BEHIND THE SPEAKERS

Auto-Tune Cheatsheet

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*While these settings will usually lead you in the right direction, I encourage you to experiment and come up with your own choices.

Input Type: Set to the appropriate choice for the track you're tuning. If you need help figuring out what the range of your voice is, <u>watch this video</u>. When in doubt, choose "Alto/Tenor" for vocals and "Instrument" for instruments.

Tracking: Leave as is.

Key and Scale: Set to the key and scale of the song you're working on. To learn how to determine the key and scale of your song, <u>watch this video</u>.

Transpose, Throat Length: Leave as is.

Formant: Turn on.

Click the "Options" button to open the settings panel. Set **"Default Retune Speed for Note Objects"** to:

- <u>25 - 40</u> for the most transparent, natural sound. Great for general-purpose tuning, where you don't want to hear any tuning artifacts.

- <u>10 - 20</u> for a stylized tuning effect that you can hear (works well with pop music, where you want a tight, hyperreal sound)

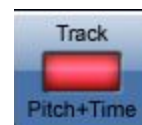- <u>0 - 5</u> for an aggressive, T-Pain style tuning effect
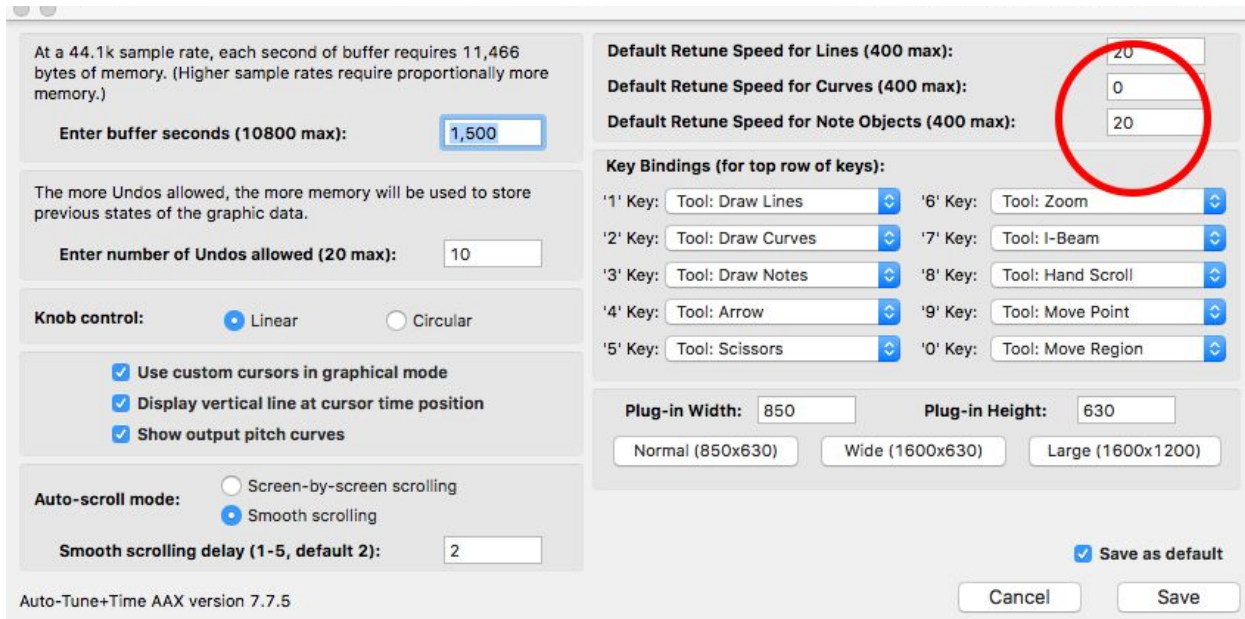
Click the "Graph" button under "Correction Mode" to switch to **Graphical Mode**. This is the preferred mode for tuning. It will give you the highest degree of control over the way Auto-Tune works.

Make sure **"Snap to Note"** is turned off.

Click the **"Track Pitch + Time"** button at the bottom of the screen.

Play the song from start to finish and let Auto-Tune track the pitch of the entire performance.

After Auto-Tune has tracked the pitch of the performance, click the **"Make Notes"** button. Adjust the **"Number Of Note Objects"** control until you see boxes over the majority of notes within the performance.

Go through the song phrase by phrase, as shown in my video, and tweak the tuning as needed.

For best results:

- ALWAYS listen to the track you're tuning IN CONTEXT with the rest of the tracks in your mix. NEVER solo a vocal or instrument and make tuning decisions.

- If the tuning starts to sound too digital or aggressive, turn up the **"Retune Speed"** control. This will give you a more transparent, natural sound.

- Take frequent breaks while tuning. It's easy to lose perspective and end up going down the wrong road.

- Tuning is not about making everything perfect. Even the best performances have imperfections, and the art of tuning is in knowing when to fix and when to leave it alone.

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