



ColorBurst[®]

**Version 7.6 User's Manual
ColorBurst RIP Layout Series
Windows XP, 2000, 2003**

Profiling powered by



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1

Getting Started

ColorBurst® is a Windows® PostScript® Language Level 3 Compatible Raster Image Processor (RIP) that produces a CMYK color composite for printing to a large format inkjet printer. Color correction is performed on-the-fly during output to the printer.

ColorBurst supports Scitex CT, CMYK and RGB TIFF, JPG, PDF, and PostScript file formats. In addition, Crosfield's "Disk Data Exchange Format" (DDEF), often referred to as "shared SCSI disk format," is also supported in all Professional versions of ColorBurst. The RIP is based on the 5D Solutions Ltd. JAWS RIP. Supporting all Type1 and TrueType fonts, ColorBurst is implemented as a 32-bit Windows application. Multiple-page output is supported from PostScript and PDF files.

Hardware Requirements

To run ColorBurst, your computer should meet the following requirements.

CPU	Pentium IV 2.0 GHz CPU or faster with built-in math coprocessor.
Disk Space	1 GB of local hard disk space is required. Network storage can be used but it usually results in slower throughput. If you want to save intermediate files created by the PostScript interpreter for future use, or if your files are very large, 40 GB is recommended.
RAM	1 GB RAM is recommended.

USB port	An available USB port is required for the ColorBurst dongle (keycard).
Display	1024x768 minimum resolution is required. A 17" or larger monitor is recommended.
DVD Drive	The ColorBurst installer ships on a DVD. A DVD-ROM or DVD±RW drive is required to install ColorBurst.

Software Requirements

Windows 2000, 2003, or XP is required; XP is recommended. You must be logged on at the administrator level to properly install ColorBurst.

ColorBurst Installation Procedure

1. Make sure that Windows is already installed and running on your computer. You must be logged on at the administrator level to properly install ColorBurst.
2. Insert the ColorBurst DVD into your DVD-ROM or DVD±RW drive. The installer will automatically launch (or open the DVD manually if you have autorun turned off).
3. When the installation starts, follow the instructions on your screen. It is important to never install a new version of ColorBurst over an existing version; always select a new folder to install ColorBurst.
4. Plug the supplied ColorBurst dongle into the USB port (a USB dongle is required).

The ColorBurst installation program creates a program group containing the ColorBurst icon. The ColorBurst installation process is now complete.

ColorBurst Dongle Utilities

As of ColorBurst version 7.6, a USB dongle is required—the older parallel dongle has been replaced by USB. All parallel ColorBurst dongles must be converted to USB. To convert a parallel dongle, please contact ColorBurst Systems to purchase a dongle conversion kit.

The ColorBurst USB dongle driver is automatically installed during ColorBurst installation. However, if the driver needs to be reinstalled later

for any reason, it is named Install USB Keycard.bat, and can be found in the ColorBurst\System folder.

Starting ColorBurst

When ColorBurst is started the main ColorBurst window consisting of a toolbar, work area, and message window is displayed. The Name of the currently selected Printer Setup file is displayed in the toolbar. When Auto Set Default Positions is selected in the Windows menu, the windows will be positioned to fit the main ColorBurst screen exactly when the Layout, File Info, and Message windows are all displayed.

