

Which files fall under which license?

Which files of the VST 3 SDK fall under which license?

All files describing the VST 3 interface, except VST 2 files, located in the folder "*pluginterfaces*" of the SDK, fall under the dual-license described previously.

- Each of these files includes this text:

```
//-----  
----  
// This file is part of a Steinberg SDK. It is subject to the license terms  
// in the LICENSE file found in the top-level directory of this  
distribution  
// and at www.steinberg.net/sdklicenses.  
// No part of the SDK, including this file, may be copied, modified,  
propagated,  
// or distributed except according to the terms contained in the LICENSE  
file.  
//-----  
----
```

- for all other files of the VST 3 SDK, the respective embedded license text is applicable, for example:
 - all **VSTGUI** files fall under a **BSD style** license
 - all **Helper files** (included in base and public.sdk folders) except VST 2 files fall under a **BSD style** license
 - all **VST 2 files** (included in pluginterfaces and public.sdk folders) fall under the "**Proprietary Steinberg VST 2**" license
 - all **mda-vst3 examples** (public.sdk/samples/mda-vst3 folder) fall under a **BSD style** license: Copyright (c) 2008 Paul Kellett

What's about VST 2?

The "Proprietary Steinberg VST 2" license, which is the VST 2 license agreement, allows you to distribute your VST 2 plug-in/host in a binary form. However, please note the following requirements:

- You need written permission from Steinberg Media Technologies GmbH in order to distribute your VST 2 plug-in/host (which had to be done before October 2018).
- You need to mention **Steinberg Media Technologies GmbH** in the about box and/or documentation of your VST 2 plug-in/host and follow the [Steinberg VST usage guidelines](#).
- Note that the "Proprietary Steinberg VST 3" license does not include the "Proprietary Steinberg VST 2" license, you have to sign it separately! It was available in the VST 2 SDK and in the VST 3 SDK old version.
- Note that from the first of October 2018, Steinberg **does not accept any more submissions of license agreement for VST 2** plug-in/host! This means:

If you do not have a license agreement signed with Steinberg before October 2018, you are not allowed to distribute VST 2 plug-ins or VST 2 hosts!

On this page:

- [Which files of the VST 3 SDK fall under which license?](#)
- [What's about VST 2?](#)

Related pages:

- [VST 3 Licensing](#)