

# Troubleshooting Photos

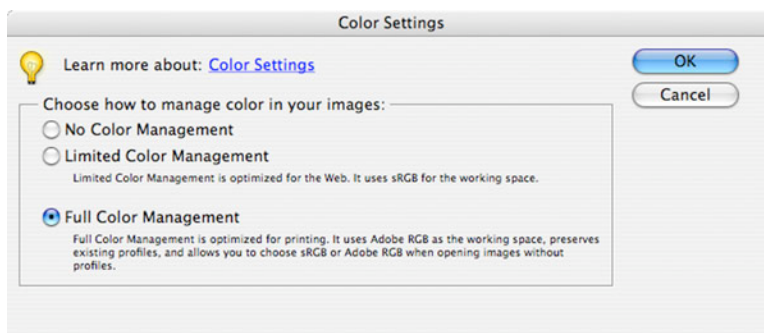
## Color Management With Photoshop Elements 3, 4 & 6 for OS X

Adobe has done a good job in slicing the Photoshop Elements feature set out of Photoshop. You can't do as many different things with Photoshop Elements as you can do with Photoshop, but for preparing and printing photos, you are given a good set of tools. This is true also in color management – not everything is possible, but what you can do, you can do well. This guide assumes you are already familiar with other photo editing and printing operations.

### Setting up for Color Management

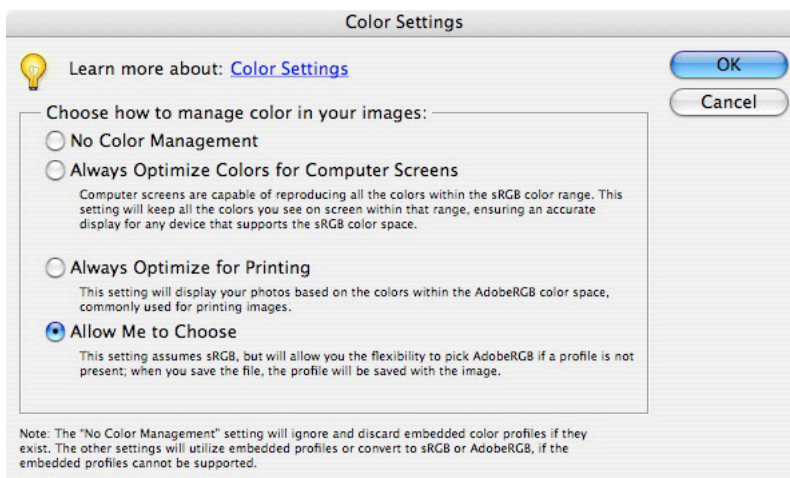
1. In Version 3, go to Photoshop Elements >> Color Settings

Choose: Full Color Management, then OK.



In Version 4 and 6, go to Edit >> Color Settings...

Choose Allow Me to Choose, then OK.

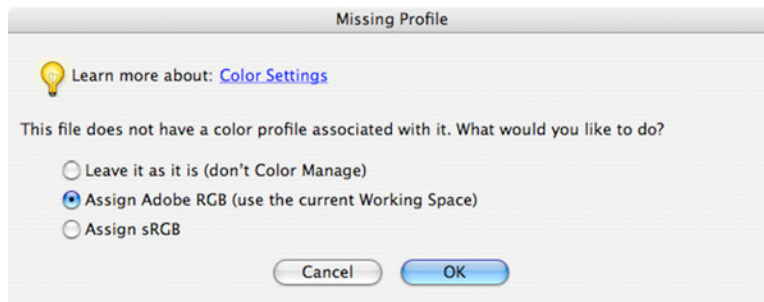


### Opening the image

2. Open your photo.

If it has a color profile, both versions will simply open it. If there is no pro-

you will be asked to choose. Both sRGB and Adobe RGB will work, but for reasons for choosing one over the other, see the brief discussion in *Troubleshooting Photos* in *About... Color Management*.

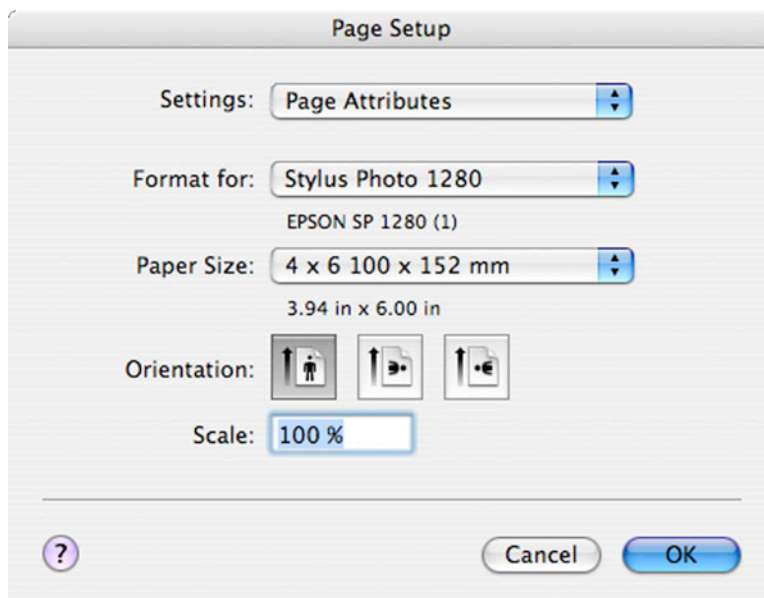


Apply any desired improvements to the photo (as mentioned earlier, this article assumes that you are familiar with these processes). Although Adobe reorganized many of Photoshop Elements' functions, color management handling is identical in both versions, so there will be no further references to versions 3 and 4.

