

Calibrating Your Monitor (PE5)

Many people are unsure how to calibrate their monitors. When we all had monitors that were CRTs (cathode ray tubes), it was popular to use Adobe Gamma software to calibrate the monitors. It is important to note that Adobe Gamma will only help calibrate CRT (cathode ray tube) monitors. Adobe Gamma will NOT calibrate an LCD (liquid crystal display) monitor.

Adobe provides a Tech Note on how to use Adobe Gamma on a Windows computer. The write up is located at <http://www.adobe.com/cfusion/knowledgebase/index.cfm?id=321608> .

Adobe also provides an excellent pdf write up on "Setting Up Your Monitor for Color Management". If you do a Google search for Adobe Gamma, you will find the [write up](#) at the second position on the list. http://www.adobe.com/education/pdf/cib/ps7_cib/ps7_cib17.pdf

The Adobe Gamma software normally comes factory installed, and can be found on your computer at Start > Settings > Control Panel > Appearance and Themes. Find Adobe Gamma and start the program. Use the Wizard option and follow the steps. This will create a calibrated profile on your computer for your monitor. Photoshop Elements will then use that profile when it displays your images.

Note: If you use another monitor calibration program, such as Spyder2express from colorvision.com (\$79), then the Adobe Tech Note will explain how to remove any conflict with Adobe Gamma. Adobe gives the following discussion for LCDs.

Note: Adobe Gamma does not support LCD monitors. To create a profile for an LCD monitor, use a color calibration tool from companies such as Chromix, ColorVision, Gretag/Macbeth, or X-Rite."

Some new LCD monitors come with a self-calibration button on the monitor. That also works pretty well. And it is free.

jcdurrett@gmail.com