

Volume Pro

User Manual

Application version 1.0.0.0

Volume Pro – User Manual

Version: *shown in the manual header and About window*

Platforms: Windows 10/11 (x64)

1. Overview

Volume Pro batch-normalizes **audio and video** files to a target loudness level (**LUFS** — Loudness Units relative to Full Scale). Use it when files from different sources play at very different volumes.

You can:

- Add files or whole folders (with optional subfolders).
- Choose target **LUFS**, output **audio/video formats**, and whether to **replace originals** or keep a suffixed copy.
- **Analyze** a file before normalizing to see its current loudness.
- **Preview** media with built-in playback controls.
- Open this manual from **Help** on the main window or **About** → **Open User Manual**.

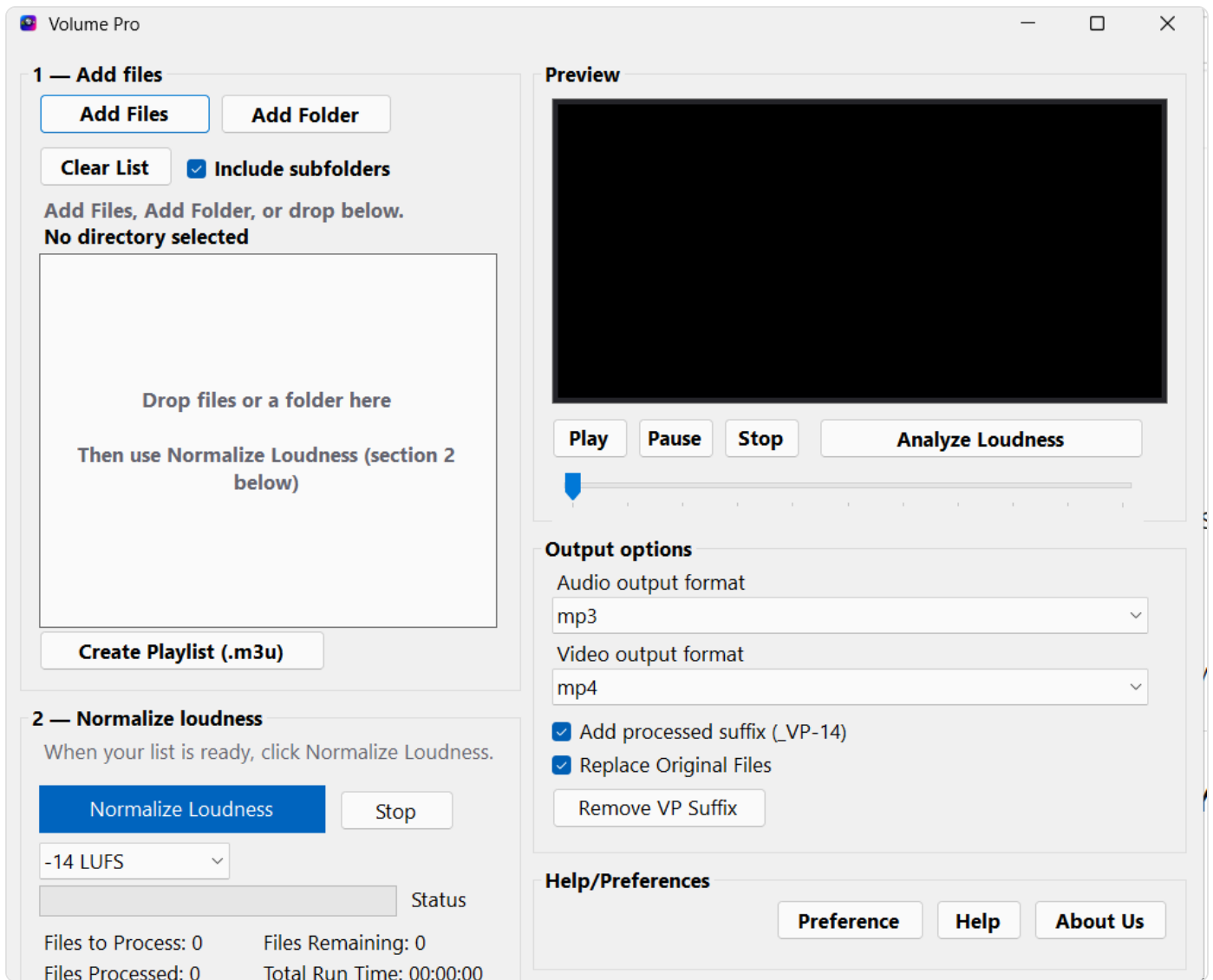
Volume Pro uses **FFmpeg** (bundled with the app) for analysis and normalization.