In addition to any other changes you want to make... (and this is unrelated to color management but really is worthwhile for print quality), size the photo for the paper you're using. Yes, you can set the print size in the **Print** dialog, but if you use **Image >> Resize >> Image size**, you have more control over the size and how accurately detail is maintained by interpolation (see *Troubleshooting Photos >> Solutions >> Resizing* for a complete treatment.). This also gives you the opportunity to sharpen the photo in **Filter >> Sharpen >> Unsharp Mask** (see *Troubleshooting Photos >> Solutions... Sharpening* for a complete treatment.)

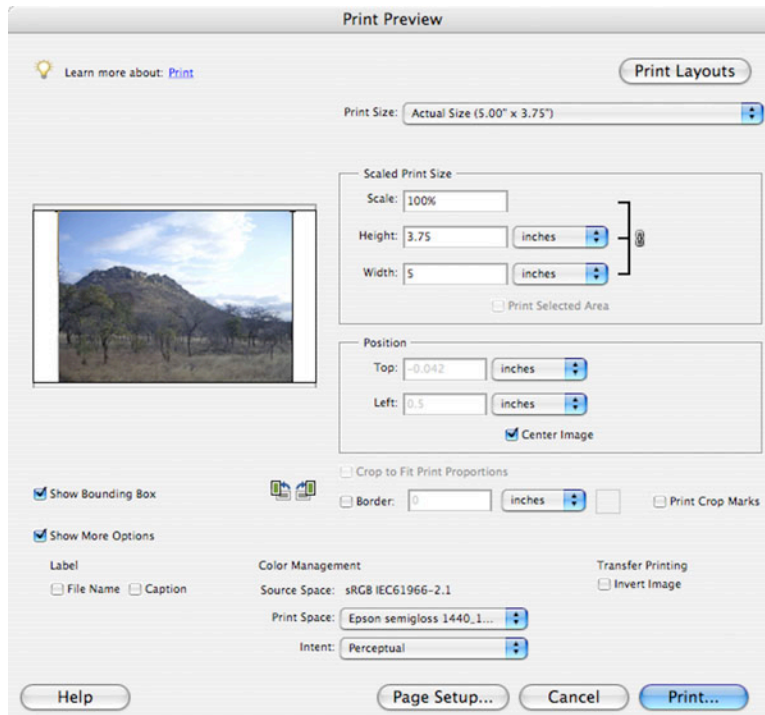
### Printing Your Photo

3. Open **File >> Page Setup** to set the paper size and orientation. If you're printing to an unusual format, such as roll paper, this should appear as an option now. If not, you may have to either re-install the printer driver or create that custom size.



Go to **File >> Print**. Check **Show More Options** (lower left) to open the color management portion of the print dialog. The dialog shown is Elements 4. See the last page for an addendum on Element 6's dialog and some minor differences.

4. Under the heading **Color Management**, you'll see **Source Space** (the color space of your photo) and **Print Space** (where you set the profile of your printer and paper). In this example, the chosen profile is for an Epson Stylus Photo 1280, printing at 1440 dpi (the name in the box has been shortened to a manageable length).

