



DEHANCER

PHOTO PLUGIN QUICK GUIDE



Dehancer Photo plugin

Quick Guide, 2022-04-28

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Installation, configuration, and first launch

The installation, initial configuration and activation of the plug-in is described in the **Quick Setup Guides**, which are included with the installation package, separately for each host application and OS.

Recommended Color Settings



Dehancer plugin for Adobe Photoshop / Lightroom Classic / Capture One currently supports source images in **sRGB IEC61966-2.1** color space (other color spaces will be supported as well in the future).

It is important that the same color management is consistent throughout the entire processing and viewing pipeline.

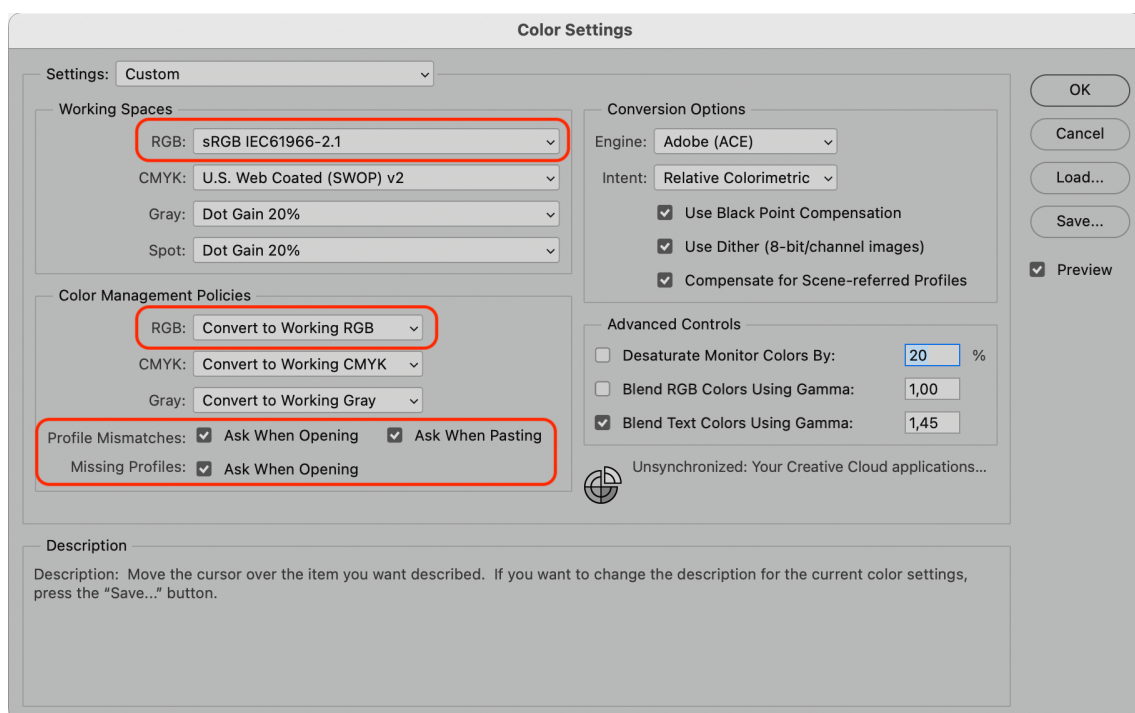
Display Setup

1. Set your display to its native **sRGB color gamut mode** if possible.
2. Use the appropriate calibration profile built especially for your display in **sRGB, Gamma 2.2** (color temperature is insignificant).

Tip: On Mac you can also use the **Internet and Web (sRGB)** reference mode preset included with your new MacBook Pro M1 Pro/Max and Pro Display XDR.

