Color Matching For Sublimation

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Discussion topics:

- **Eliminating Variables**
- **Color Mode**
- **Color Management Software**
- **Color Palette**
- **Time & Pressure**
- **Color on Fabrics**

ELIMINATING VARIABLES

VERIFY PRINTER & INK VARIABLES

Make sure your file is in RGB color format
- Always use RGB color for sublimation
- RGB has a much larger “gamut” (range of colors) than CMYK.
- Always convert Pantone color to RGB

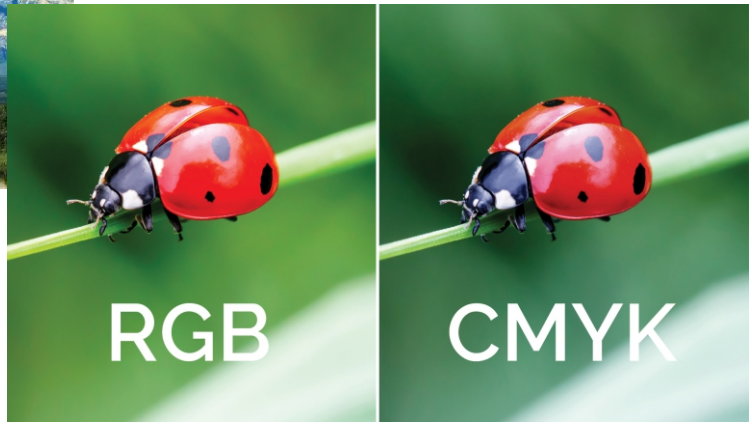
CONVERTING FILE TO RGB

To convert a file from CMYK to RGB in CorelDRAW

Using "Find & Replace" for Bulk Conversion
This is the most effective way to ensure every single object in an existing design is converted correctly without manually clicking each one.
1. Press Ctrl + A to select all artwork.
2. Go to Edit > Find and Replace. (In older versions, this may be under Edit > Find & Replace > Replace Objects).
3. Choose Replace Objects and select Replace a color model or palette. Click Next.
4. Set Find a color model to CMYK.
5. Set Replace with the color model to RGB.
6. Ensure Fills is checked. Click Finish, then select Replace All.

COMPARING RGB TO CMYK





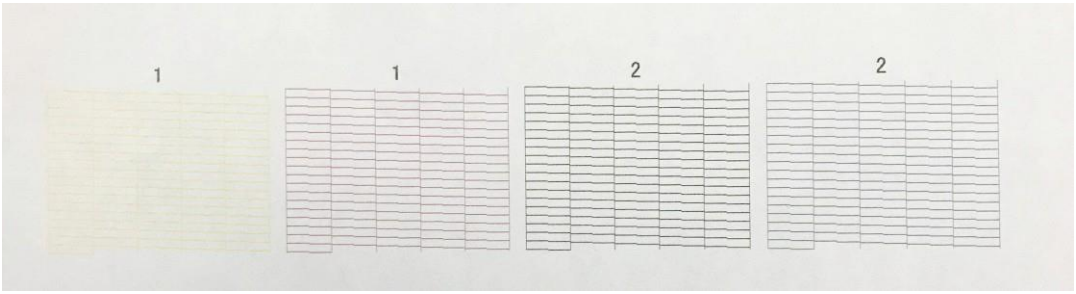
ELIMINATING VARIABLES

NOZZLE CHECK

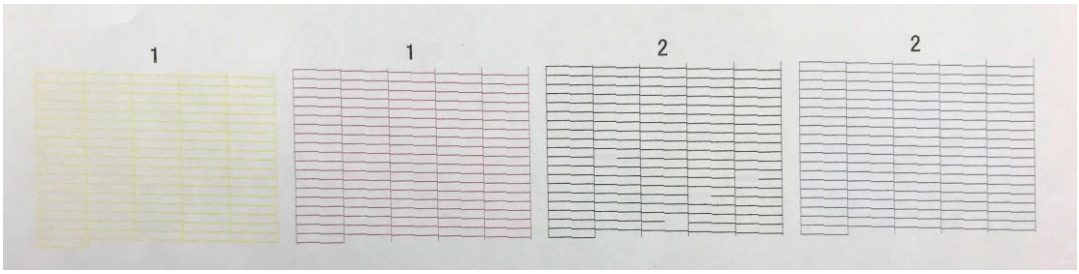
Clogged nozzles

- <u>Always keep your printer on all the time</u>
- Print something at least every two weeks.
- Banding/Streaks: The most common sign is horizontal white or unprinted lines (banding) across the image.
- Missing Colors: If nozzles for a specific color (Cyan, Magenta, Yellow, or Black) are clogged, the artwork will appear faded or have incorrect color output, as that color component will be missing from certain areas or entirely.

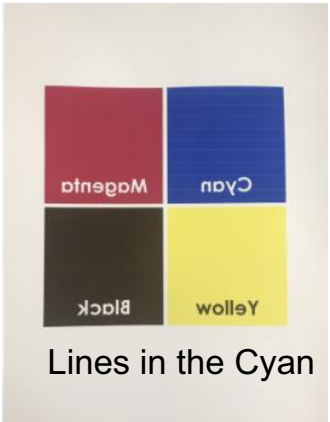
Good Nozzle Check



Bad Nozzle Check



- Good nozzle check but you still have lines. Run a Primary Chart.