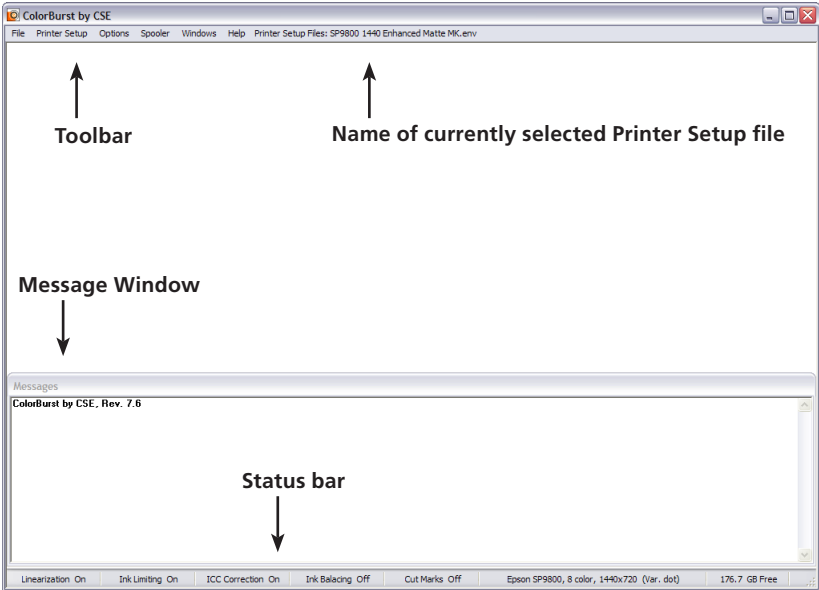


Figure 1.1. The main ColorBurst window.

Each of the menu items on the toolbar—File, Printer Setup, Options, Spooler, Windows, and Help—is described in the following sections of this manual.

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File Menu

The first menu item is File. When selected, there are five items available (including Exit) if no files are currently open. The File Info, Convert, Convert As, and Scale&Rotate items are not available until a file is opened.

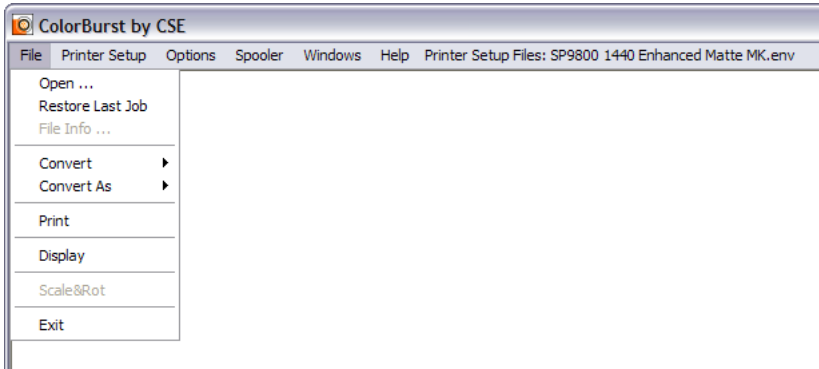


Figure 2.1. The ColorBurst File menu.

Open

Clicking on Open will display the Open dialog. This dialog allows you to open a file (CT, CLF, EPS, TIFF, JPG, etc.) from any available local or network drive and directory and add it to the current layout. If no layout was previously in effect and displayed on-screen, then a layout window is created, representing the size of the media. If you are running on a LAN (Local Area Network) or WAN (Wide Area Network), your network rights to your login will determine the drives and directories to which you have access.

When the file you wish to open is displayed in the File Name field, double-click on the file to open it, or click on the file once to select it, then click on Open to open the file. Of course, the file name may always be entered manually in the File Name entry box.

