

Using ICC Profiles in Adobe Photoshop[®] 6, 7, CS and CS2

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Disclaimer:

The information contained in this document may change over time due to updates in software and work flows. It is intended only as a basic guide. Consult your software's documentation for more information.

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BASIC INSTRUCTIONS

A profile is a three dimensional color map which can be used to translate color from one device to another. ICC compliant hardware and software such as Adobe Photoshop must be used for a profile to work properly.

File Installation

ICC profiles are designated by the .icc or .icm file extension. In order for a device to have access to the information contained in these files, they must be saved in the correct directory on your computer's hard drive. For more information on how to download and save files from the internet, see the FAQ section of this document. The most common directory locations and operating systems are outlined in the following table:

Operating System	Directory Path
Mac OS 9	system folder\colorsync\profiles
Mac OS X	user\library\colorsync\profiles
Windows 98 & ME	windows\system\color
Windows XP	winnt\system32\spool\drivers\color

Note: Some Windows XP installations have a folder named 'WINDOWS' instead of 'WINNT'

Printing with Photoshop (versions 6, 7, and CS)

- 1. Select 'Print with Preview' from the 'File' menu.
- 2. Select 'Page Setup' and choose the appropriate printer, paper size, and orientation. After confirming the settings, click 'OK' and return to the 'Print Preview' dialog.
- 3. Select the 'Show More Options' check box on the lower left corner of the 'Print Preview' dialog box and choose 'Color Management' from the drop down menu.
- 4. Set the 'Source Space' to 'Document'.
- 5. Set the 'Profile' which matches your printer/ink/paper combination. (MOAB EntradaN 4800 K3 MK for example) Set the 'Intent' as described in the profile settings file. Generally our profiles are created for the Saturation or Perceptual intents. This will vary based on personal preference and/or individual profiles. Refer to the Profile Settings for each profile for recommended intents.
- 6. Select 'Black Point Compensation'
- 7. Windows Users: Select the 'Print...' option, and Apple Users: Select the 'Advanced Settings' option, and

CRITICAL: Select the specific settings for your profile found in the Profile Settings text file found on our website. Failure to use the recommended settings will result in an unpredictable result.

- 8. (optional) Save your settings as a preset so that they are accessible the next time they are needed. When using presets, it is still important to check each specific setting to ensure consistency in your work flow.
- 9. Select 'Print'.

Printing with Photoshop (version CS2)

- 1. Select 'Print with Preview' from the 'File' menu.
- 2. Select 'Page Setup' and choose the appropriate printer, paper size, and orientation. After confirming the settings, click 'OK' and return to the 'Print Preview' dialog.
- 3. Select the 'More Options' button on the lower right corner of the 'Print Preview' dialog box and choose 'Color Management' from the drop down menu.
- 4. Set the 'Print' option to 'Document'
- 5. In the 'Options' dialog, make the following selections:
 - 1. Select 'Let Photoshop Determine Colors' for the 'Color Handling' option.
 - 2. Choose the profile which matches your printer/ink/paper combination from the drop down menu. (MOAB EntradaN 4800 K3 MK for example)
 - 3. Select the appropriate 'Rendering Intent' recommended in the Profile Settings found on our website for your profile. (Generally 'Perceptual' or 'Saturation')
 - 4. Select 'Black Point Compensation'
- 6. Windows Users: Select the 'Print...' option, and Apple Users: Select the 'Advanced Settings' option, and CRITICAL: Select the specific settings for your profile found in the Profile Settings text file found on our website. Failure to use the recommended settings will result in an unpredictable result.
- 7. (optional) Save your settings as a preset so that they are accessible the next time they are needed. When using presets, it is still important to check each specific setting to ensure consistency in your work flow.
- 8. Select 'Print'.