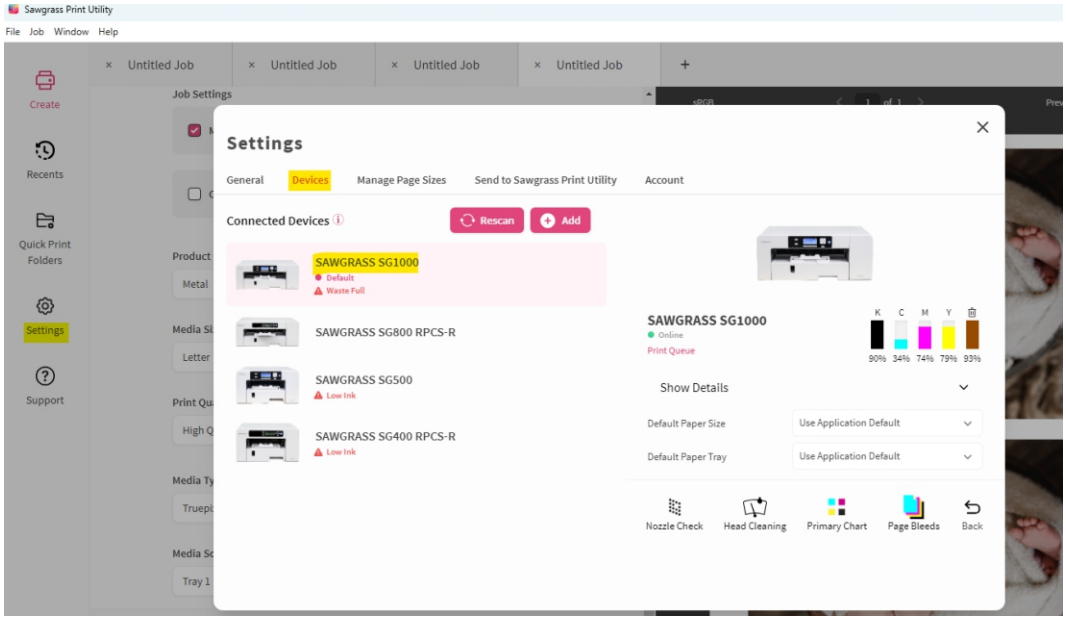
Lines in the Cyan



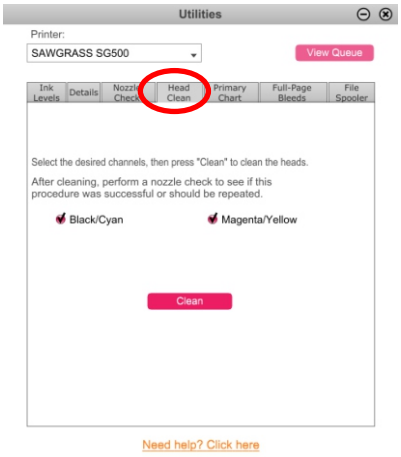
If Cyan comes out black

HEAD CLEANING SAWGRASS

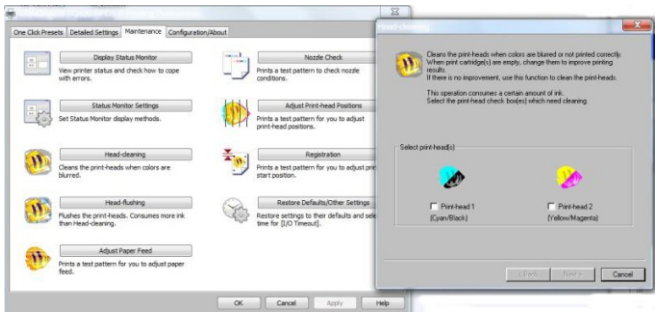
Print Utility



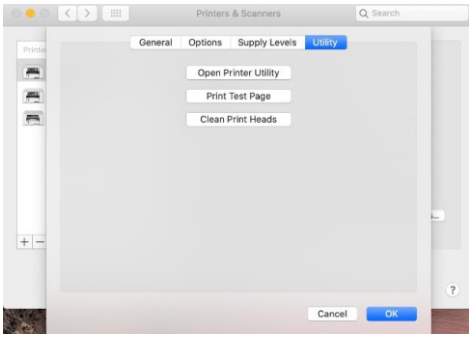
Print Manager Utilities



Windows Driver Utilities

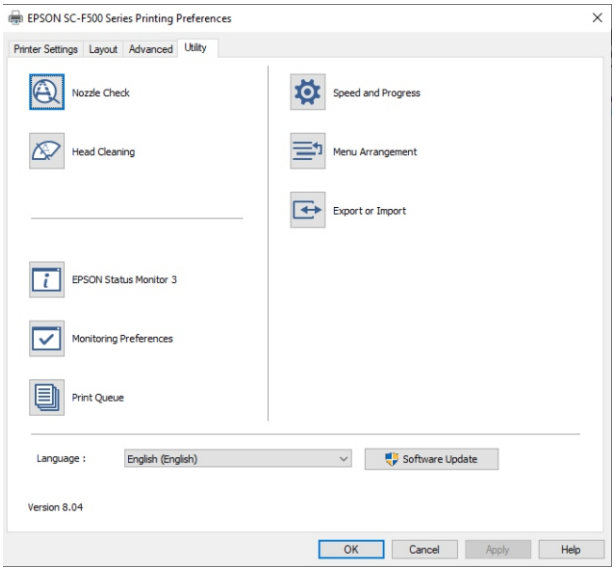


Mac Driver Utilities

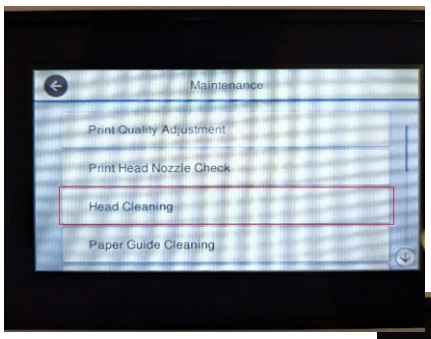


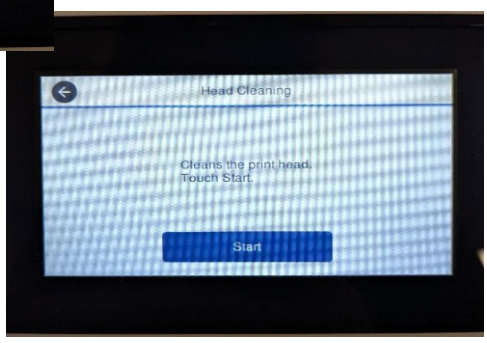
HEAD CLEANING EPSON

On Computer



On Printer



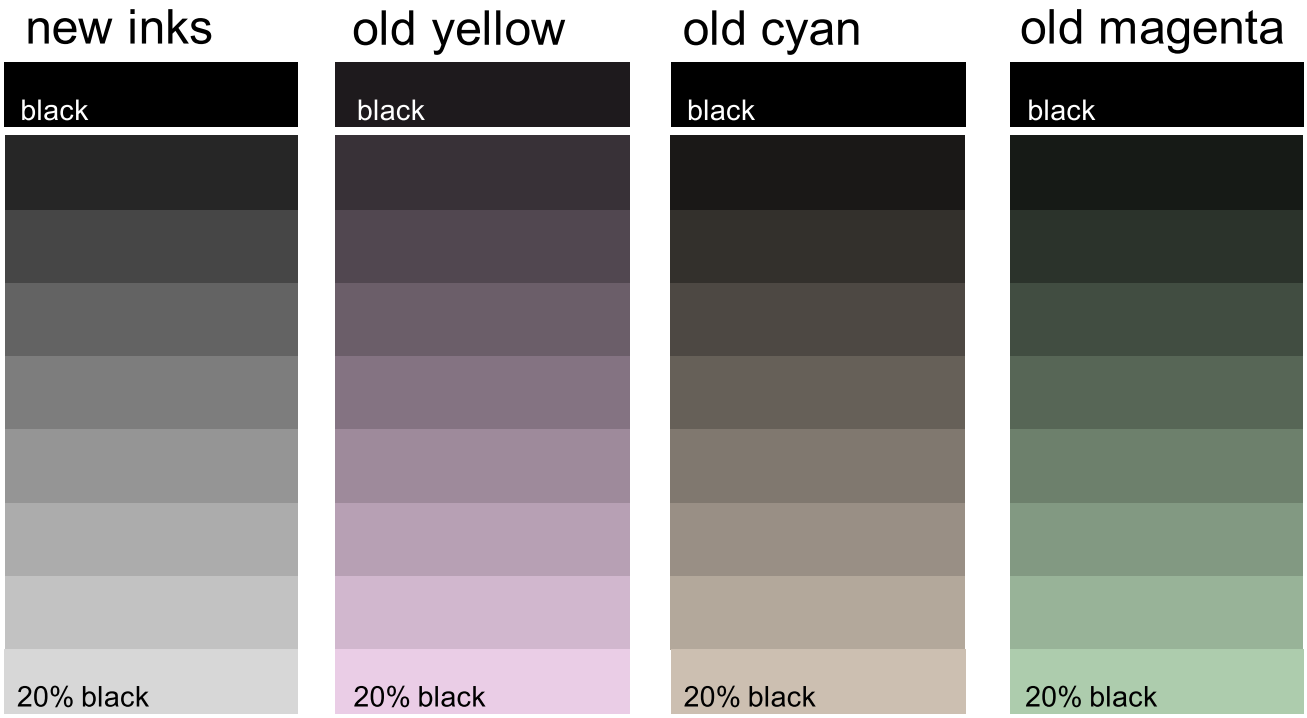


ELIMINATING VARIABLES

THE AGE OF THE INK

A general rule, I would recommend not using ink that is past it's expiration date. You will likely see color shifting and other issues that can affect printing. Also, make it a habit to mark the day's date that you install the cartridge. You won't want to have the same ink in the printer beyond 6 months regardless of the "Use by Date".

GRAY COLOR ISSUES



RGB Palette with 2 year old ink

OLD INK

RGB Palette with new ink





COLOR MODE

TROUBLESHOOTING COLOR

When working with photos, not only do your document settings need to be correct, the color mode of photos also needs to be correct.

