Screen Calibration Help Index

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For More Information

For information on color, click **Colors...** in the **Setup** dialog box, and then **Help...** in the **Printed Colors** dialog box.

For information on printer setup, click **Help...** in the **Setup** dialog box.

For information on font installation, click **Help...** in the **HP Font Installer** dialog box after clicking **Fonts...** in the **Setup** dialog box.

For late-breaking information on using your HP Color printer with Windows, check the README.TXT file on the installation disk.

For information on your printer, see the *User's Guide* for your printer*.*

To print this or any other help topic, choose **Print Topic** from the Help **File** menu.

Help Screen Text
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Calibrating Your Screen

Screen calibration provides the characteristics of your monitor and the lighting around it to the printer driver. The printer driver uses this information to better match what you see on your screen.

If you are accessing the printer via a network, you can still use screen calibration to better match the monitor on your workstation.   The screen calibrator will affect only output from the workstation upon which you ran it.   If you want consistent output across all workstations on the network (but not necessarily the best match to any one monitor), the Standard Screen option should be selected on each machine.

Calibrate your monitor in as normal a setting as possible. That is, if you normally work in daylight, calibrate your monitor during the day. The following steps will help ensure the best calibration.

* Turn on artificial lighting to its normal settings.

* Position your monitor to avoid reflections.

* Adjust the brightness and contrast dials on your monitor to normal working levels. Once your monitor has been calibrated, do not change these settings.   Use a piece of tape to fix the control dials so they do not get moved.

You only need to recalibrate your screen if or when:

* You get a new monitor or video card.

* You move your computer or change the lighting around its location.

* You are not satisfied with the quality of your screen to printer match.

Note: Screen calibration can be accessed through printer setup.

The calibration methods are:

* **Standard Screen (Fastest):**   Uses the characteristics of a standard screen.

* **Precise Calibration:**   Calibration using shades of gray (still improves color).

* **Most Precise Calibration:**   Calibration using color.

The Calibration Methods

Screen calibration provides your printer driver with the specific characteristics of *your* screen. The printer driver uses these characteristics to match your printing to what you see on your screen.

Standard Screen (Fastest):   Uses the characteristics of a standard screen. This option will provide a consistent image across HP peripherals, but will not be calibrated to your particular monitor.

Precise Calibration: Calibration for most users. Allows you to calibrate to your screen using shades of gray (still improves color). This method only requires you to look at two screens but is not as precise as the Most Precise method.

Most Precise Calibration: Most precise method for sophisticated users. Allows you to calibrate your screen using red, green, blue, and black. This method will take longer than the Precise Calibration method.

Fast Brightness Calibration

Use this screen to establish the point at which the middle section of the screen appears the same *brightness* as the sides.

Leaning away from the screen and squinting may help with this task. You want to get the overall effect of the brightness of the grey--avoid getting distracted by the alternating grey and white lines versus the solid.

The "brightness" screens plus the DC-offset value are used to establish gamma curves for the screen.

Printing the Test Square

Use this screen to print a purple test square from your printer. You will need this purple square to complete screen calibration. You will obtain best results if you print on plain paper. You can print a test square only after successfully installing the driver.

If you move your system to a new area with different lighting, such as closer to or further away from the windows, you should recalibrate your screen.

Print the test square only on plain paper. Do not use glossy paper.

Select the paper you have loaded in your printer, then select Print.

If you already have the test square, select Continue.

If you printed the test square more than four weeks ago, print another one before continuing.

You're preparing for the relative white point determination.

Black to Color Calibration

Use this screen to establish the point at which you can first differentiate the central colored section from the black sides.

Slide the scroll bar until you can first see that the middle area is different from the sides.

This activity provides a measure of DC-offset.

Brightness Calibration

Use this screen to establish the point at which the middle section of the screen appears the same *brightness* as the sides.

Leaning away from the screen and squinting may help with this task. You want to get the overall effect of the brightness of the color--avoid getting distracted by the alternating colored and white lines versus the solid.

The three "brightness" screens plus the DC-offset values for each color are used to establish gamma curves for the screen.

Matching the Purple Square

Use this screen to match the purple square on your screen to the printed purple test patch.

Matching the printed purple square to the purple square on your screen establishes characteristics of the ambient lighting around your screen.

Hold the printed purple square up to your screen next to the displayed purple square. Slide the scroll bar to the point where the two squares match.

This screen establishes the white point relative to the current illuminant in the room.