Adobe Photoshop

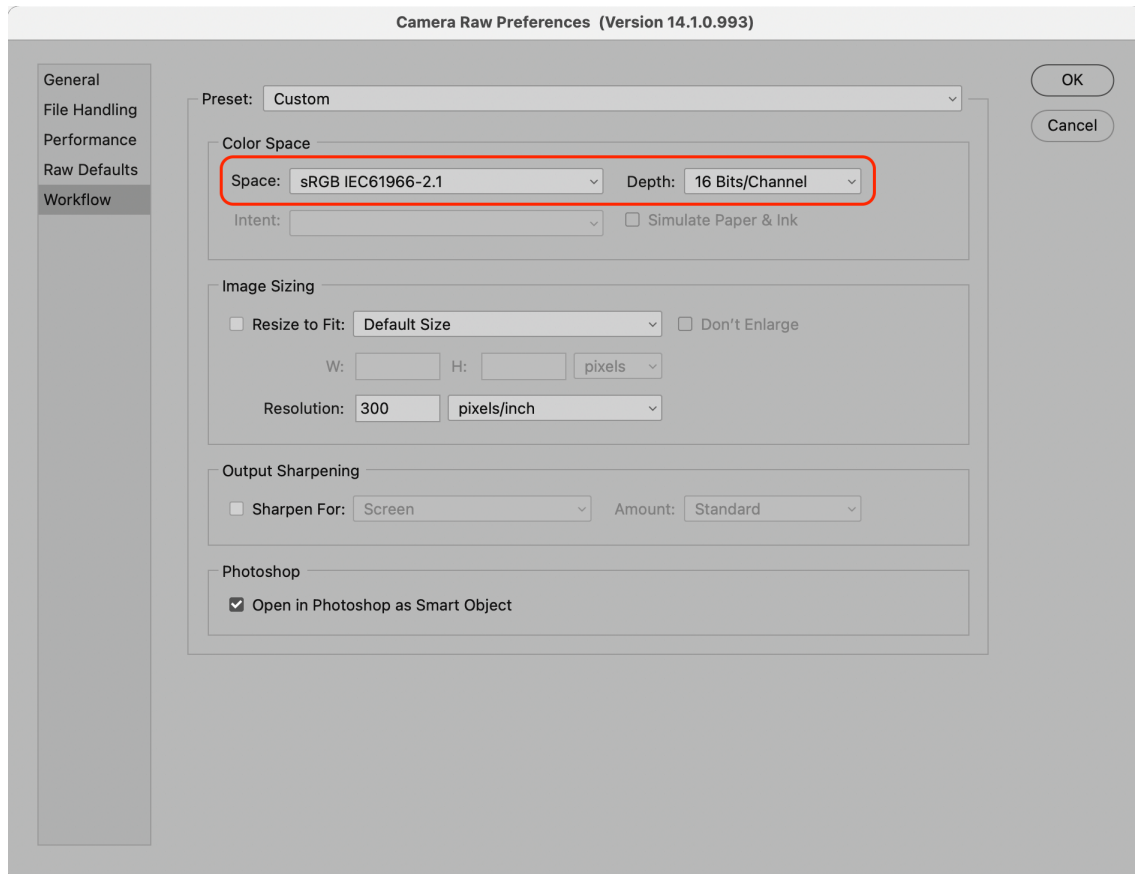
In **Photoshop**, go to **Edit → Color Settings...** and set the parameters as shown below:



- Set the working space to **sRGB IEC61966-2.1**
- In the **Color Management Policies** section, select **Convert to Working RGB** mode, and turn on the checkboxes indicated. Now, when you open the photo, the color space mismatch will be checked and a conversion to sRGB will be suggested.

Adobe Camera Raw

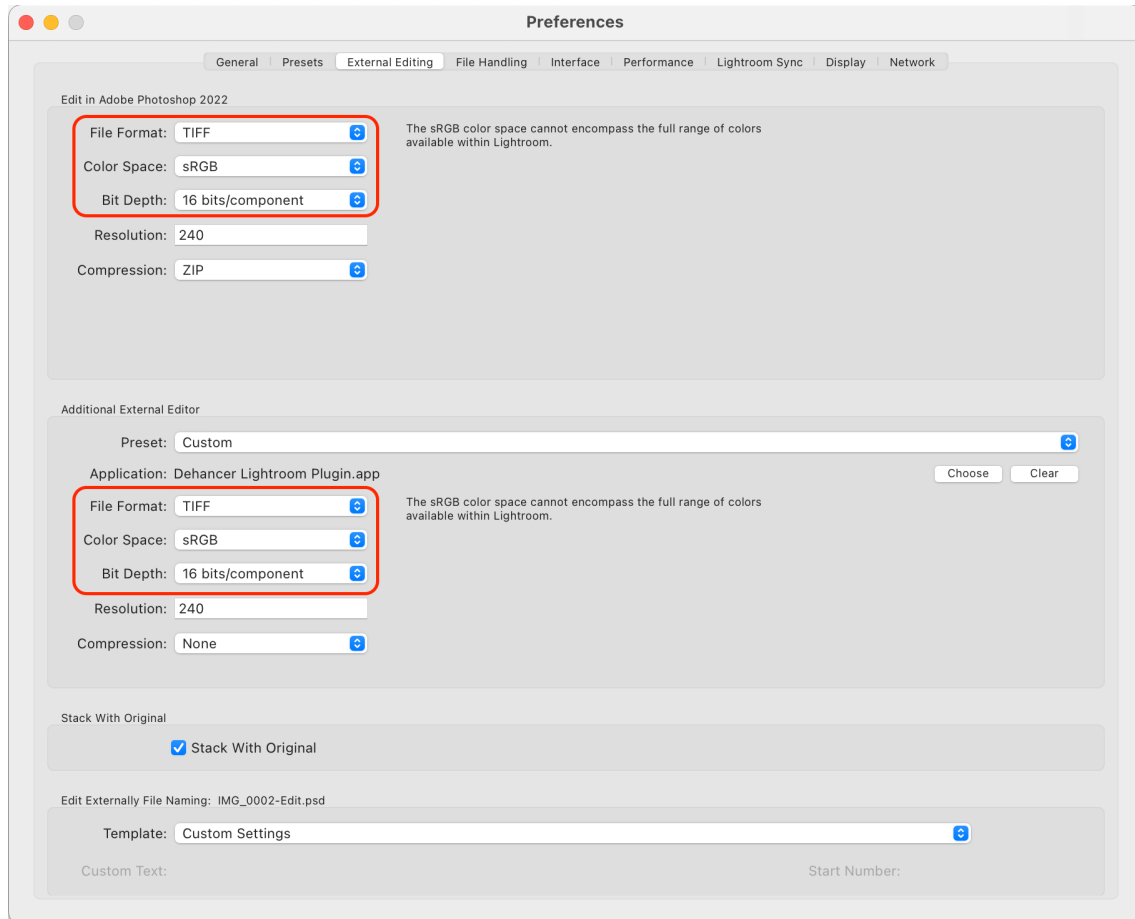
Go to **Photoshop** → **Preferences** → **Camera Raw...** and adjust the settings as shown here:



- Select the **sRGB IEC61966-2.1** color space
- Set the color depth to **16 bit**

Adobe Lightroom Classic

Check the settings in **Lightroom Classic** → **Preferences** → **External Editing**

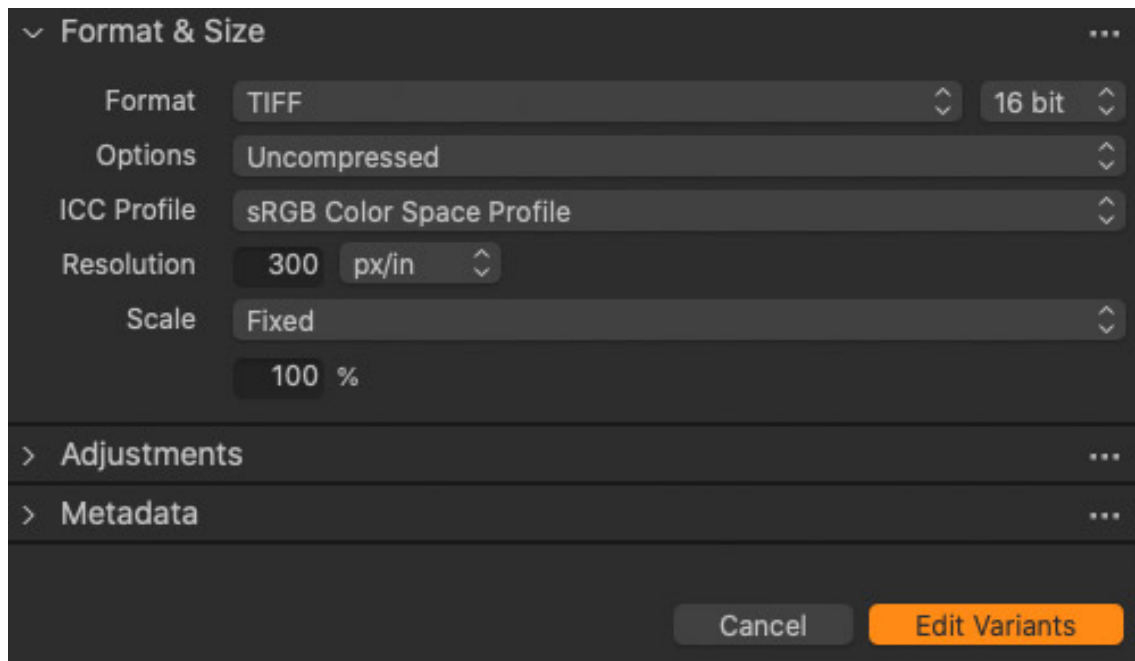


- Use **TIFF** format
- Select the **sRGB** workspace
- Set the color depth to **16 bit**

Use the same settings when exporting from Lightroom if you plan to process it later in Photoshop.