Document Color Mode - RGB
Photo Color Mode - CMYK



Document Color Mode - RGB
Photo Color Mode - RGB

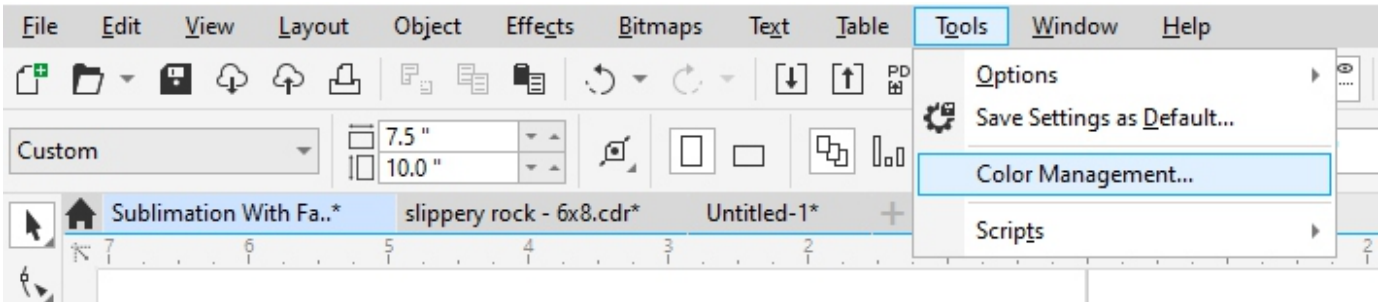




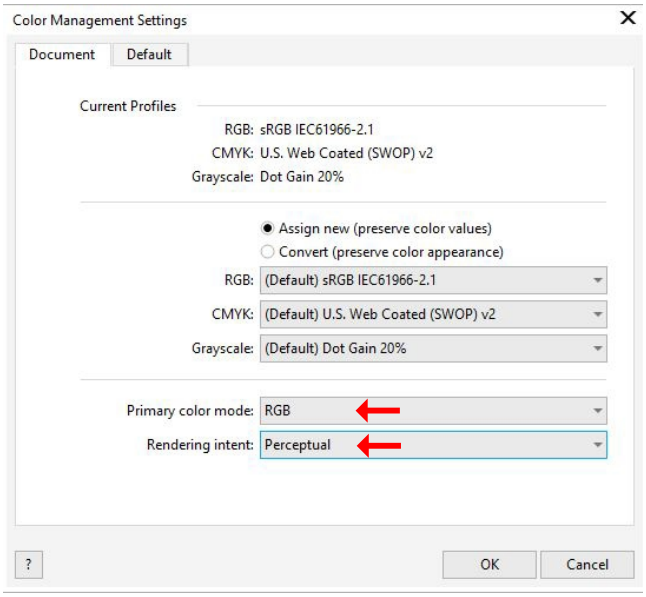
COLOR MANAGEMENT

COLOR MANAGEMENT IN COREL

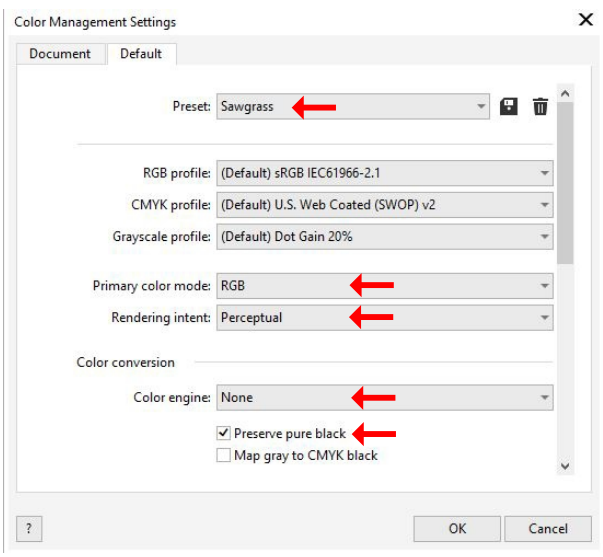
①

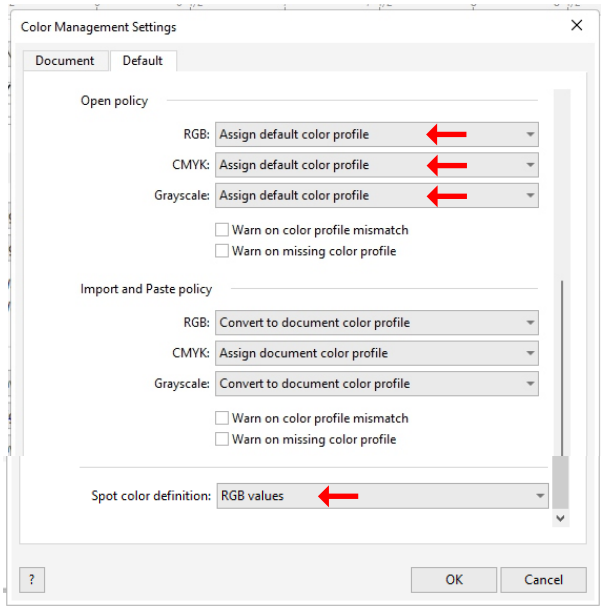


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③





COLOR MANAGEMENT IN PHOTOSHOP

Configuration Guide: Adobe Photoshop CS/CC (Windows OS)

The following instructions explain how to configure Adobe Photoshop CS/CC for use with Sawgrass Print Utility and Print Manager along with the Epson F570 driver on computers using Windows OS. Your menus may differ depending on the version of software and operating system being used. However, the settings will be identical.

Photoshop Color Setup

1. Open Adobe Photoshop. In the menu bar, click **Edit > Color Settings**. See Figure 1.

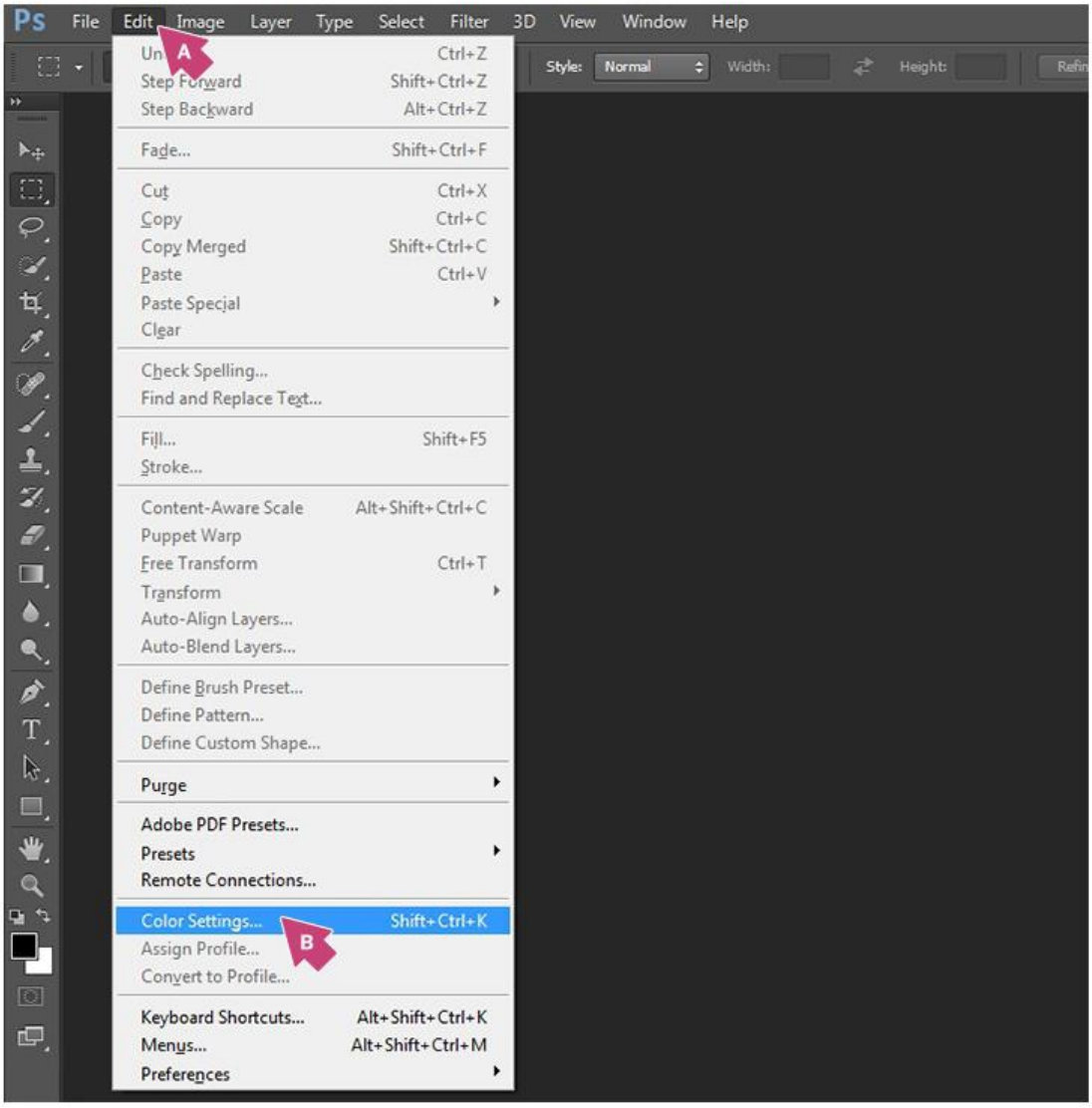


FIGURE 1

2.In the Color Settings window, select **Sawgrass_sRGB** in the settings dropdown and confirm that your settings match those shown below, and click **OK**. If you don't have the Sawgrass_sRGB setting then change all the other settings then click Save and name the setting. See Figure 2.

