

Doepfer – A-121-3

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[Doepfer A-121-3 12dB Multimode Filter Slim Line Series Manual](#)

Doepfer A-121-3 Cheat Sheet

Type: Voltage-controlled multi-mode filter

HP: 4

Depth: 50mm

Current Draw: +40mA (+12V) / -30mA (-12V)

Price: ~€110

Cutoff Slope: -12dB/octave

Freq. Range: ~10Hz–20kHz

Features: Simultaneous LP, HP, BP, Notch outputs

Inputs, Outputs, & Controls

Inputs

Jack	Function	Voltage Range / Notes
In	Audio signal input	Adjustable with Level knob
CV1	Filter cutoff control (1V/Oct)	~0–8V, no attenuator
CV2	Filter cutoff modulation	~0–8V, has dedicated attenuator (FCV2)

Jack	Function	Voltage Range / Notes
CQ	Resonance (Q) control voltage	0–8V, no attenuator

Outputs

Jack	Output Type	Notes
LP	Low-pass filtered output	
HP	High-pass filtered output	
BP	Band-pass filtered output	
N	Notch/Bandsperre filtered output	

Knobs / Controls

Label	Function	Notes
Frequ.	Manual cutoff frequency	Sweeps filter freq. from 10Hz–20kHz
Q	Resonance (manual)	Full CW will self-oscillate (sine out)
FCV2	CV2 attenuator (modulation depth)	Ranges from 0 to full incoming voltage
Level	Audio input gain/attenuator	Start seeing distortion/clipping >5

Quick Reference

- Use **In** for your audio source & adjust **Level** for input gain (beware distortion beyond position 5).
- **Frequ.** sets the base cutoff frequency; **CV1** (1V/oct) and **CV2** (variable depth via **FCV2**) control cutoff via CV.
- Patch an envelope, sequencer, or LFO to **CV1/CV2** for animation.
- Patch a CV source to **CQ** for voltage control over resonance (**no attenuator** here).
- **Q** knob manually sets resonance—self-oscillation possible when fully clockwise.
- Simultaneous outputs: LP (Low-pass), HP (High-pass), BP (Band-pass), N (Notch).
- Perfect for compact cases (4HP), similar in sound/function to A-121-2 but smaller (no CQ attenuator).

Voltage Ranges

- **Cutoff frequency CVs (CV1, CV2):** expect standard modular levels (usually 0–8V), 1V/Oct on CV1.
- **Resonance CV (CQ):** 0–8V recommended.
- **Output audio:** Standard modular levels (typically ±5V peak-to-peak).
- **Input audio:** Standard modular levels (adjust with **Level**).

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