Capture One Pro

In the dialogue that follows the **Edit With...** command, select the appropriate options:



- Format: **TIFF 16 bit**
- ICC Profile: **sRGB Color Space Profile**

Recommended RAW development settings

RAW files for further editing in Dehancer can be processed with almost any software available on the market today.

Photoshop / Lightroom (ACR – Adobe Camera Raw)

We have observed that color rendering in ACR / Lightroom leaves much to be desired, but an acceptable result can be obtained with the following settings:

Profile: Adobe Standard

Exposure: –1

Contrast: –40

Blacks: +60

Curve: Linear

Sharpening = 0

Noise Reduction = 0

Color Space: sRGB IEC61966-2.1

Bit Depth: 16 bit

If you are shooting with an iPhone and using **Apple ProRaw DNG**, try setting the **Amount** value for the **Apple ProRaw profile** to zero. Thus you will reduce the automatic Apple algorithms that are not always reliable (but still, sometimes acceptable). Meanwhile, we recommend setting the **Sharpening** value in the **Detail** tab to zero in order to prevent oversharping.


Tip: In Photoshop any RAW photo can be opened with the **Open As Object** option. The smart object will be created and Dehancer plugin will be applied as a **Smart Filter**, which allows you to easily access both the RAW settings and the plugin's parameters at any time.

Capture One Pro and other RAW converters

While processing photos in Capture One Pro and other RAW converters, we recommend to:

- Correct the most severe deviations in **exposure** and **white balance**
- Use the **Linear contrast curve** if possible, avoiding clipping in shadows and highlights
- Disable noise reduction and sharpening
- Avoid any local enhancements which might cause visible halos
- Export files as **sRGB TIFF 16 bit**

Dehancer Plugin Settings

Hit the gear icon  in the plugin toolbar or press the **[S]** key to open Dehancer plugin Settings.

Update Film Profiles

Use this button to launch the **Profile Update widget**.

All the new or missing Film Profiles will be immediately downloaded and installed for shared usage with Ps / LrC / C1 plugins.

Activate Dehancer / License Info

This button launches the **Activation widget** that allows to check your License status and to activate the plugin.

Processing GPU


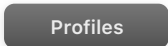









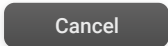

If there are multiple GPUs available in your system, you can manually select the best-performing one. You can also try a different GPU in case of any specific problems with the plugin.

Fast Preview

This setting allows progressive rendering of the preview for images that are larger than the specified size limit. This makes Dehancer interface more responsive when working with large images on low-performance computers.

→ Related articles:
[F.A.Q.: Dehancer plugin and Profiles Update](#)
[F.A.Q.: How to buy and activate the License?](#)

Interface and keyboard shortcuts

	Preview	Preview Before/After	[Space]
	Profiles	Show/Hide Profiles	[Q]
	Presets	Show/Hide Presets	[W]
		Show/Hide Settings	[S]
		Show/Hide left panel	
		Reset all adjustments to their defaults	[R]
		Restore last used settings	[L]
		Undo last edit	[Z]
		Undo last edit	[Shift+Z]
		Zoom to fit / Zoom to 100%	[Double click] on the image preview
	Buy License	Visit Dehancer web store	
	Cancel	Close Dehancer plugin window without applying any changes	[Esc]
	OK	Apply Dehancer processing	[Enter]



Add selected Film Profile
to Favorites



Delete selected Preset

[Backspace]



Create new Preset
with current settings

[A]



Export selected Preset to file



Import Preset from file

Photo processing workflow

Dehancer is a versatile tool that allows a variety of approaches. However, based on our experience, we can provide an all-purpose workflow for photo processing.

1. Develop your RAW photo

Working with RAW is always the preferred option because it contains lots of useful information and, most importantly, it is free of the excessive processing that is typical of smartphone cameras in particular.

Detailed advice on processing RAW files is given in the [Recommended RAW development settings](#) chapter of this manual.

2. Adjust Source Corrections

The original image may still have some issues, which can be conveniently corrected immediately with the [Source Corrections](#) tool.

3. Choose a Film Profile and adjust the Push/Pull

Choose the [Film Profile](#) that best suits your scene. Note that you can switch between Film Profiles with the up and down arrow hotkeys.

Also, remember that the **Push/Pull** option gives you the opportunity to further adjust the profile appearance according to the film exposure.

4. Adjust the Expand settings

We recommend adjusting [Expand](#) immediately after a film profile selection. Set the black and white points to 'fit' an image into a dynamic range of your color space.

5. Configure Print options

Start by selecting [Print Medium](#), then sequentially adjust Exposure, Contrast, and other [Print settings](#).