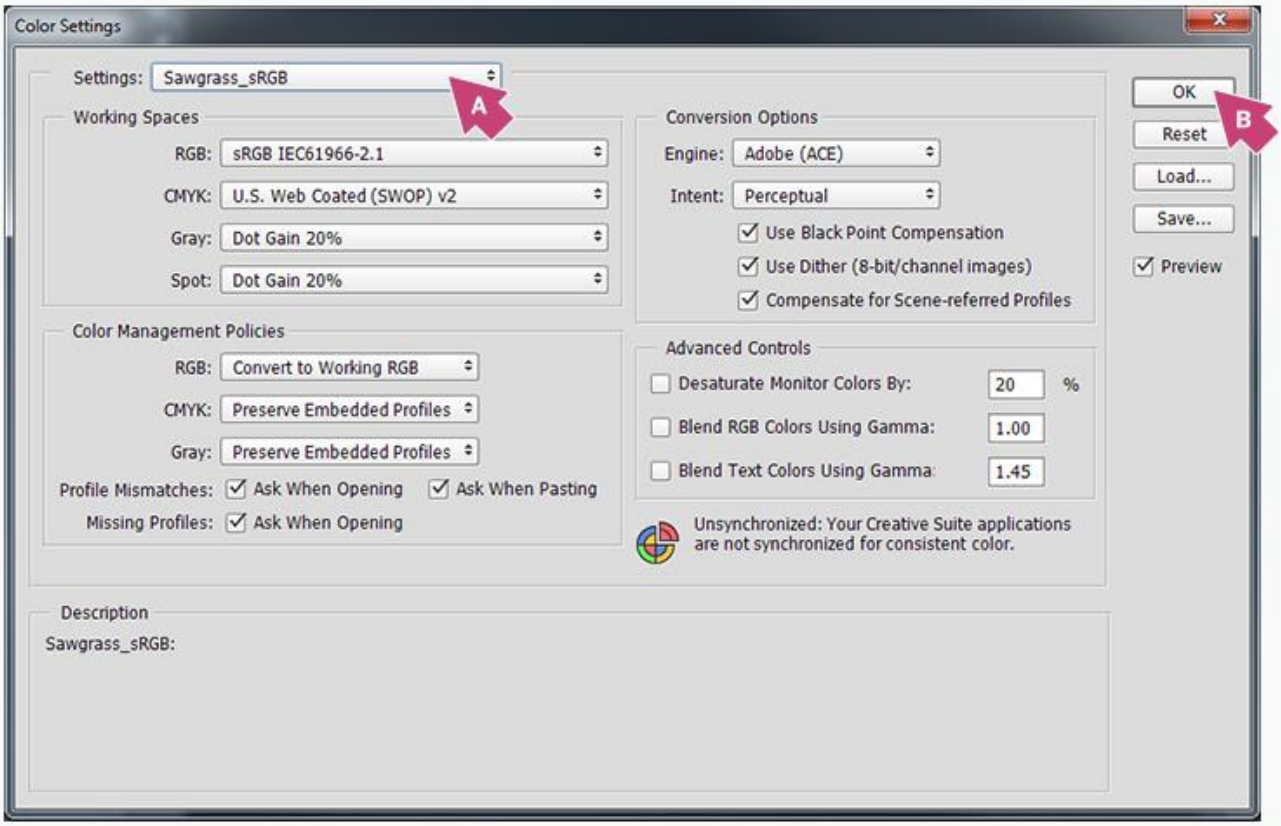


FIGURE 2

3. In the menu bar, click **File > New**. See Figure 3.

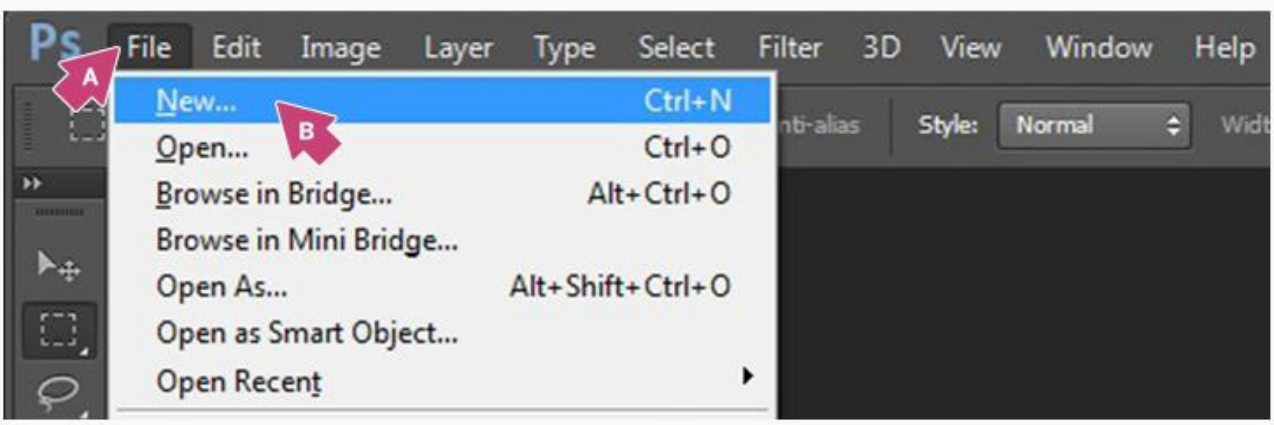


FIGURE 3

COLOR MANAGEMENT IN ILLUSTRATOR

6. Previously saved files or imported files may retain their previous settings. To ensure that RGB color mode has been selected: In the menu bar, click **File > Document Color Mode > RGB Color**. A check mark should be visible beside **RGB Color**. See Figure 6.

