

BOOKSMARTSTUDIO™

Creating a Custom ICC Profile with Adobe Photoshop CS5 and Epson Printer

1. Prepare Your Printer

Make sure you do NOT have any clogged nozzles. Run the Nozzle Check before printing images. Dirty nozzles will result in banding similar to that of printing at 720dpi. If you print the profile targets with clogged nozzles it will throw off your color once they are unclogged. (Please refer to your printer manual for additional instructions)

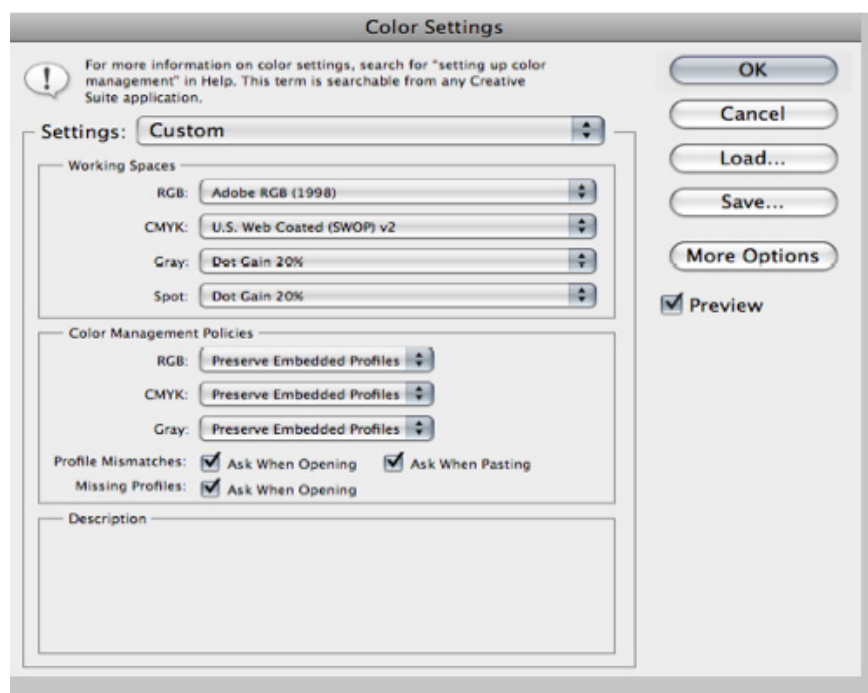
2. Download The Profile Targets

Download the profile targets from:

http://www.booksmartstudio.com/services/view/55_icc-profiling/149_rgb-profiling-targets/page

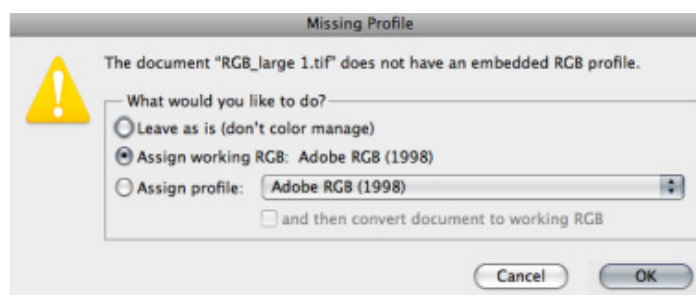
3. Check Your Photoshop Color Settings

In Photoshop you can access the Color Settings by going to Edit on the top menu bar. Ensure that under Color Management Policies it is checked Ask When Opening for Missing Profiles.



4. Open The Profile Targets

Please note the Small profile target is one page. The Large profile target is two pages, both of which need to be printed. Due to color management changes made with CS5 it is absolutely necessary when opening the ICC profile targets that each target is assigned to your current working RGB (either Adobe RGB 1998 or Profoto RGB) and then click OK.



*** Do not resize the test targets from Booksmart Studio
in either dimension or resolution!!!! ***

5. Setting Up Photoshop's Print Settings

Print utilizing the proper settings in the print driver for your application. The following are the steps for those utilizing the Epson print drivers. For those who are using RIPs, please refer to the RIP software for advice on making custom profiles.