To improve the detail at the extremes of the tonal range, you can optionally enable the [Analogue Range Limiter](#).

6. Revisit the Expand tool

Since the edits you made in the previous step can significantly affect the black and white points, it is recommended that you readjust the Expand settings.

7. Adjust the CMY Color Head

After setting the tone of the image, you can make further adjustments to the color balance. The CMY Color Head tool is perfect for this kind of fine-tuning.

8. Enable additional effects

Some salt and pepper will make the dish even better.

→ Related article:
[How to manage image contrast and avoid clipping](#)

Film Profiles, Push/Pull

Film Profiles are heart and soul of Dehancer. Each film is accurately sampled with all of its characteristics. If you are ready to bet on years of film experience – then you can simply scroll and try film profiles in the list until you get the most interesting or desired results.

Push/Pull (Ev)

All films behave differently depending on how much light they received during exposure. In Dehancer film exposure is implemented with the Push/Pull (Ev) parameter. In fact there are 3 different film exposures sampled to build each film profile in Dehancer.

As a creative tool Push/Pull allows you to vary color-contrast look of a scene within a selected film profile. Also, Push/Pull can be a good helper in clipping control, since contrast greatly depends on film exposure. With negative films it affects overall color and contrast. With positive films Push/Pull allows to set the desired slide exposure, opening blocked shadows or protecting blown-out highlights.

Tip: We optically print negative B&W films on the famous Slavich Bromportrait paper known for its noble warm tone. If you need a pure black and white look, you may set the Saturation = 0 in the Print section at any time.



Related articles:

[How we build film profiles](#)

[What is Push/Pull and how it works?](#)

[Modern motion picture color negative films](#)

[Complete list of Dehancer film profiles](#)

Source corrections

Source corrections are meant to quickly compensate for obvious technical issues of a source material.

Temperature Comp., Tint Comp.

These settings technically work in a similar manner but in relation to the temperature and tint of the source.

Defringe

Defringe helps to deal with the chromatic aberrations visible at the edges that may interfere with some of the Dehancer effects, such as Halation and Bloom.

Tip 1: Temperature and Tint compensation are better suited for strong deviations of a source, while Color Head is designed mostly for creative application and more subtle adjustments.

Tip 2: In some particular cases Defringe may lead to visible halos around the edges in combination with the Bloom or Halation effects. Lowering the Defringe amount and radius settings helps to deal with this issue.

Expand

Expand tool provides a separate manual control for black and white points in relation to the output color space.

All films naturally have different contrast, different black and white points. At the sampling stage, we avoid digital correction to preserve the individual features of the films, which ensures a fair and convincing simulation. Thus, film profiles in Dehancer, without additional adjustment, usually lack contrast, but at the same time they have a lot of headroom for creative adjustments.

We recommend adjusting Expand immediately after a film profile selection. Set the black and white points to ‘fit’ an image into a dynamic range of your color space.

During a grading session you will probably revisit this tool several times.

Color Mode

The Color Mode option can be useful if you encounter unwanted color shift or oversaturation. In the Luma mode Expand affects only the luminance component of an image, but does not affect its color, so the changes in contrast have no effect on the saturation.

Tip: If your source doesn’t have enough headroom for the Expand adjustments try to enable the **Analogue Range Limiter** checkbox in the **Print** toolset which gives more ‘relaxed’ extremes.

→ Related article:
[How to manage image contrast and avoid clipping](#)

Print Medium

Optical printing is the last stage of the analogue production. As the result we get a paper print for direct viewing or a positive film for screen projection. Both can be scanned for digital delivery. Optical printing is the only analogue solution that can be used for proper interpretation of the negative films.

Beyond the technical significance, any print medium has its own tint, photo latitude and contrast curve that makes it a useful creative tool.

In the **Print** parameters group, you have a choice of the print mediums:

Linear

Only a 'pure' profile of a selected film is used, without the influence of the characteristics of photographic paper.

Cineon Film Log

Selected film is 'printed' into **Cineon film scan format**. This parameter also makes it possible to 'print-out' negatives outside Dehancer.

Kodak 2383 Print Film

Selected film is 'printed' onto **Kodak Vision Color Print Film 2383**.

Kodak Endura Glossy Paper

Selected film is 'printed' onto **Kodak Endura Premier Glossy Paper**.

Tip: It is convenient to follow the analogue pipeline when matching the print medium with the film. Use the Linear profile with positive films, Kodak 2383 for movie stocks and Kodak Endura paper for photographic negative films. However, experiments are always welcome.