2. Getting Started

2.1 Launching the app

Start **Volume Pro** from the Start menu, a desktop shortcut, or (if installed) **Open with Volume Pro** on a folder in File Explorer.

2.2 Main window



The main areas are:

Area	Purpose
Select Files / Select Directory	Build the processing list
File list	Files to normalize; supports multi-select and drag-and-drop
Playback	Preview the selected file (Windows Media Player)
Analyze File	Measure integrated loudness (LUFS) for the selected file
Normalize	Process all listed files (or only selected rows)
Preferences	Default formats, LUFS, and replace-original behavior
Help / About	This manual and app information

3. Adding files

3.1 Select Files

Click **Select Files** and choose one or more audio or video files. Supported types depend on FFmpeg and your format settings (common examples: MP3, FLAC, WAV, M4A, MP4, MKV, AVI).

3.2 Select Directory

Click **Select Directory** to load media from a folder. Use **Include subdirectories** when you want nested folders scanned as well.

3.3 Drag and drop

Drag files from File Explorer onto the **file list** to add them.

3.4 Explorer context menu (optional)

If you ran the install script from the repository (`scripts/Install-ExplorerContextMenu.ps1`), you can right-click a folder in Explorer and choose **Open with Volume Pro** to start the app with that folder loaded.

3.5 Clear list

Clear List removes all entries from the list without deleting files on disk.

3.6 Create M3U playlist

Click **Create M3U** to generate an `.m3u` playlist from the files currently loaded in the list.

- If you loaded files from a directory, the playlist is saved in that root folder and named after it (for example `MyAlbum.m3u`).
- Playlist entries include path information (including subfolders when present) and title lines (`#EXTINF`).

4. Normalizing

4.1 Target LUFS

Choose a target from the **LUFS** dropdown (for example **-14 LUFS**, a common streaming target). Lower numbers (more negative) mean quieter overall targets.

Your choice is saved when you change **Preferences**.

4.2 Output formats

Use **Audio format** and **Video format** to control how normalized outputs are encoded. Defaults come from **Preferences**.

4.3 Replace original files

Setting	Behavior
Replace original files checked	Normalized output overwrites the original path when complete
Unchecked	A new file is written with a <code>_VP-##</code> suffix (for example <code>song_VP-14.mp3</code>)

4.4 Processed suffix (`_VP-14`)

Use **Add processed suffix (`_VP-14`)** when you want the file name to show that Volume Pro processed it and which LUFS target was used.

- At **-14 LUFS**, files are named like `filename_VP-14.ext` .
- If the source already has a `_VP-##` suffix, Volume Pro replaces it with the current target suffix rather than stacking multiple suffixes.

4.5 Run normalization

1. Add files to the list.
2. Optionally select **only some rows** in the list (multi-select) to process a subset; if nothing is selected, **all** listed files are processed.
3. Set LUFS and formats as needed.
4. Click **Normalize**.

Progress appears on the status labels and progress bar. Use **Stop** to cancel the current batch.

Normalization re-encodes media and can take a long time for large video files. Ensure you have enough free disk space, especially when not replacing originals.

4.6 Remove VP Suffix

Use **Remove VP Suffix** to rename files in the current list by removing trailing `_VP-##` markers when present.

- Example: `episode01_VP-14.mp3` -> `episode01.mp3`
 - If the target filename already exists, that file is skipped to avoid overwriting.
-

5. Analyze File

Analyze File runs a loudness measurement on the **currently selected** list item and shows the result (integrated LUFS). Large files may take several minutes.

Use **Stop** during analysis if you need to cancel.

Analysis helps you pick a sensible target LUFS before batch processing.

6. Playback

Select a file in the list, then use **Play**, **Pause**, **Stop**, **Rewind**, and **Fast Forward**, and the position slider, to preview before or after normalization.

