

DIOPTER ^{V1}

User Guide

INSTALLATION

PRESET

INTERFACE

TROUBLESHOOT

SUPPORT

**SPECIAL
THANKS**

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anaïs “crazy” yahyaoui, and the amazing lloyd & toby from aescrpts.com !

INSTALLATION

WITH AESCRIPTS+AEPLUGINS MANAGER

Simply follow this link and install the manager for a quick and easy install :

<http://aescrpts.com/learn/aescrpts-aeplugins-manager-app/>

With this install, the Presets will be there :

  *Documents / Adobe / After Effects XX / User Presets*

MANUAL INSTALLATION

PLUGIN

Copy the correct *Diopter_CC_CS6.plugin* file (or *.aex* for Windows) for your version of AE and paste it to :

 *Applications / ADOBE After Effects XX / Plug-ins*

 *Program Files / Adobe / After Effects XX / Support Files / Plug-ins*

PRESETS

Inside the *Presets* folder, copy the *Diopter Presets* folder and paste it to :

 *Applications / ADOBE After Effects XX / Presets*

 *Program Files / Adobe / After Effects XX / Support Files / Presets*

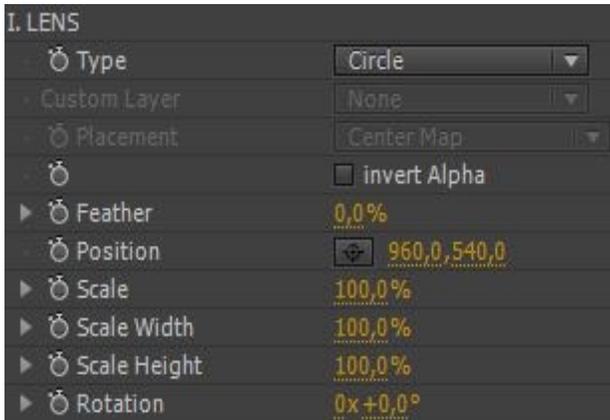
Don't forget to download the footage pack too! It's a separate download.

INTERFACE

The interface is divided in 3 main parts :

I. LENS **II. BLUR** **III. OTHER**

I LENS : choose an artificial lens and place it on the layer.



Type : you can choose between a circle, 2 rectangles (horizontal and vertical), a triangle, none and a custom layer.

Invert Alpha : the effect area is inverted

Custom Layer function accepts only 2D layer or composition (no vector shape).

Diopter interpretes only luma and alpha channel of the custom layer.

Feather : feathers the lens shape

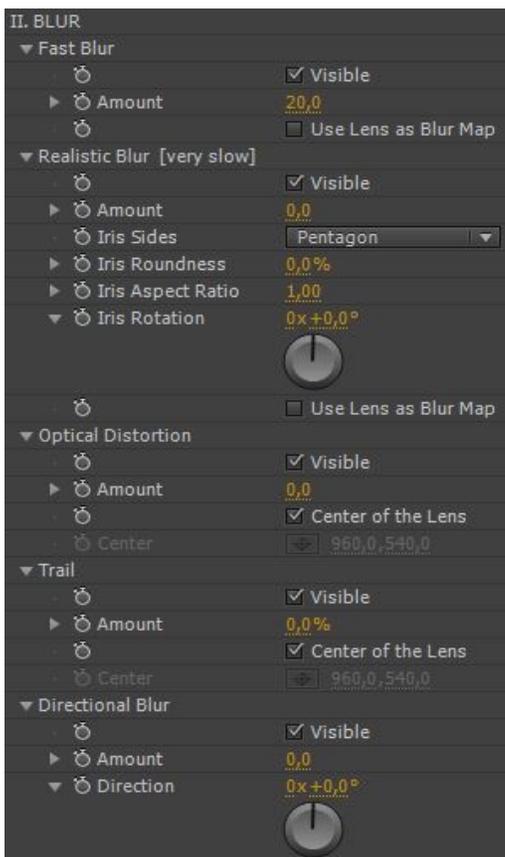
Position : places the lens

Size : scales the lens, uniform and non-uniform scale

Rotation : rotates the lens

II. BLUR : Here are the main lens alterations to an image. There are different kinds of blur.

There's a visible « checkbox » for each effect. Turn it off to make the effect unactive.



Fast Blur : the most common blur, like a gaussian one

Realistic Blur : this blur imitates the camera lens blur with bokeh

Iris Sides : number of sides of the iris or the bokeh

Iris Roundness : roundness of the iris

Iris Aspect Ratio : vertically or horizontally aspect of the iris

Iris Rotation : rotates the iris

Use lens as Blur Map : if checked, the blur will be calculated according to the lens luma/alpha. For instance, it is useful for Depthmap.