→ Related article:
[Print Film Profiles in Dehancer](#)

Print Settings

Relying on our experience in optical printing and our research into the psychophysiology, we have developed the dedicated print settings that faithfully reproduce the analog processes:

Target White

Only available when **Kodak 2383 Print Film** is selected. Allows to adjust the temperature of the printing light source in the 5500-6500 K range.

Exposure (Ev)

The Exposure tool is based on characteristic curves of optical prints. With the analogue approach to the exposure correction it naturally affects the image contrast too. This parameter is measured in the exposure value steps (Ev).

Tonal Contrast

The Tonal Contrast tool inherits a nonlinear nature of analogue processes. Increase the value to give more punch or apply negative correction to visually 'soften' an image. Notice that changing the contrast also visually affects the exposure, which is also typical for analogue media.

Color Density

Traditional 'digital' saturation affects all hues equally and linearly. On the contrary, the Color Density tool provides perceptual saturation control, i.e. it affects aesthetically significant colors in a higher degree.

Color Density can be used to quickly solve many specific problems – for example, to mitigate oversaturated accents or emphasise meaningful colors without painstaking adjustment.

Saturation

This is a more "traditional" saturation control based on altering the chroma components in YCrCb space. This correction is available only in the reduction way due to the fact that oversaturation usually degrades the aesthetics.

Analogue Range Limiter

By default, Print adjustments work within the boundaries of the 'digital' contrast range. Black and white points are normalised to the digital brightness values of 0 and 100, respectively.

To obtain a softer image and improve the detail at the extremes of the tonal range, enable the Analogue Range Limiter which uses the uncorrected black and white point values as they were measured on the reference prints.

Tip 1: Even though Tonal Contrast uses sophisticated nonlinear compression, it may lead to some clipping at high values. If this happens, revisit Expand to set a more 'relaxed' cutoff for black and white points or enable the Analogue Range Limiter checkbox to get more headroom for processing.

Tip 2: To get a saturated and expressive image, we recommend starting with increasing the contrast and simultaneously slightly decreasing the exposure. You can also adjust the Color Density to emphasise your colors.

Tip 3: Some combinations of the print settings may produce colors falling out of the gamut, with visible artefacts, especially when Color Density is increased. In this case lower the contrast and saturation or try another film or print media profile.

→ Related article:
[How to manage image contrast and avoid clipping](#)

CMY Color Head

Subtractive CMY Color Head is based upon the analogue color correction tool integrated in photo enlargers. The similar method is used in Printer Lights – a special device for optical movie printing to a positive film. Both have the same principle – changing the color of light used for print exposure.

In Dehancer the Color Head tool is represented with three complementary color pairs (YMC-BGR or commonly used CMY-RGB), combining both analogue devices into one digital tool:

Yellow — Blue

Magenta — Green

Cyan — Red

The effect of changing these parameters corresponds respectively to their labels.

Gang

Dehancer uses the real-life measured color filters values. Thus, even with the identical adjustments in all three axis, the color changes are visible. For your convenience, we have provided the Gang checkbox, which allows changing all three filters at once.

Preserve Exposure

During the analogue printing the exposure is affected by color filters. Dehancer inherits this behaviour. When Preserve Exposure is set to 100%, it automatically compensates any exposure changes, introduced by the Color Head corrections.

Impact

This slider adjusts an overall impact of the effect, acting like ‘opacity’.

Tip 1: Prefer the Color Head tool for creative adjustments, while leaving the Input Temperature and Tint compensation for strong WB deviations of a source material.

Tip 2: Setting the Preserve Exposure slider to zero results in exposure changes during color correction – just the way it does with the analogue printing process. This is an additional way to naturally change an image density in Dehancer.



Related article:

[CMY Color Head – analogue correction for digital images](#)

Film Grain

Real grain on film isn't just overlaid on top of an image, but in fact the image itself entirely consists of grain. Dehancer literally reconstructs the shot, using the local color and brightness characteristics along with a complex physical modelling of a film emulsion.

There are 2 film types and 2 processing modes available in Dehancer:

Film Type

1. **Negative** grain is more pronounced in the highlights and the image has a slightly higher microcontrast, which is more typical for negative films.
2. **Positive** grain uses the 'classic' algorithm that reproduces a softer grain, which is less pronounced in the highlights and is more typical for positive films.

Processing Mode

1. **Analogue** is the original type of grain that requires more processing power but results in lifelike simulation.
2. **Digital (Experimental)** is the high performance simplified grain that may be useful for dithering tasks (for example, to eliminate the posterisation), for low-resolution projects and draft rendering.