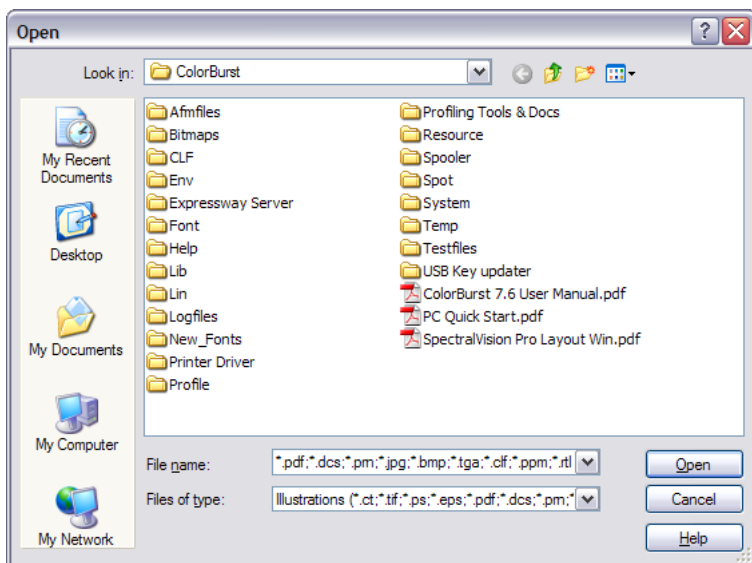


Figure 2.2. The Open dialog.

If a layout is already in effect when a file is selected, it is added to the existing layout. Error messages will inform you if the file is invalid (wrong file type). If it cannot fit in the current layout, the message “Image will not fit in layout. Add it anyway?” appears. If you choose to Add the file, it is placed in the layout if any part can fit. If there is no room to place even the smallest part of the image in the layout, the same message is displayed until No or Cancel is selected.

When a file is opened and added to the layout, it will appear either as an outline with the file name or as a bitmapped preview of the file. When a file is ripped in ColorBurst, a preview is saved for the file and will be automatically used when it is opened again (the preview file is saved in the Bitmaps folder). Otherwise, an outline with the file name inside is shown until the file is displayed and a bitmap preview is created. Bitmap preview files are created for screen display only and are not antialiased. The

bitmap image size may be set to Low, Medium or High in the Window Options dialog.

NOTE: If a file is modified/saved after being ripped in ColorBurst, the preview bitmap is no longer valid. The file will appear as an outline in the Layout window until it is ripped again in ColorBurst.

To delete a bitmap preview file through ColorBurst, select the image in the layout. While holding the Control key, click the image. A dialog will appear asking if you want to delete the bitmap for this file; click Yes to delete the preview. The file will now appear as an outline in the Layout window and must be displayed again to create a new preview. It is helpful to delete a bitmap preview file when changing display resolutions or ICC display profiles; deleting and re-displaying the file will update the bitmap preview with the new settings in effect.

Restore Last Job

The Restore Last Job item will open the last layout that was printed. If you close a layout before it is printed, the layout information is lost.

File Info

The File Information dialog serves two purposes. First, it lets you verify that the selected file is indeed the file you want to process. Second, it is a shortcut to start processing, i.e., printing, displaying, or modifying the layout or images. This dialog appears automatically after you select a valid file (TIFF, JPG, CT, CLF, EPS, etc.) in the Open dialog. You can also display this dialog by choosing the File Info menu item under the File menu on the menu bar or by clicking on a file in the Layout window.

Once a valid file is selected in the Open dialog, it remains selected until you open another file, add another file to the layout, or select another file in the Layout window. The Step&Repeat, Scale/Rot, and Delete buttons, as well as the Display command, process the selected file. At any

time you may want to display this dialog to be sure that the file you want to process is currently selected.

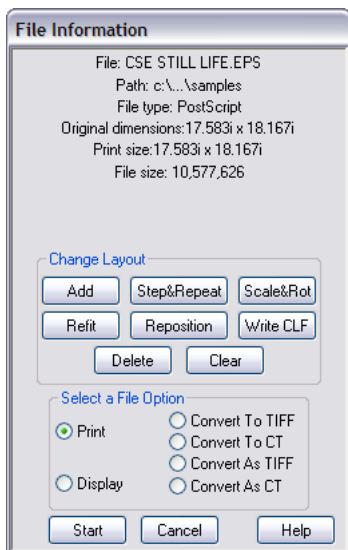


Figure 2.3. The File Information dialog. This dialog appears when any image is opened (File > Open). It can also be accessed by selecting File > File Info.

