

Blue Nebula: A Guide to Updating to Version 5

Version 5.00, released on 05.05.2020, consists of new Blue Nebula (BN) Firmware Version 5.00, new Version 5.00 DSP code for MEM1 and MEM2, and a new Librarian Version 5.02.

N.B. V5.xx Librarian will **not** work with a Blue Nebula that has an older V3.xx or V4.xx Firmware installed.

There is also a [Firmware Updater](#) app which is used to update the Firmware in the Blue Nebula. This function was removed from the V5.xx Librarian so this, and future Firmware updates, must be done using the Firmware Updater app.

It is important to carry out the following steps in the order given:

1. Backup your User Patches to your computer using any Version 4.xx Librarian.
2. Update the BN Firmware to Version 5.00 using the Firmware Updater 1.1 (This does **not** require BN to have V5 installed).
3. If you want to copy the new V5 pre-sets and the extra patches from the V5 Song List to the User Patches, connect your BN to the new Librarian V5.xx and use the Send All Patches button. *If you prefer to keep your own User Patches (saved in step 1) then skip this step.*
4. Get the V5.00 Librarian and Upload the V5.00 DSP code for MEM1 and MEM2 to your BN.
5. If you wish to, Restore your User Patches saved in step 1¹.

Full instructions for using the V5.00 Librarian and the Firmware Updater 1.1 are in the relevant User Manuals.

A couple of points about the emulations regarding differences between V5 and V4 should be mentioned. They are stated in the BN User Manual, but you might miss the significance:

1. *The Echomatic 1F Classic and the Echomatic 1F Special have swapped places between MEM1 and MEM2. Echomatic 1F Special is now in slot 1 (the second slot in MEM1) and Echomatic 1F Classic is now in slot 12 (MEM2). None of our pre-sets or patches ever used the 1F Classic but several did use the 1F Special – these have been updated as required. If you have used either of these in your own patches you will need to edit them.*
2. *The 'Warm Delay', a single head delay, has been replaced with 'Echoplex', also a single head delay, based on the Echoplex tape echo.*

¹ Note: these will require a little editing due to the improved bandpass filtering of the echo signals that now more accurately emulate the original machines. For patches based on the Echomatic 1F and 1J, the Echomatic 2 Classic, the VOX Long Tom, the Roland RE301 and the Echoplex delay (which was previously the 'Warm Delay'), we recommend, as a rough guide, that you increase the echo level (Mix) by approximately 25% from your previous value but you should always let your ears be the final judge 😊. The two Copicat emulations should not require any changes to their mix levels.