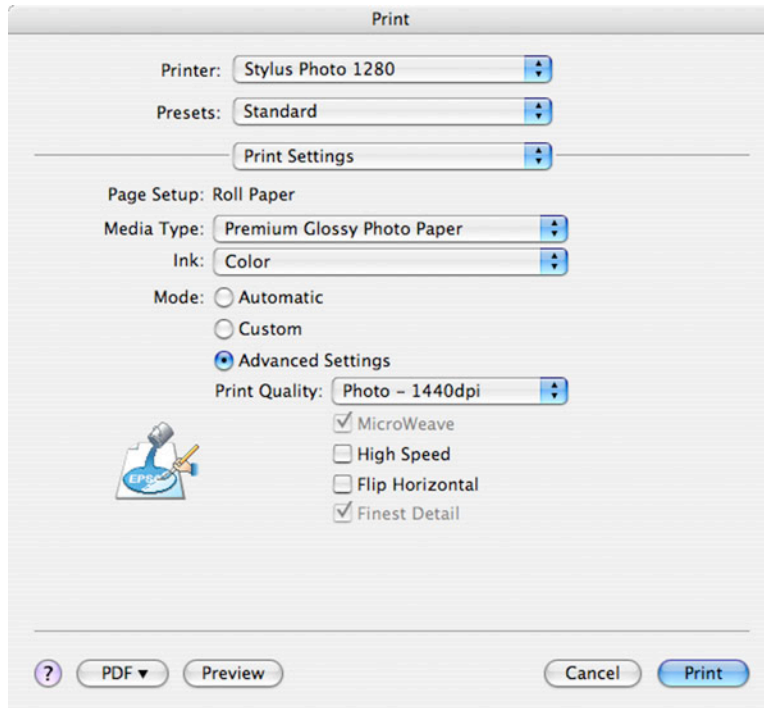


The chosen **Intent** is **Perceptual**, because it's the choice that works with almost every image. In fact, choosing **Relative Colorimetric** works with this picture because almost all the colors are in gamut for this printer (they're natural colors and not too brilliant. The only out-of-gamut color is in the light cyan of the sky, but this is acceptable. Experimenting can teach you a lot about your printer.

5. Click **Print** to call the Printer dialog. Do the steps that follow in the order they are given. If you need to go back for any reason, start again, as this dialog has an irritating habit of setting itself back to its defaults if you go back for any reason.

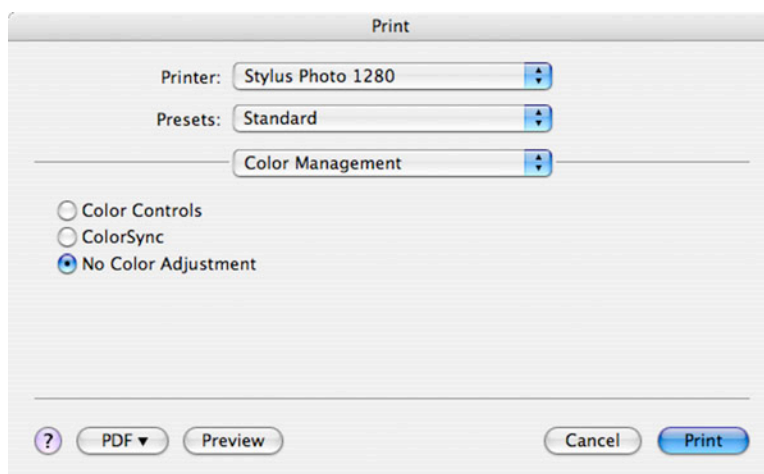
In the **Print** dialog, choose:

- your printer;
- ignore the **Presets** pull-down menu for the minute;
- in the third pull-down menu, choose **Print Settings**;
- note that the **Page Setup** item reminds you of your roll paper setup;
- select the media type, which is **Premium Glossy Photo Paper** in this example;
- ignore the temptation of wash your hands of the whole complicated business and choose **Automatic** -- choose **Advanced** and watch life get simpler as many options disappear;

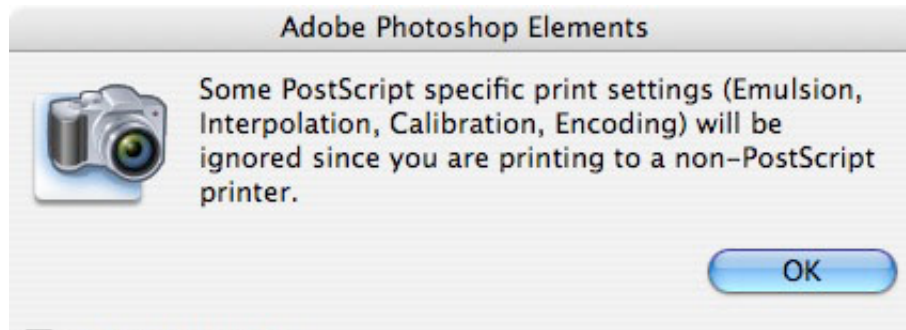


- choose your print quality – 1440dpi, 2880dpi or whatever your printer offers;
  - selecting a high resolution should automatically check options like **Microweave** and **Finest Detail**. If it doesn't, do this. Uncheck **High Speed** for better quality;
  - go back to the third pull-down and choose **Color Management**;
  - choose **No Color Adjustment**, because you don't want the printer trying to do its version of color management on top of the work being done by Photoshop Elements (see what happens when you do this in *Solutions... Redshift*).
6. If you want to save these settings, go to the top of the dialog to the **Presets** menu, pull down the menu and select **Save As** then give the setup a name.

If you want to check that the picture is where you want it on the printed page, click the **Preview** button at the bottom left. Do not judge color on the preview



image; it's just intended to show the photo's position on the paper.



Select **Print**. If it has not already done so, your printer may at this point warn you that some options may not be available (Version 4's dialog is shown, but they're identical save the icon). Click **Don't show again**, **OK** and go ahead.

7. The color management options are essentially the same in Version 6, but there is a welcome contextual warning against having both program-driven and printer-driven color management on at the same time.