The top portion of the dialog gives general information about the selected file. This information includes the file name, drive/directory path, file type, and file size.

Change Layout

The middle part of the dialog is the Change Layout group. “Layout” refers to ColorBurst’s ability to position and print multiple files at a time. The command buttons here can be executed with a single mouse click.

Add button

The Add button allows you to add an illustration to the current layout. It is equivalent to closing the File Information dialog and issuing an Open command under the File menu on the menu bar. The Open dialog displays, allowing you to add an illustration from any available path. If the illustration that you select is already in the layout displayed on the screen, you will be asked to confirm that you want to add a duplicate.

If the file selected is valid, it will become the currently selected file. Information about the file will be displayed in the top portion of the File Information dialog, and a blue outline representing its size and position will be added to the layout window.

Step&Repeat button

The Step&Repeat button opens the Step and Repeat Options dialog. This dialog lets you specify how to duplicate the selected image in the Layout window.

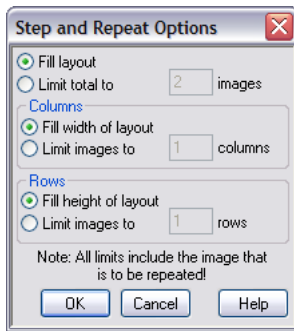


Figure 2.4. The Step and Repeat Options dialog. This dialog can be opened by clicking the Step&Repeat button in the File Info dialog.

There are three default selections when the dialog opens—Fill layout, Fill width of layout, and Fill height of layout. These three options work together. When these three options are selected, multiple copies of the selected image are added to the layout, as many times as it will fit. If the selected image is the only image in the layout, Step&Repeat performs the expected task of filling the layout with only this image. Other images may be in the layout when you select the Step&Repeat button. The space remaining on the media is used to try to fit the selected image using the current best-fit formula in effect.

You may specify a number of images to add to the layout by entering a value in the Limit total to entry box. For example, if you enter a value of 5, the image will be repeated five times in the Layout window, as long as there is enough space in the Layout window for all five images to fit.

NOTE: If you enter a number of images, the selected image is considered the first image, and more images are added to make up the total number of images.

The Fill columns group lets you add images in a specified number of columns. The Rows group lets you add images in a specified number of rows. If both of these options are selected, the image will be repeated in the specified number of columns and rows.

Scale/Rot button

The Scale/Rot button allows you to scale and/or rotate the currently selected image through the Scaling & Rotation dialog. This button is equivalent to the Scale&Rotate menu item. See the description of the Scale&Rotate menu item for detailed information.

Refit button

The Refit button repositions every illustration in the layout according to the current best-fit formula in effect. You may change the best-fit formula in the Layout Options dialog. The main use of Refit is to undo manual repositioning that you may have made using the mouse or Reposition button, or to close a hole in the layout created after a file is deleted.

Reposition button

The Reposition button opens the Set Current Position dialog. Entering values for In and Down places the upper left corner of the selected image at those exact coordinates in the layout. The default unit of measure used here is set in the Printer Options dialog.

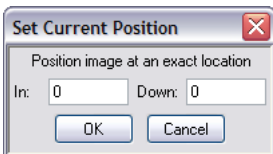


Figure 2.5. The Set Current Position dialog, opened by clicking the Reposition button in the File Info dialog.

Write CLF button

You can save a layout at any time by selecting the Write CLF button. Color Layout Format (CLF) files contain pointers to one or more illustrations that make up a layout.

You open CLF files like any other type of image file, and the extension .CLF is a defined search extension in the Open dialog. All files pointed to within the CLF file are added to the current layout as if you had issued an Open command or selected add in the File Information dialog for each image individually. The last image found in the CLF file becomes the currently selected file and its information is displayed in the File Information dialog.