Size

This parameter determines a size of silver halide granules. A higher Size value corresponds to a more photosensitive (and therefore more granular) emulsion.

Amount

Total amount of grain generated, corresponding to a 'film' optical density.

Shadows, Midtones, Highlights

This parameter affects grain distribution between different zones of a tonal range to match your scene texture and grading look by setting the grain amount individually for shadows, midtones and highlights.

Film Resolution

Usually the smallest image detail on film does not exceed the grain size. Dehancer Film Grain is considering this fact by design. Also it is possible to manually adjust this effect to mimic a specific emulsion resolution or to compensate for an excessive image softness.

Film Resolution parameter set to 100 keeps the initial sharpness of a source media. Lowering the Resolution results in gradual loss of detail, while an image becomes more blurred. Resolution set to 50 represents the detail balanced with a current grain size and amount.

Chroma

Grain chromaticity may vary on different films. This parameter determines the saturation of the dye granules in film emulsion.

Tip 1: On the real film, grain can be found in both the deepest shadows and the lightest highlights. But it cannot be visible on pitch black or pure white – technically there's no detail in there. That is why Film Grain naturally affects black and white points, lowering visible contrast when enabled. Thus the **Expand** correction is recommended to regain the contrast.

Tip 2: Sometimes, even at the minimum Size and Amount settings, grain appears too obvious for some applications. To get even subtler and softer grain lower the **Shadows, Midtones** and **Highlights** values and use the Film Resolution to make-up the excessive sharpness. Also you can try different grain types and processing modes.

→ Related article:

[How does film grain work in Dehancer OFX plugin](#)

Halation

Halation is the film emulsion effect visible as the local red-orange halos around the bright light sources, specular highlights and contrasting edges. Also, halation may produce a well pronounced red glare in the midtones, mostly affecting the skin tones.

Source Limiter

This setting defines the minimum light source brightness that is able to produce halation. The default value = 0 means that even the weakest source is able to produce halation. By increasing this value, you can cut the effect produced by low intensity lights.

Background Gain

This parameter sets the range of the background tones on which halation becomes visible. Default value allows halation to appear on most backgrounds. Decreasing this value eliminates the effect over the lighter ones.

Smoothness

This integral parameter controls the distribution of the halation effect between the large and small sources, visually smoothing smaller halation details. Increasing the Smoothness value reduces the effect around the point sources in favour of the larger areas. Setting the Smoothness to zero leads to the most detailed halos.

Local Diffusion

This parameter defines how far the light spreads in an 'emulsion'. The higher the Local Diffusion value, the larger the geometric size (radius) of the halos.

Global Diffusion

Global Diffusion controls the degree of the secondary glare produced by scattered light. This is a more global effect that affects mostly low-contrast midtones and also enhances the primary halation.

Amplify

It is important not to confuse this setting with the Impact as the Amplify affects the sensitivity of an 'emulsion' to the scattered light, not the opacity of the effect. Increasing the Amplify value makes the effect more pronounced and shifts the halation toward yellow hues.

Hue

This parameter modifies the sensitivity of the green layer of an 'emulsion' to the scattered light. Use this setting to better match halation hues to a scene in the wide range from cool reds to warm yellows.

Blue Comp.

Cool backgrounds usually dampen the halation. Blue Compensation allows to counterbalance this effect.

Impact

This parameter can be conventionally referred to as 'opacity', since it controls not the physical parameters of the emulation, but the overall transparency of the superimposed effect.

Mask Mode

This checkbox enables a special preview mode which allows you to better control the settings with the effect preview isolated from the source image.

Halation + Defringe

In some cases chromatic aberrations interfere with the Halation effect. Defringe tool helps to deal with this issue.

Halation + Bloom

Usually these effects coexist on film and mutually influence each other. Therefore, it is generally best to use Halation and Bloom in tandem to get a more accurate simulation.

Tip 1: Halation effect is most pronounced when Source Limiter is at its lowest and Background Gain at its highest settings, with Amplify set to maximum. It can be a good starting point – just gradually reduce the effect until getting optimal results.

Tip 2: Increasing the Global Diffusion can be an instant solution to naturally enhance any portraiture, filling the skin tones with a touch of vivid warm glare.

Tip 3: If Halation appears too dim or invisible in Mask Mode, try to temporarily increase the Amplify and Impact values.

→ Related article:

[How does film grain work in Dehancer OFX plugin](#)

Bloom

Bloom emulates the combined effect of light dispersion on the boundaries of contrasting image areas, which originates in the optical system, and then amplified in the emulsion layers. Notice that bloom has little in common with optical soft-effects as it appears only around the light sources.

