M again to return to editing mode.

SYSTEM ALERTS Show Mode temporarily suppresses the macOS alert sound and restores the previous alert volume when you leave Show Mode. Always verify that other applications and notifications cannot interrupt the performance.

CRITICAL OVERRIDE Enter Anyway is for exceptional cases; it does not make missing audio, an unsafe output or incomplete redundancy safe.

ADVANCED WORKFLOW

8. Two-Mac redundancy

79Signal Player can pair a primary Mac with a backup Mac on the same local network. The Master sends transport and cue-state changes; the Slave follows and becomes available for Take Over if the connection is lost. Audio files remain local to each Mac and are not transferred through CueLabs.

Prepare both Macs

1. Install the same 79Signal Player version on both Macs and connect them to the same reliable local network.
2. Place the same show and matching audio files on both Macs. Keep filenames and cue order identical.
3. Open the show on both Macs and configure equivalent MAIN and BUS1 outputs for each machine's audio hardware.
4. Choose MASTER on the primary Mac and SLAVE on the backup Mac.
5. Wait until PEER shows READY and SHOW, FILES and SAVE all show a green match.
6. Run Preflight on both Macs and rehearse GO, Pause/Fade, Stop, All Stop, seeking, editing sync and Show Mode sync.

Status	Meaning
STANDALONE	Redundancy is disabled for this Mac.
MASTER	This Mac is the primary operator system.
SLAVE	This Mac follows the paired Master and stands by for Take Over.
SHOW / FILES / SAVE	Comparison badges for show structure, source-file set and saved state.
PEER READY	The pair is connected and validation is ready.
TAKE OVER	Available on the backup after connection loss; activates local control.

NETWORK PRACTICE Do not wait for show day to test Take Over. Rehearse cable or network loss, confirm the backup audio path, and agree on who calls and performs the takeover.

Version 1.1 limitation: Linked cue playback and phase/polarity processing are not available in MASTER or SLAVE mode. 79Signal Player displays PHASE + LINK - STANDALONE ONLY in the status bar and reports affected saved cues in Preflight.

APP STORE ENTITLEMENT

9. Free edition and Full Unlock

The free edition includes the complete 79Signal Player workflow for shows containing up to eight cues. 79Signal Player Full Unlock is a one-time, non-consumable in-app purchase that removes the cue limit. It is not a subscription.

Purchase or restore

1. Click FREE - 8 CUE LIMIT in the title bar, or choose 79Signal Player > 79Signal Player Full Unlock.
2. Choose Unlock Permanently and complete the App Store purchase with your Apple Account.
3. On another Mac or after reinstalling, open the same window and choose Restore Purchases while signed in to the same App Store account.
4. Confirm that the title bar reads FULL VERSION and About 79Signal Player shows Full Unlock Active with an unlimited cue count.

EXISTING SHOWS If a show exceeds the free cue limit, 79Signal Player preserves the full cue list but locks playback and editing until Full Unlock is purchased or restored. The unchanged show can still be saved, another show can be opened, or the workspace can be cleared.

Store troubleshooting

- Verify internet access and that the App Store is signed in with the account used for purchase.
- Click Restore Purchases; do not purchase again merely to restore an entitlement.
- Quit and reopen 79Signal Player after the App Store confirms the transaction.
- If the product cannot be loaded, use Retry App Store and check Apple's service status.

QUICK REFERENCE

10. Keyboard shortcuts

Shortcut	Action	Shortcut	Action
Space	GO / Pause or Fade.	Command-S	Save.
F	Manual fade.	Shift-Command-S	Save As.
Up / Down	Previous or next cue.	Command-L	Load Show.
Shift-Up / Down	Extend selection.	Shift-Command-M	Toggle Show Mode.
Delete	Delete selected cues.	Command-period	All Stop.
Command-O	Add Cue.	Option-Command-U	Full Unlock.
Shift-Command-O	Add Folder.	Command-0	Main window.

Troubleshooting

Symptom	Recommended action
No audio	Confirm the selected cue, output device, Master/cue levels and global Mute. Test the interface outside 79Signal Player if needed.
Pinned output unavailable	Reconnect and power the interface, then select it again. Never assume 79Signal Player will fall back to another device.
BUS1 silent	Select a valid BUS1 stereo pair, run Test BUS1, and confirm the cue's Bus1 button is enabled.
Cue file missing	Use Relink Audio Files and select the folder containing the matching source files.
Cannot edit	Exit Show Mode. If the show exceeds eight cues in free mode, restore or purchase Full Unlock.
Space does not start playback	When the Notes window or Waveform Editor has keyboard focus, Space belongs to that window. Return focus to the main workspace for transport control.
Phase controls unavailable	Return the redundancy role to STANDALONE. Phase and polarity tools are intentionally disabled in MASTER and SLAVE modes.
Pair will not link	Use two adjacent stopped cues in STANDALONE editing mode. A cue that already belongs to another pair must be unlinked first.
Redundancy mismatch	Confirm identical cue order, filenames and saved show state on both Macs, then reconnect the roles.
XRUN increases	Close heavy applications, reduce system load, verify the audio interface and rehearse again before showtime.

BEFORE DOORS OPEN

11. Performance checklist

- The final show is saved and an autosave snapshot is available.
- Every audio file is present and readable.
- MAIN is pinned to the intended output device.
- BUS1 is either unused or assigned to the correct tested stereo pair.
- Cue order, A/B points, fades, mute regions, levels, notes, Loop, Space action, Auto Follow and any linked pair are rehearsed.
- Every saved phase correction or polarity change has been compared in stereo and mono, then saved deliberately.
- The Master/Slave pair is READY with SHOW, FILES and SAVE matched, or Standalone mode is intentionally accepted.
- If redundancy is used, the show contains no linked pair or phase/polarity processing that is required during playback.
- Preflight has no unresolved critical issue.
- System notifications, sleep, screen savers and unrelated applications cannot interrupt the show.
- The operator knows Mute, All Stop and the backup/takeover procedure.
- Show Mode is active and the first cue is selected at its A point.

FINAL CHECK Read the first cue name, confirm the output destination, verify the selected cue and status line, then wait for the show call. Do not fire GO from assumption.

Support

For the latest 79Signal Player information, downloads and support resources:

Website: cuelabs.studio/qplayer.html

Support: cuelabs.studio/support.html

Email: info@cuelabs.studio

Legal and privacy notes

79Signal Player accesses only audio and show files selected by the user. The user is responsible for having the rights and permissions needed to use that material. StoreKit handles the optional Full Unlock purchase. Two-Mac redundancy uses the local network; audio and show data are not sent to CueLabs.

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