The CLF contains the positions of all files in the saved layout. An attempt is made to put the files in the same positions that they were saved in, if there are no files in the current layout. If there are files in the current layout when the CLF is read, each file from the CLF is repositioned as it is added to the layout. If you use a “best-fit” formula that repositions all files whenever a new file is added, the positions of the files in the CLF may change even if there are no files in the current layout.

If job titles were in effect when the layout was saved, the positions have been altered to allow room for the titles. If image positions are maintained and job titles are no longer in effect, there will be extra space around the images. More significantly, if job titles were not in effect when the layout was saved and they are when you read the CLF, images may overlap because of the additional room needed for titles. If this possibility exists, you should select the Refit button in the File Information dialog to reposition all images after reading the CLF file.

Saving a layout is the only way you can send a cropped, scaled, rotated, or tiled image to the spooler. The Write CLF button displays the Save As dialog for saving the current layout under any name and in any directory that you choose. If you are adding many images to a layout, it is a good idea to save the layout periodically.

NOTE: Spooler uses CLF files when layouts are in effect. Files entering the queue monitored by Spooler are pointed to by a CLF file named SPOOLER.CLF, so you should avoid using this name for your layout. See Spooler Layout Options for more information.

Delete button

The Delete button deletes the currently selected file from the layout. Before deleting, you will be asked to confirm that you really want to delete the file. After you confirm the deletion, the layout is checked for duplicates. If found, you will be asked whether all copies of the file should be deleted. Answering Yes deletes all copies, and answering No deletes only the selected block from the layout.

Clear button

The Clear button clears every file in the layout, leaving an empty layout window. This inhibits printing since there must be at least one file in the layout for the Print command to work.

Select a File Option

The lower portion of the File Information dialog is the Select a File Option group. This group allows you to start processing the selected file. Selecting one of these options and choosing the Start button is exactly like selecting one of the options under the File menu. The Print radio button (the default selection) is equivalent to the Print menu item, the Display radio button is equivalent to the Display menu item, and the Convert To and Convert As buttons are equivalent to the Convert and Convert As menu items.

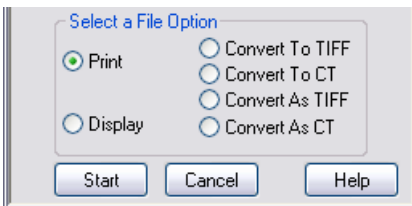


Figure 2.6. The Select a File Option settings in the File Info dialog. The Start button is used to begin the process selected here (Print, Display, or Convert).

Start button

If you are ready for processing, select the File Option and click the Start button or press <Enter> on the keyboard. The File Information dialog disappears and printing, displaying, etc. begins immediately.

It is not necessary to start processing immediately. If, for example, you need to set up Printer or PostScript Options, or if the file selected is not the file you want, simply click the Cancel button or press <Esc> on the keyboard. The File Information dialog will disappear, but the file is still selected and the layout is still in effect. The next time you select Display, for instance, the currently selected file will display on the screen. Selecting Print will print the layout.

Convert, Convert As

ColorBurst allows you to create TIFF and Scitex CT files through the File menu and the File Information dialog box, as well as the Spooler.

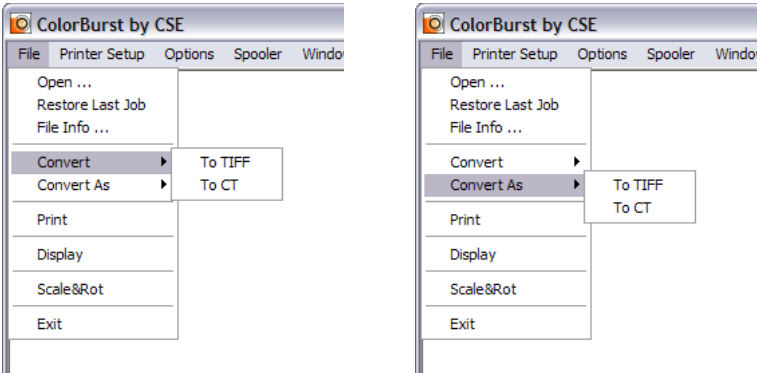


Figure 2.7. The Convert and Convert As menus.