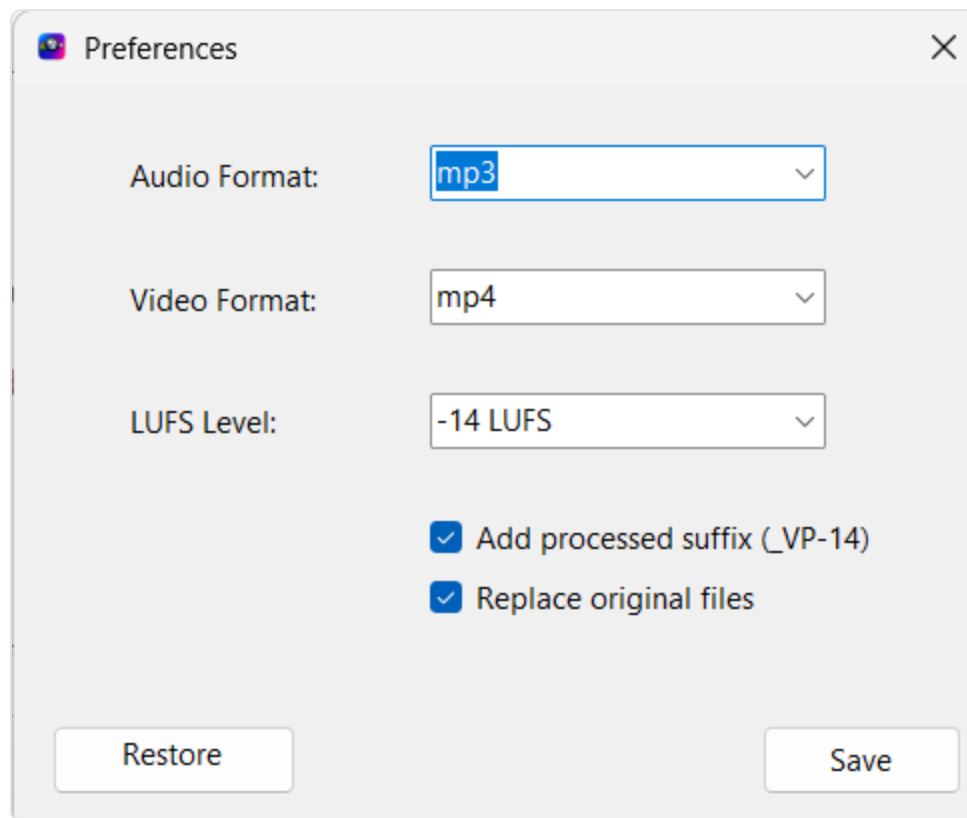
Preview requires Windows Media Player components (included with typical Windows installations).

7. Preferences

Open **Preferences** to set defaults that load each time you start the app:

- Default **LUFS** level
- Default **audio** and **video** output formats
- Whether to **replace original files** by default

Click **OK** to save; changes apply on the main window after the dialog closes.



8. About, support, and licenses

About Us shows the application version, a short description, a link to **The Software Bodega**, and contact options.

- **Open User Manual** — this document (Save as PDF and Print are available in the manual window).
- **View licenses** — open-source notices (`Licenses.txt` next to the app when present).

For support, use the email form in About or contact **admin@thesoftwarebodega.com**.

9. Tips and troubleshooting

FFmpeg / processing errors

Volume Pro expects `ffmpeg.exe` and `ffprobe.exe` in an `ffmpeg` folder next to the application. If normalization or analysis fails immediately, reinstall the app or restore the bundled `ffmpeg` folder from a clean build.

WebView2 (user manual)

The in-app manual needs the **Microsoft Edge WebView2 Runtime**. If the manual window fails to open, install WebView2 from Microsoft's download page, then try again.

Files still too loud or too quiet

Try **Analyze File** first, compare the reading to your target LUFS, and adjust the dropdown. Very quiet sources may need a less aggressive (higher) target; very loud masters may need a lower target.

Insufficient disk space

When **Replace original files** is off, each file temporarily needs space for both the original and the normalized output copy.

10. Legal

Volume Pro includes FFmpeg (LGPL) and other open-source components. See **About** → **View licenses** or `Licenses.txt` for full notices.

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