Again, due to changes made with Adobe Photoshop CS5 regarding color management it is very important to adhere to the following steps precisely so that the profile targets you print aren't inadvertently influenced by color management of any kind.

A. Go to File/Print from the top menu bar in Photoshop.

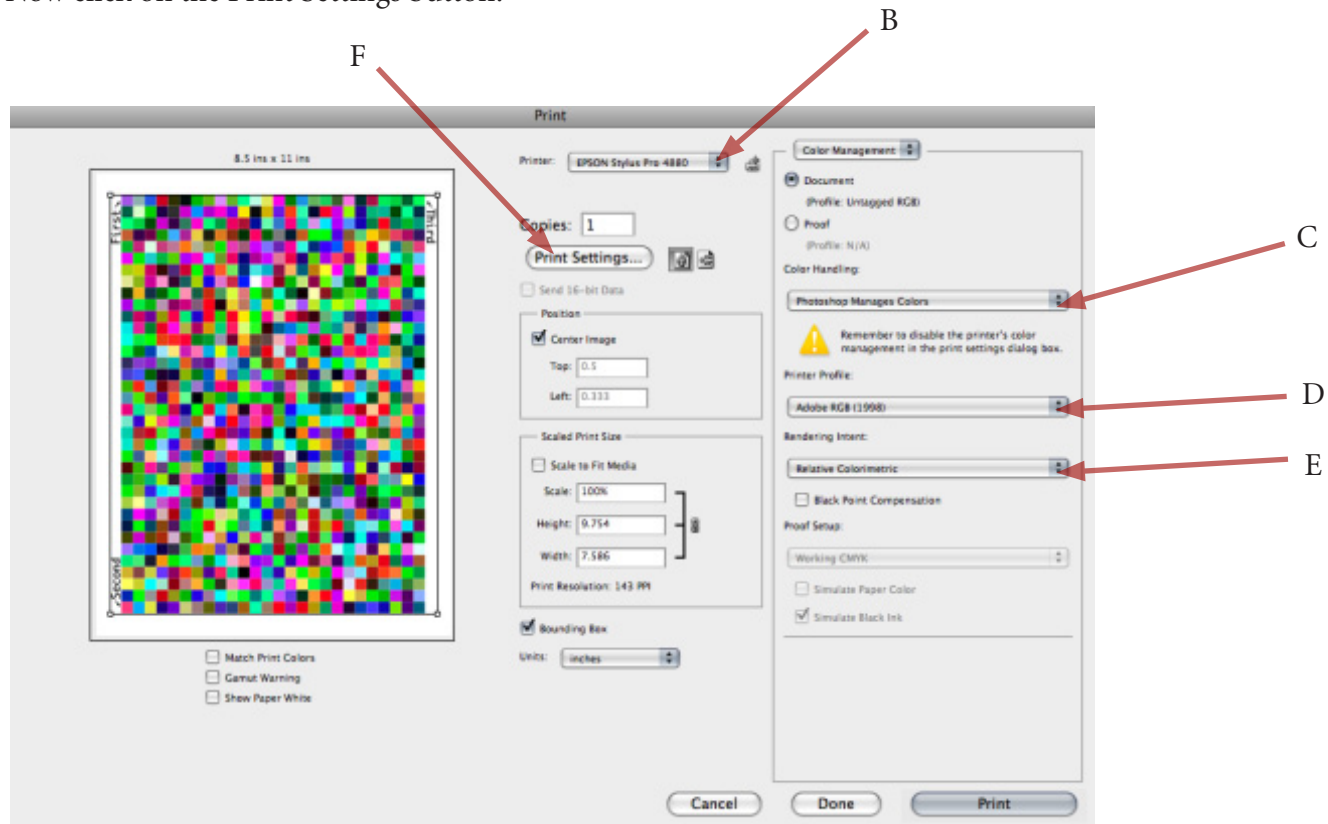
B. Select the appropriate printer.

C. Under the Color Handling section select Photoshop Manages Color.

D. Under the Printer Profile section select Adobe RGB 1998 or Profoto RGB. You must select the same profile as you assigned the profile target when opening in step 4 .