The Convert command is only available after a file has been selected. The conversion taking place is from any image format, such as an EPS or a TIFF, to a TIFF or a Scitex CT, as selected in the sub-menus of the Convert and Convert As menus. The file is saved with the current file name and a .TIF or .CT extension, depending on which file type is selected, to the path specified in Output Directory of the Postscript/Layout Output File Options dialog box.

When a file is converted, the progress of file conversion is shown in a progress window. A gauge at the center of the window shows the percentage completed. This process may be stopped at any time by selecting the Cancel button or pressing <Esc>.

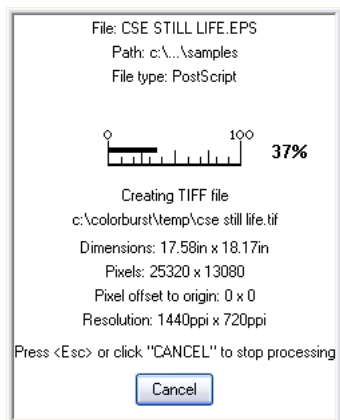


Figure 2.8. The Convert progress window.

Convert As allows you to name the output file. The file type may also be selected by choosing either "To TIFF" (CMYK TIFF) or "To CT" as a sub-menu selection from Convert and Convert As.

The naming convention (.TIF or .CT) used for Convert is also the default name for Convert As. Note that the default directory for this dialog box was specified as the Output Directory in the Postscript/Layout Output File Options dialog box. Also note that like files cannot be converted; a file that is already a CMYK TIFF will not convert to a CMYK TIFF, nor will a CT file convert to a CT (an RGB TIFF can be converted to a CMYK TIFF).

Print

The Print command starts the printing process, which always includes all images in the current layout rather than single files. A single file is printed when it is the only image in the layout.

If no file has been selected or if there is no current layout, i.e. the layout window is not displayed on the screen, Print acts exactly like Open to allow you to add a file to the current layout.

When one or more files have already been added to the layout and Print is selected, a Print progress window appears. This screen gauges the progress of the RIP and the printer.

The progress of the printer is graphically enhanced to better show the actual printing. The progress “bar” is a thumbnail of the current layout on the media. Any offsets in effect are shown in the thumbnail. As a portion of the layout is printed, it turns gray. The actual percent of the entire layout that has been sent to the printer displays to the right of the thumbnail. You may abort printing at any time by selecting the Cancel button or pressing <Esc> on the keyboard.

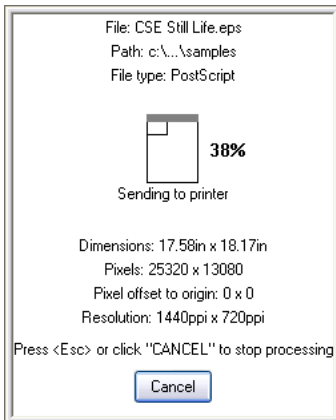


Figure 2.9. A progress window is shown during printing.

The position of images on the print media, the number of copies to print, etc., are controlled by the Printer Options dialog.

Display

The Display command is used to display, crop, and tile an image on the screen, and has a shortcut to scaling and rotation. You can also double-click an image preview in the Layout window to open the

Display window. When an image is displayed, it appears in a scalable, moveable window, initially centered in the main ColorBurst window. If rulers are turned On in the Window Options dialog (found under the Windows menu), they will appear at the top and left side of the Display window. The file name is shown at the top of the window. Four image modification buttons (Crop, Crop to Size, Tile, and Scale/Rotate) appear at the bottom left corner of the window. Close and Restore buttons appear in the center bottom. Four zoom buttons (Zoom to Marquee, Zoom Up, Zoom Down, and Best Fit) and a zoom pop-up menu are located to the right.