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FAQ: FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS

Q: I am on a Macintosh and when I try to open the file all I see is garbled data, what is wrong? A: There are two problems;

- 1. The profile file does not need to be opened. It is by definition a data file which only ICC compliant devices understand.
- 2. If the file is opened when trying to download it from the website, your Mac does not recognize the profile as something which should be downloaded, but rather something that should be read. The easiest solution is to hold the 'Option' key when clicking on the 'Download Profile' link to force your Mac to download the file rather than open it. (more on this in the next question)
- If you are using Microsoft Internet Explorer for your Apple Stop! Microsoft stopped supporting the product quite sometime ago and it has become very problematic. We recommend using Safari on Apple computers. It can be downloaded free from the Apple website at http://www.apple.com/support/downloads/safari.html

Q: How do I save and download a file from the web?

A: Downloading files from the internet is easy, however each browser, the software used to surf the web, and operating system, is a little different in how it handles downloads. Here's some basic tips for both Windows and Apple operating systems:

Windows

'Right-Clicking' on any internet link will open a list of options which allow the user to specify what to do with the file the link points to.

- Firefox: 'Save Link As'
- Internet Explorer: 'Save Target As'
- Apple

Some systems will not download a file if simply clicking on the link but will instead try to open the file. One of the following methods should be used instead:

- 1. Hold the 'Option' key when clicking on a link.
- 2. Hold the 'Control' key when clicking on a link. A new window will appear with the option to 'Download Linked File'.

Q: I have downloaded the profile and saved it to the correct directory, but I can't see it in Photoshop, why not?

A: This is typically caused by a corruption when downloading the file. This can be resolved by simply downloading the file again. Apple users may also need to repair the profile. This is done via the very useful Colorsync Utility and the 'Verify and Repair' tool. To open the Colorsync Utility, simply open the 'Utilities' folder within the 'Applications' folder and click on the 'Colorsync Utility'.

Q: Why don't my prints match what I see on my monitor?

A: Profiles need to be used in a color managed work flow. If the profile is being applied correctly, the discrepancy is usually caused because the monitor is not profiled and calibrated. We recommend the Spyder2 from Colorvision (<u>www.colorvision.com</u>) for this.

Q: Can I use the profiles in my RIP?

A: No. The profiles available for download from <u>www.moabpaper.com</u> are RGB based profiles. Most RIPs use CMYK based profiles along with ink limiting and linearization data to control color. Most RIP companies provide profiles for use with their specific RIP for download. Contact your RIP manufacturer for more information.

Q: Can I use the same profile for different printers?

A: No. Profiles are very specific to the device they describe.

Q: Can I create my own profiles?

A: Yes. It does require a special device like a Spectrophotometer or Spectrocolorimeter along with software which can interpret the data and format it correctly. We use Colorvision's new PrintFix PRO to create our profiles. Devices like these range in price from \$500 to \$5000 and are a very worthwhile investment if color control is an important part of your work flow.

Q: Why isn't my printer profiled?

A: We make every effort to profile industry leading archival printers. With literally hundreds of printer models in use, we simply pick and choose the printers which we get the most requests for and which we feel are a good match for our products.

Q: My printer isn't profiled, will your product work with it?

A: Maybe. For compatibility of specific printers, simply email us and we can confirm this for you.

Q: Why don't I see your paper listed in the options when I go to print?

A: A profile is a set of data which is read by the device like an inkjet printer. They do not become a part of the printer's driver and will not be listed in the manufacturer's list of suggested paper settings for any given printer. Please refer to the sections above outlining the use of profiles in Photoshop.

RESOURCES

Helpful Organizations

National Association of Photoshop Professionals Professional Digital Imaging Association

Profiling Equipment and Software

Colorvision Gretag Macbeth X-rite

RIP Software Supporting Moab products

Colorburst Colorbyte Ergosoft

Custom Profile Providers

Cathy's Profiles Glazer's Camera Digital Dog Dry Creek Photo Independent Color

www.photoshopuser.com www.pdia.org or www.greatoutput.com

www.colorvision.com www.i1color.com www.xrite.com

www.colorburstrip.com www.colorbytesoftware.com www.ergosoftus.com

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