

**PlayMate Vocalist****Product Description**

The Alesis PlayMate Vocalist is a powerful vocal performance tool that lets you remove vocals from any CD, independently adjust both pitch and tempo, and sing along with high-quality ambient effects.

The PlayMate Vocalist's sleek design includes an internal CD player. In addition to removing vocals from any CD, the key of the music can be changed without affecting the tempo, and the tempo can be changed without affecting the key. This allows any vocalist to always sing a song in their optimal range, and to adjust the tempo and pitch for practice or mood purposes.

The PlayMate Vocalist also includes a powerful effects processor with 32 presets for adding the perfect ambiance to any vocal performance. The Playmate Vocalist has one microphone input, two headphone outputs, and balanced line outputs.

**Positioning**

The ultimate performance and practice tool for all vocalists

**Applications**

- Vocal performance
- Singing practice
- Music education
- Karaoke Applications

**Key Features and Benefits**

- 1) Remove vocals from any CD
  - CD player built in
  - Sing to all your favorite music that you already own
  - Never buy a specialty karaoke CD again
- 2) Adjust the pitch of the music without affecting tempo
  - Transpose music +/-7 semitones (or half-steps)
  - Sing in key that is optimal for your range
  - Practice singing in different keys
- 3) Adjust the tempo of the music without affecting pitch
  - Adjust the tempo of the music from 50% to 150%
  - Practice singing in different tempos
  - Change the mood of the music
- 4) 32 high-quality DSP algorithms built in
  - Add reverb to your vocals to match the ambiance of the music
  - Try different vocal effects
- 5) Flexible connectivity
  - One microphone input
  - Two headphone outputs
  - Balanced line outputs

## PlayMate Vocalist

### FAQs

**What is it?** The Alesis PlayMate Vocalist is a CD player that allows the user independent control of the key, pitch and tempo of any song on any CD. In addition, it has a vocal reduction feature that allows the user to reduce the lead vocal on almost any CD (depending on how the CD was recorded).

**How can a CD player remove vocals from any song on any CD?** By reversing the phase between the left and right channels and adding a complicated DSP equation, the center channel (where most lead vocals reside) is greatly reduced audibly.

**On some songs, the vocals reduce 100% and on other songs the vocals only reduce a little or not at all. Why is this?** The varied results of the vocal reduction feature of the PlayMate Vocalist is totally dependent upon how the CD you are playing was recorded. CDs where the lead vocal is recorded in the center channel, usually have the greatest results. CDs where the lead vocal is NOT in the center channel have less effective results.

**Why are there three different vocal reduction features on the PlayMate?** Just as all CD's are recorded differently, the PlayMate Vocalist has 3 different vocal reduction algorithms to allow the user to try the program that works best with their CD. Each program has a different DSP algorithm and phase cancellation program that allows the user different choices when experimenting with different recorded CDs. We recommend that the user try each of the three vocal reduction programs to see which one works best with their specific CD.

**When the vocals are removed, why I do still hear some of the lead vocals in the background?** What you are probably hearing is the studio processing which is done to many vocal parts, and recorded directly to the CD. The PlayMate Vocalist will remove the lead vocal in the center channel, but not processed vocal parts that are mixed in the stereo field. These parts are often background vocal parts and/or reverb, which most users would prefer not to remove.

**Why does the music sound strange when I activate the vocal reduction feature?** This is what music often sounds like when you phase reverse the left and right channels. Once again, depending on how the song was recorded, the user will get different results when activating the vocal reduction feature. The PlayMate Vocalist is designed to sing along with. Therefore, when a singer sings along with the PlayMate, most listeners don't notice that there has been a change in the music quality because they are listening to the new singer's voice.

**What applications are good for the PlayMate Vocalist?** The PlayMate Vocalist is an ideal vocal teaching assist tool. Traditionally, vocal teachers would have to transpose sheet music on the spot in order to allow their students to sing in the key that was best for the student. The problem is, most people cannot transpose sheet music on the spot. The PlayMate Vocalist allows music students to instantly transpose and sing along with their own CDs in any key and at any speed.

**How much can you pitch up and down a song on the PlayMate Vocalist?** You can adjust any song up or down by 7 semitones (or half steps). In addition, there is plus or minus 8% fine adjust pitch feature on the PlayMate Vocalist.

**What other applications can I use the PlayMate Vocalist for?** The PlayMate Vocalist can be used in any of the following applications: Karaoke performances, recording of demo songs, family or group sing-alongs, church performances, "American Idol" type contests, etc.

**What is the Alesis Vocal Zapper?** The Vocal Zapper works on the same principle of the PlayMate Vocalist, but does not include a CD Player. The Vocal Zapper has 16 different vocal reduction programs allowing the user a variety of choices when experimenting with different CD's. The Vocal Zapper is contained in an ultra small, rack mountable package. More information on the Alesis Vocal Zapper can be found at:

[www.alesis.com/products/VocalZapper/about.html](http://www.alesis.com/products/VocalZapper/about.html)