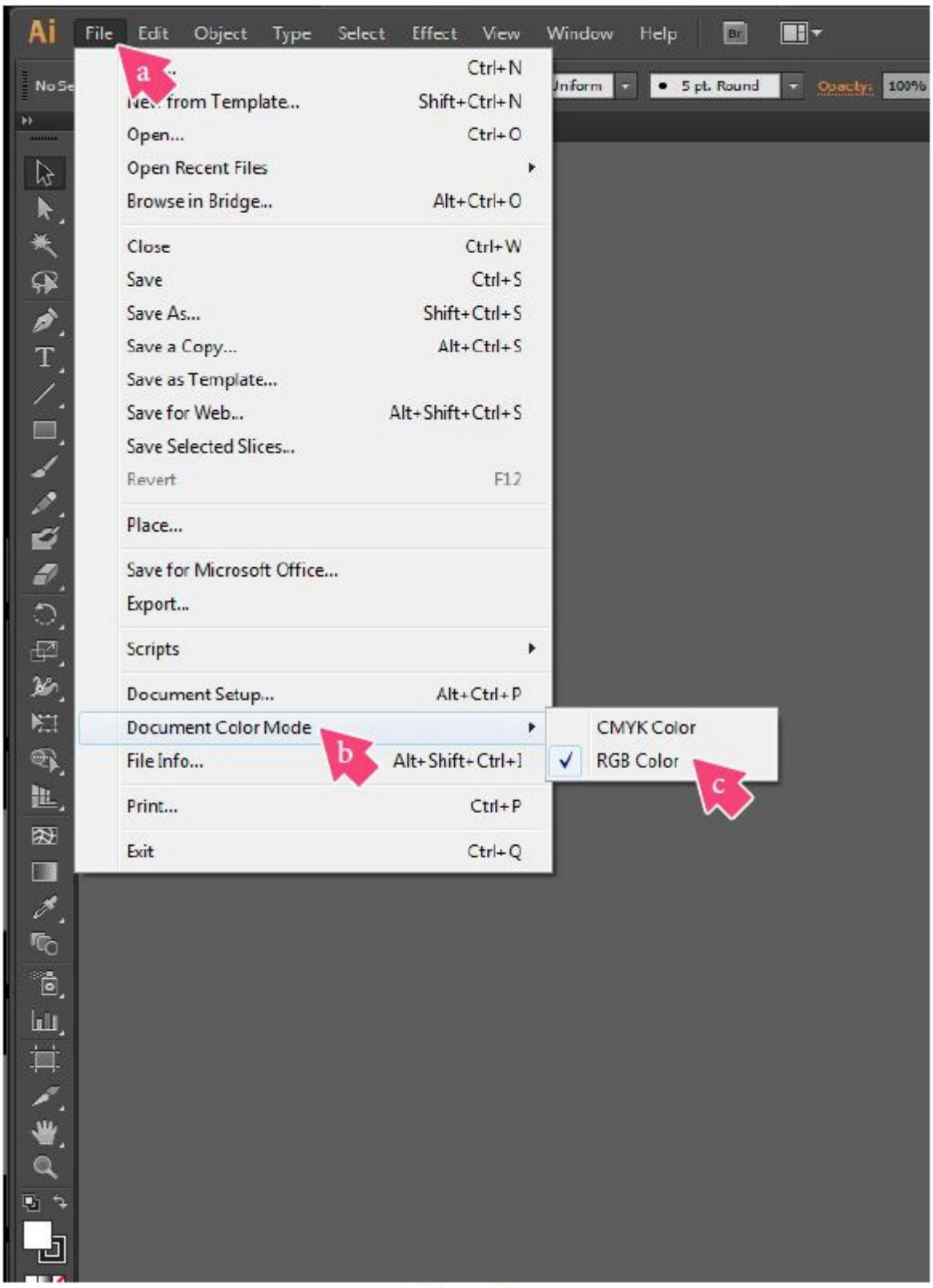


FIGURE 6

2. In the Color Settings window, select **Sawgrass_sRGB** in the settings dropdown and confirm that your settings match those shown below, and click the Save button and name the setting then click **OK**. See Figure 2.