E. Under the Rendering Intent section select Relative Colorimetric and uncheck the box for Black Point Compensation.

F. Now click on the Print Settings button.

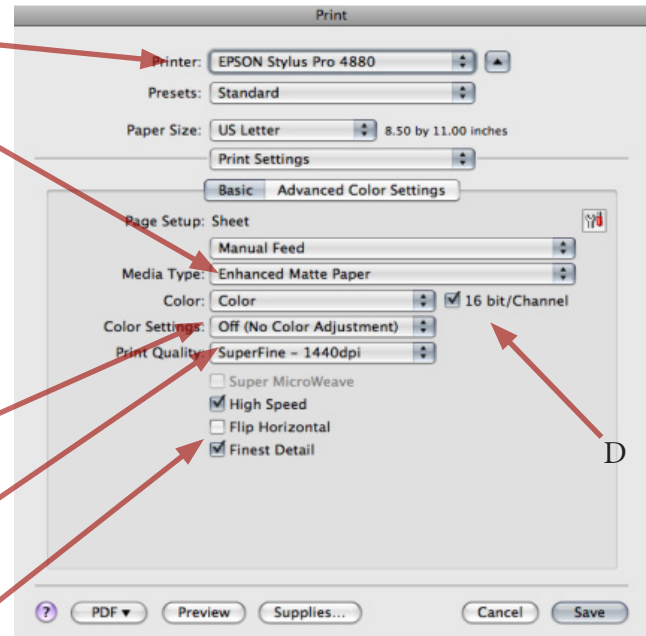


***If this is confusing Adobe has released a utility for printing these targets that automatically takes care of these steps: http://kb2.adobe.com/cps/834/cpsid_83497.html

6. Setting Up The Print Driver Settings

The Print driver window will show slight variation in options available dependant upon the printer used. The options below are shown for the Epson 4880. These options will be consistent for all the Epson Professional Imaging Printers but there may be some slight variation in particular areas for desktop model printers.

- A. Choose the correct printer
- B. Select the appropriate paper size
- C. Select the Media Type that is closest to the substrate/ paper being used. The media settings available may not coincide with your paper exactly. The setting chosen here will determine whether Matte Black or Photo Black will be used and additionally how much ink will be applied to the paper surface.
- D. If the 16bit option is available for your printer check the box for 16bit/Channel. This will utilize the full amount of quality and resolution capable from your printer.
- E. Under the Color Settings section select OFF (No Color Adjustment)
- F. Under the Print Quality section select SuperFine 1440dpi for matte or fine art papers or select SuperPhoto 2880dpi for high quality gloss or pearl papers.
- G. Also under the Print Quality section make sure to check the boxes for High Speed and Finest Detail.



7. PLEASE NOTE: It doesn't matter whether Adobe RGB 1998 or Profoto RGB is assigned to the profile targets when opening them in Photoshop in Step 4, however, it is crucial that which ever one you select in Step 4 is also selected in Step 5.
8. Record the settings you used to print the profile targets for each different type of media and printer combination. It is crucial that you apply the exact same settings when printing with this profile as used when printing out the profile targets. If you decide to change any of the settings, you must re-profile your printer. Settings to watch for are media type, resolution, color management settings, and color settings. Again, if any of the aforementioned settings are modified even slightly the profile will no longer be accurate. It may help you to print an extra copy of the order form to keep for your records.
9. Fill out your order form with the settings as well. Label the targets with a corresponding number to the Profile Order Form. Do not write over any of the color patches or on the back side as our machines can read through thinner papers which in turn would alter the color data used to create the profile.
10. Allow your prints to dry for 24 hours.
11. Place divider sheets of plain paper between your test targets. Do not use a tissue or wax paper as this can cause scuffing or reactions with the ink.
12. Send your printed test targets to Booksmart Studio in a sturdy mailer, labeled "DO NOT BEND". The uses of cardboard inserts to prevent any possible bending or folding of the package will also ensure no damage is caused during mailing.

Printed targets will not be returned, however, they will be filed for possible troubleshooting issues should any problems arise with your custom ICC profile.