Highlights

In general, this setting may be considered the ‘sensitivity’ of the effect and determines the brightness threshold for bloom to appear. The higher is the value, the wider the tonal range that produces blooming is.

Source Limiter

Source Limiter is used to cut-off the unwanted blooming from the lower end of the tonal range defined by the Highlights setting.

Details

This setting controls the distribution of the bloom effect between large and small light sources. Increasing the value makes the effect more detailed and precise, up to the smallest point sources. Lowering the Details results in a more global effect across a frame, affecting larger objects.

Diffusion

Diffusion controls the extent of the bloom effect relative to the boundary where it appears. The bigger is the Diffusion value, the larger is the geometric size of the glow radius.

Amplify

Amplify controls the overall effect strength by virtually ‘changing’ the brightness of a light source and the diffusion properties of an emulsion. The higher the value, the more obvious the whole effect becomes.

Save Lights

Bloom affects not only the background but also increases brightness of a light source itself. In digital pipeline this may lead to visible clipping. Save Lights simply does what it's supposed to do, protecting highlights from possible clipping induced by the Bloom effect.

Saturation

Naturally Bloom inherits the hue and saturation of a light source. This setting makes it possible to desaturate the effect at your taste..

Impact

This parameter can be conventionally referred to as 'opacity', since it controls not the physical parameters of the emulation, but the overall transparency of the superimposed effect.

Mask Mode

This checkbox enables a special preview mode which allows you to better control the settings with the effect preview isolated from a source image.

Tip 1: Sometimes with extreme settings Bloom may produce excessive halo-like artefacts. In this case try to increase the Save Lights, decrease the Amplify value and disable the Defringe tool.

Tip 2: If Bloom appears too dim or invisible in Mask Mode, try to temporarily increase the Amplify and Impact values.

→ Related article:
[Bloom: what it is and how it works](#)

Vignette

In lens design vignetting is usually considered a flaw. However, it is also a proven creative tool that allows for better focusing on a subject and adds extra depth. Also, in digital processing vignette with positive exposure values can be used to compensate for unwanted vignetting.

Exposure

Negative Exposure values result in dark vignette while positive values, respectively, produce the light vignette.

Size

This setting defines a size of the vignetting circle.

Feather

Feather controls the amount of blur applied to the vignette circle.

Aspect Ratio

This parameter affects the proportions of the vignette, allowing to make it elliptical (in both the X and Y directions).

Tip: Although the Vignette tool is located at the very bottom of the Dehancer settings, we recommend to adjust it at the beginning of color grading since it affects the exposure and usually increases contrast between the edges and a frame center, thus requiring additional adjustments of the exposure and contrast.

Application path and user data location

Below you can find the main system paths of the installed application components and user data locations, which you may need when contacting support or maintaining the plug-in.

Installation (macOS)

Adobe Photoshop plugin:

/Library/Application Support/Adobe/Plug-Ins/CC/Dehancer

Adobe Lightroom and Capture One plugin:

/Applications/Dehancer Lightroom Plugin/Dehancer Lightroom Plugin.app

User Data (macOS)

Shared folder:

/Users/{user}/Library/Application Support/com.dehancer.film_shared

User Presets folder:

/Users/{user}/Library/Application Support/com.dehancer.film_shared/presets

Adobe Photoshop plugin log:

/Users/{user}/Library/Application Support/com.dehancer.film_shared/
dehancer_logs/photoshop_plugin.log

Adobe Lightroom and Capture One plugin log:

/Users/{user}/Library/Application Support/com.dehancer.film_shared/
dehancer_logs/lightroom_plugin.log

Standalone application log:

/Users/{user}/Library/Application Support/com.dehancer.film_shared/
dehancer_logs/dehancer_pro.log

Installation (Windows)

Adobe Photoshop plugin:

C:\Program Files\Common Files\Adobe\Plug-Ins\CC\Dehancer

Adobe Lightroom and Capture One plugin:

C:\Program Files\Dehancer Lightroom Plugin\Dehancer Lightroom.exe

User Data (Windows)

Shared folder:

C:\Users\{user}\AppData\Local\dehancer\com.dehancer.film_shared

User Presets folder:

C:\Users\{user}\AppData\Local\dehancer\com.dehancer.film_shared/presets

Adobe Photoshop plugin log:

C:\Users\{user}\AppData\Local\dehancer\com.dehancer.film_shared/
dehancer_logs/photoshop_plugin.log

Adobe Lightroom and Capture One plugin log:

C:\Users\{user}\AppData\Local\dehancer\com.dehancer.film_shared/
dehancer_logs/lightroom_plugin.log