

# Doepfer — A-119

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## Doepfer A-119 Ext. Input / Envelope Follower

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### Cheat Sheet

*The Doepfer A-119 is for integrating external audio (instruments, mics, etc.) into your modular, providing pre-amped audio, an envelope follower, and a gate comparator.*

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### Inputs

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Jack Label	Type	Details
<b>Asym. In (!)</b> (3.5mm)	Unbalanced (mono)	For line-level signals (e.g., synths, drum machines). [Gain x0–20]
<b>Symm. In (")</b> (6.3mm)	Balanced (TRS)	For mic/instrument-level signals (e.g., guitar, microphone). [Gain x0–500]

**Note:** Only use one input at a time. If both are used, mixed with a 1:25 ratio.

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## Outputs

Jack Label	Type	Voltage Range	Details
<b>Audio Out (\$/\$)</b>	Unbalanced audio	up to $\pm 10V^*$	Pre-amped signal (2 linked outputs, “mini-mult”).
<b>Envelope Out (%)</b>	CV (envelope)	0–~8V (typical max output)	Follows amplitude contour of input.
<b>Gate Out (&amp;)</b>	Gate	0V (off), +12V (on)	High when envelope > threshold.

\* **Audio Out Overload:** Outputs can clip with input gain set too high; watch Overload LED.

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## Controls, Buttons, Indicators

Label	Type	Range / Purpose
<b>Gain (1)</b>	Knob	Sets input preamp gain (see ranges above)
<b>Thres. (5)</b>	Knob	Sets gate threshold (relative to envelope out)
<b>Overload LED (2)</b>	LED	Lights if preamp output >10V (audio clipping)
<b>Envelope LED (3)</b>	LED	Indicates current envelope level
<b>Gate LED (4)</b>	LED	Indicates gate output status (= high)

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## Quick Patching Examples

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- **Bring in External Audio:**
    - Plug audio into **Asym. In** or **Symm. In**
    - Set **Gain** so Overload LED barely lights on peaks
    - Take pre-amped signal from **Audio Out (\$/\$)**
  - **Envelope Following (e.g. for VCF/VCA's):**
    - Use **Envelope Out (%)** for a dynamic CV
  - **External Gate Source (e.g. for ADSRs):**
    - Use **Gate Out (&)** when envelope passes threshold
  - **Typical Gate Output Threshold:**
    - Adjust with **Thres.** until desired triggering
  - **Tip:** If Envelope Out (%) is "noisy" with low-frequency inputs (<50 Hz), route through a slew limiter like A-170.
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## Voltage Ranges

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Output	Range
Audio Out	up to $\pm 10\text{V}$ (clipping past 10V)
Envelope Out	0–~8V (typical)
Gate Out	0V (low), +12V (high)

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## Additional Notes

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- **Use only one input at a time.**
- **Overload LED:** Avoid sustained overload for clean audio.

- **Envelope Out** is a full-wave rectified, low-passed envelope of audio input.
  - **Gate Out** is held HIGH as long as the envelope stays above threshold.
  - **Two preamp outputs for easy splitting (“mini-mult”).**
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**Reference:**

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