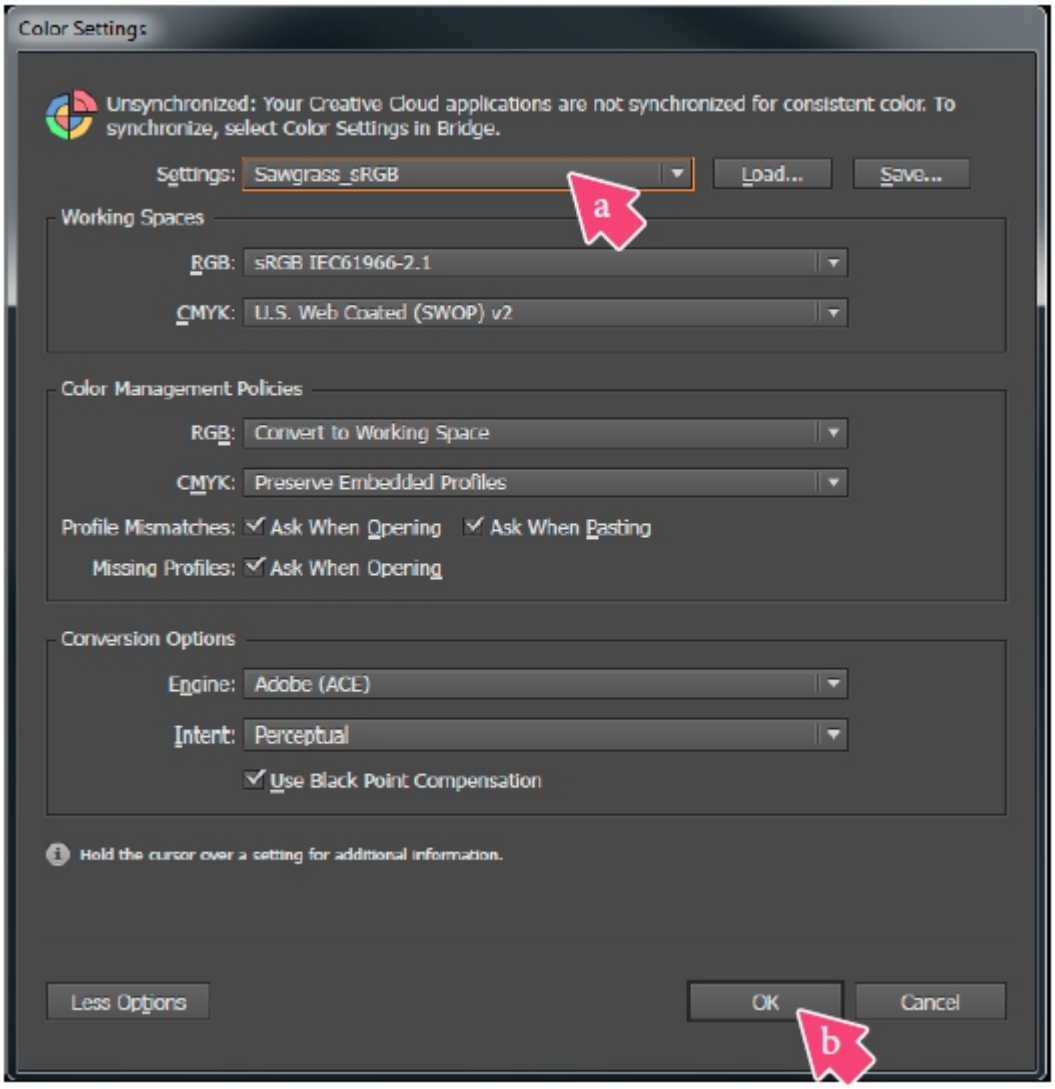


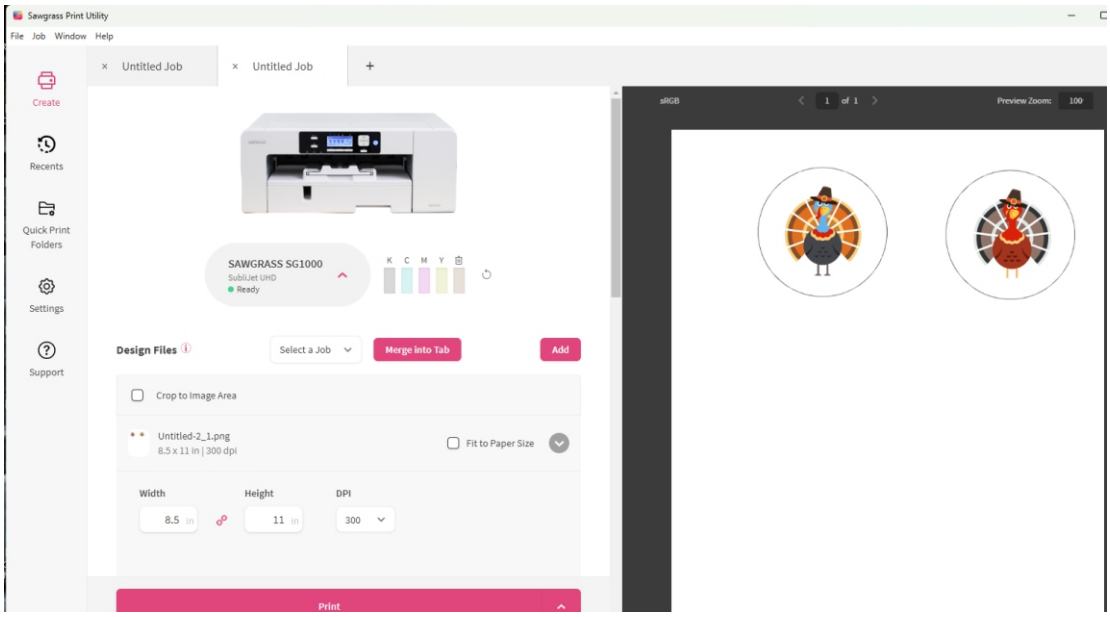
FIGURE 2

COLOR MANAGEMENT SOFTWARE

SOFTWARE PRINT DRIVERS

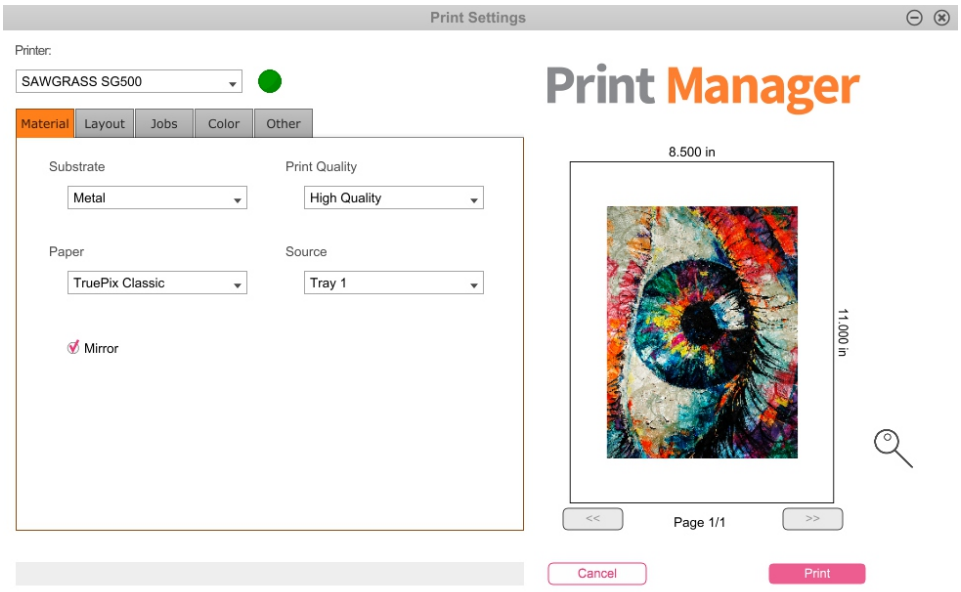
Sawgrass Print Utility and Print Manager Material tab allows for adjustments related to substrate, paper type, and print quality