Optical Distortion : distorts the borders of the image

Use center of the Lens : if checked, the effect will be calculated according to the center of the lens.

If unchecked it will be the center of the Comp by default, or a custom position.

Trail : blurs radially the picture

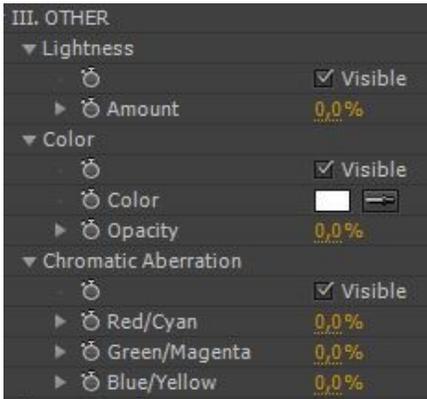
Use center of the Lens : if checked, the effect will be calculated according to the center of the lens.

If unchecked it will be the center of the Comp by default, or a custom position.

Directional Blur : blurs depending of a direction

Direction : Angle/direction of the blur

III. OTHER : it's the last part of this plugin. It gathers light and color effects.



Lightness : change the lightness of the picture

Color : colors the lens

Opacity : changes the opacity of the colored fill

Chromatic Aberration : shifts colors (red/cyan, blue/yellow, green/magenta)



INTENSITY : change opacity of the whole plugin

MODE : change the blending mode (common mode : Normal, Add, Screen, Multiply)

PRESET

HOW TO USE PRESETS ?

1. Enable the preset function in AE

In AE, the preset function must be enabled by the user. Click on the small icon  in the top right corner of the **Effect Control** panel > Click **Show Animation Presets**. Now you should see the dropdown menu at the top of your effects.

2. Once you copied the Diopter Presets folder (see the Installation section), refresh the presets library

Click on the same small icon  in the **Effects & Presets** window > Click on **Refresh List**. The presets for Diopter are now visible in the dropdown menu. Yay.

For now, presets are optimized for 1920x1080 footage.

HOW TO SAVE YOUR PRESETS ?

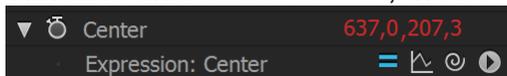
To save your own presets, simply click on **Save Animation Preset** at the end of the preset menu of Diopter, choose a name and a destination.

Presets are only compatible with the version of AE which created them (and later one). That's why Diopter presets were created in CS6 in order to work in CS6 and CC.

If you want to share your presets, that's something you should keep in mind!

A BIT MORE ABOUT PRESETS

Almost every presets are animated, some of them very subtly. These animations are created with expressions. To see which property depends on an expression, select the layer with Diopter in the Timeline and **double hit "U"**, the settings with expression appear in red like so :



If you want to disable these animations, you have to disable the expressions. Double press "U", and simply click on the first blue equal symbol  , it will disable the expression.

If you want to change their behavior, know this :

Almost every expressions used in DIOPTER presets are "wiggle", this expression changes randomly the value of a property according to 2 factors : Frequency and Amplitude.

In this example X is the Frequency and Y the Amplitude of the Wiggle effect : **wiggle(X,Y)**

Wanna change it for a faster effect? Increase the X value : `wiggle(1,10) > wiggle(5,10)`

Wanna change its intensity? Change the Y value : `wiggle(1,10) > wiggle(1,20)`

NOTE : Values are only numerical. For a decimal value replace the comma by a period : 2,5 > 2.5

TROUBLESHOOT

You can't see the preset function.

See [Preset / HOW TO USE PRESETS](#) section.

Presets don't work

Some presets are very subtle, are you sure they aren't there? Increase one or more value to see if there is any change.

Presets are optimized for 1920x1080 footage, if you are using them with a different resolution, the Lens might be out of the composition, change its position or its Alpha to see where it is.

You get a weird preview / the plugin doesn't work as it should.

There are several ways to fix this :

- Check if the bug occurs in Full Resolution
- Tweak a bit your settings, the bug remains ?
- Purge your memory : [Edit / Purge / All memory or Image cache memory](#)
- Empty the disk cache: [Preference / Media & Disk Cache / Empty Disk Cache](#)
- Reset the plugin, click on [Reset](#) at the top of the effect panel, empty your disk cache and purge your memory
- Restart AE.
- Restart your computer.
- Wake up from this nightmare.

If you encounter a bug, don't hesitate to report it with a screenshot of your settings!

SUPPORT

Any question, request or report ?

Contact me : support@remimoned.fr

Or check www.remimoned.fr/diopter

I speak both french and english, pick the language of your choice ;)