Expert Options

Using these options for visual image correction, you can view the curves of different channels and specify how they should be corrected. For good results, you should have extensive experience with color correction and manipulating color curves.

Curves and Parameters

In the pop-up list at the top of the panel, you choose which curves you want to view. Depending on the selection you make, additional controls are provided.

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Figure: List of curves that can be viewed and modified

Curve(s) of Corrected Image

Selecting this options shows the characteristic curves of the corrected image, i.e., the image displayed in <*Corrected*>.
It also offers a <*Display Channel*> pop-up list   from which you can choose to display the curves of one or all of   the channels.
<*All Channels*> includes Cyan, Magenta, Yellow, Black, Saturation, and Intensity/Contrast. They are displayed in the following colors:

Cyan	- Cyan
Magenta	- Magenta
Yellow	- Yellow
Black	- Black
Saturation	- Green
Intensity/Contrast	- Red

<u>Note</u>: Intensity and Contrast use the same curve because they represent the same effect.

The curves listed above can also be displayed individually, in which

case the curve is always drawn in black. When selecting individual curves, the Red, Green, and Blue channels are also available.

If a single curve is selected, only the corresponding single channel is displayed in the images in the main panel. If you select <Magenta>, for example, only the magenta curve is drawn and only the magenta channel is displayed.

Photographic Density
At the bottom right of the panel, you can determine whether the photographic density should be observed or not. You can also set a maximum value for it in the entry field below the button. If this option is selected and all channels are to be displayed, the curve for the photographic density is displayed in blue in the curve window.

Curve of Full Tonal Range
Curve in Shadows
Curve in Midtones
Curve in Highlights
The transition curve is displayed, for calculating the variations of the image in various quartertones. This is a gamma curve and can be modified by changing the <Gamma Value> with the slider bar on the bottom left, or by entering a specific value in the entry field.
The <Shift> parameter on the bottom right can be used for moving the zero-point of the curve. <Gamma Value> and <Shift> determine how much the image is modified with one variation step.

Depending on which of the four options you've chosen, the curve can be modified in two ways: in its full tonal range, or using its shadows/midtones/highlights.

Note: As soon as the curve is modified, the selection in the main panel pop-up list defining the impact of one variation step is set to <Individual>

Shadows / Midtones / Highlights

Color curves are divided into three parts (dark section = shadows; medium section = midtones; light section = highlights). With the parameters provided in this option, you can determine the course of three curves representing shadows, midtones, and highlights. The sum of the three curves must always cover the full tonal range, so it can be enough to modify just the shadows and highlights; the midtones result in the complementary curve. The shadows curve is displayed in red, midtones is green, and highlights is blue.

Shadows - Highlights Threshold
This parameter (ranging from 0 to 1) defines the point of transition between shadows and highlights. This is also the point where the midtones are strongest.

Shadows / Highlights Edge Steepness
These parameters define the areas of transition from shadows to midtones and from midtones to highlights.

The effect of changing these parameters is displayed graphically. Maximum values of a curve show the area where this curve is most influential.

Hint: If you set the edge steepness for both shadows and highlights to 0.0, the midtones will control the full tonal range.
In this case, corrections in the midtones will effect the complete curve and the division among shadows, midtones and highlights will no longer exist.