Sawgrass Print Utility



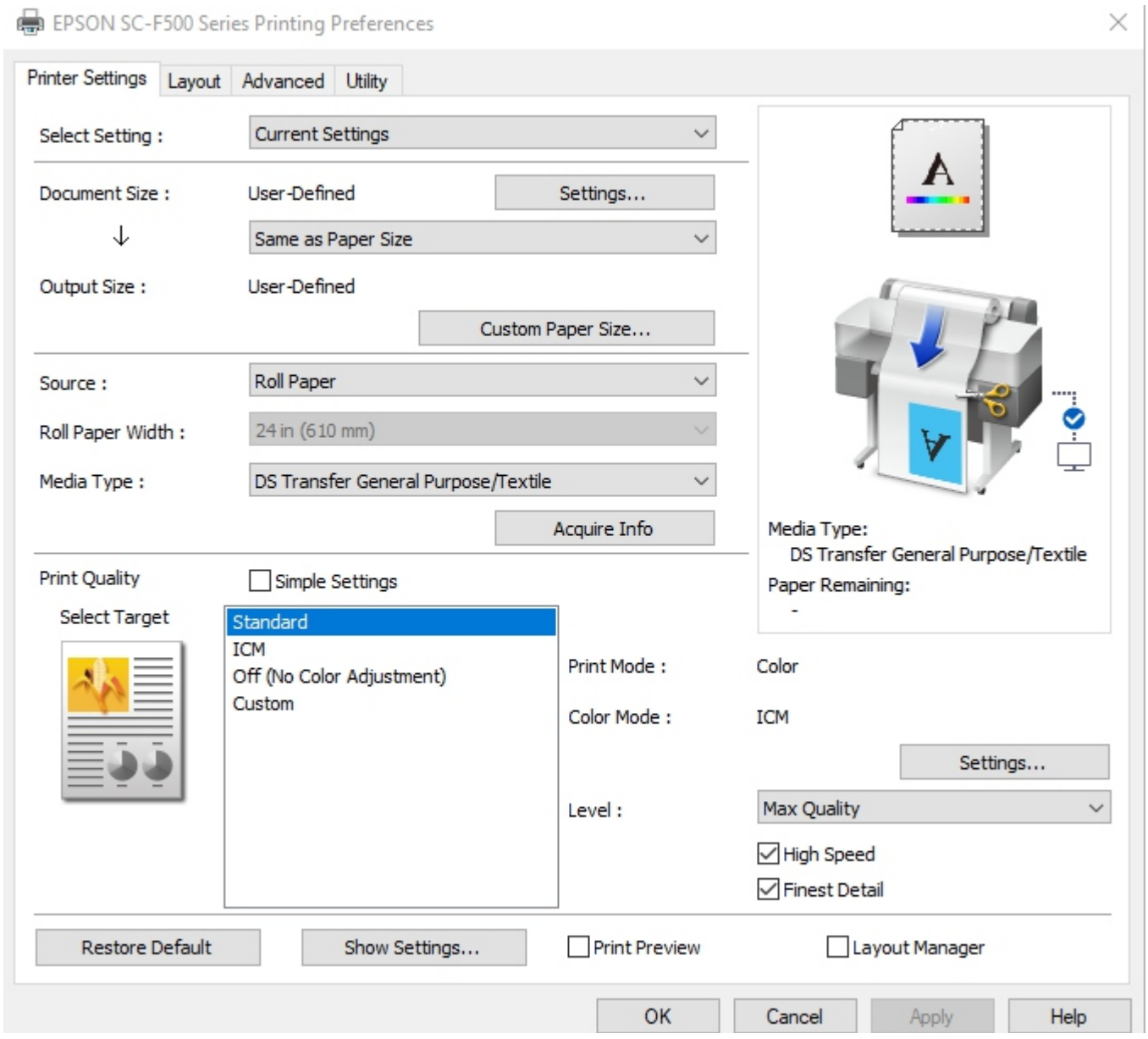
Adjusting your Color Management in Print Utility to Classic

Sawgrass Print Manager



COLOR MANAGEMENT

Epson F570



COLOR PALETTE

Creating and sublimating color palettes is the best way to easily access a specific color for a client.

Red_Black.xml

page 1

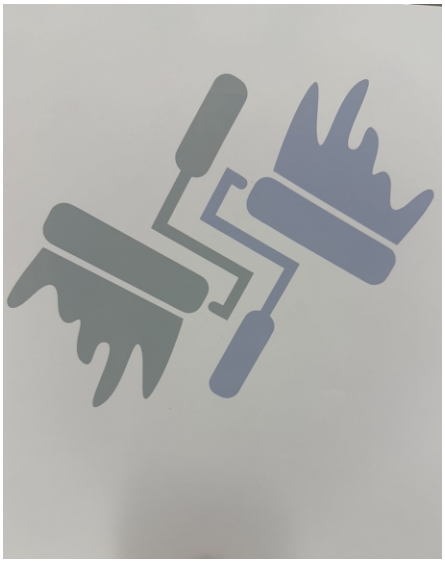


teals1.xml

page 1



Teal is a hard color to match.
- Always sublimate it before you judge it because it will print out silver but it’s a teal color.



Transfer sheet from the printer



Once sublimated on metal

IT'S ABOUT TIME & PRESSURE

- The more dense the product, the longer the dwell time needs to be.
- More dwell time is needed if the image areas appears light/faded and the transfer will still have a significant amount of ink left on it. 90% of the ink should be transferred off evenly.
- On the flip side, if the dwell time is too long, then the colors will shift and the product will scorch and the image will begin to blur.

TOO LITTLE



Blacks green looking

TOO MUCH



Blacks brown looking

JUST RIGHT



TOO MUCH PRESSURE

Some sublimation metals have a softer poly-coating, which can allow the paper to embed itself into the coating when it gets soft.

Settings: 390°, 40 seconds, very light pressure

Layer the press using soft paper. towels (no printing or texture) on the bottom followed by the transfer then the metal.



COLOR ON FABRICS

For sublimation, light colored 100% polyester fabric will give the best results. The lower the polyester content, the more faded the image will appear after pressing and after one washing.



100%Polyester
Dry-Fit
After Sublimating

After 1Washing



100% Cotton

Since the ink is a dye, it is important to remember that if you are sublimating colored shirts, the ink color that is sublimated will be influenced by the color of the shirt. Also, since there is no white ink, if there is white in the artwork, those areas will be the color of the shirt. Below is a comparison of the same image on a white shirt vs. a pink shirt.





Color Matching For Sublimation

Color Matching For Sublimation

Thanks for Attending!

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www.youtube.com/user/JDSINDUSTRIES