When you Display a multipage PostScript file, each page is displayed individually. The page displayed is the page that is currently selected in the layout.



Figure 2.10. The Display window. A file can be displayed by double-clicking the file in the Layout window, or by selecting Display and clicking Start in the File Info dialog.

The size of the display window is proportional to the size of ColorBurst's main window. ColorBurst tries to fit one dimension of the display

window to the size of the main window. All images (TIFF, JPG, CT, etc.) are run through the PostScript RIP and scaled to fit the display window. Standard Windows moving and sizing of boxes with the mouse or keyboard is supported. If the image is resized, it is always kept proportional so the image may not always fill one of the dimensions of the display window. Only one image can be displayed on the screen at a time.

Image Zoom buttons

The four zoom buttons and the pop-up menu at the bottom of the Display window allow you to zoom in and out of an image. These tools are the same as the ones located in the Layout window; you can zoom in both the Layout and Display windows. The maximum zoom percentage is 1600% and the minimum size is 25%.

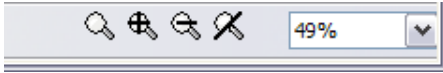


Figure 2.11. The Zoom buttons at the bottom of the Display window.

To use the Zoom to Marquee button, click it once to select it. Then click and drag over the image to select the area to zoom in on. The Zoom Up and Zoom Down buttons are clicked once to make the image zoom in or out. The Best Fit zoom tool is clicked once to return the image to fit in the window. Best fit displays 100% of either the width or height for the current display window size.

The zoom pop-up menu is used to set the zoom to a certain percentage of the original size. You may select any of the preset percentages or type a number into the box for a custom zoom. The Best Fit options will resize the image to fill one dimension of the Display window, either the width (Best Fit Horiz.) or the height (Best Fit Vert.).

When an image is zoomed up and exceeds one dimension of the Display window, a scroll bar will appear; this allows you to scroll to see the rest of the image. The scroll bar will disappear if you zoom down and it is no longer needed.

Cropping

Cropping is available in the Display window. To frame an area within the display that you want to crop, simply hold down the mouse button and drag the mouse to select the area. Once an area has been selected, you can drag the frame around to get the exact crop. You may also resize the crop box. As you move the cursor within range of a side or corner of the crop box on the screen, you will see the cursor change to the resize cursor arrows. If you click the mouse when this cursor is showing, you are in resize mode. The regular (arrow) cursor will be positioned at the side or corner and normal Windows resize functions will take place.

Click the Crop button (the first button) to reduce the original image to the selected area. The layout window will automatically reflect the new image size, outlined in dashed lines. If you are not satisfied with your cropped area, you can drag or resize the cropped area to reposition the crop. You may also select the Restore button to undo the crop. The original image will display, and you may crop the image again. Selecting the Close button will close the Display window and finalize your crop. If you decide not to crop the image, Restore the image and Close the window.

You may crop a file with multiple pages. You may choose to crop each page separately, or you may crop each page in the same way. To crop all pages in a file at once, select the first page of the file and then Crop. You will be asked, "Make same change to all pages in job?" If you click Yes, all pages will be cropped. If you click No, only the currently selected page will be affected.

Unless you restore the full image, the image will be cropped when it is printed. Cropping does not alter the original file. All cropping information is stored in the internal structures of the layout. The crop remains in effect as long as the layout remains in effect. The only way to save cropping information is to write a CLF file. If you want to send a cropped image to the spooler, you must crop the image on the screen, select the Write CLF button in the File Information dialog to write a CLF file, and then send the CLF file to the spooled queue.

Crop to Size

The second button at the lower left corner of the Display window is the Crop to Size button. Clicking this button once will open the Crop Box Size dialog. This dialog allows you to enter the exact dimensions of your cropped area. You may also enter the exact coordinates of the top left corner of the crop box.

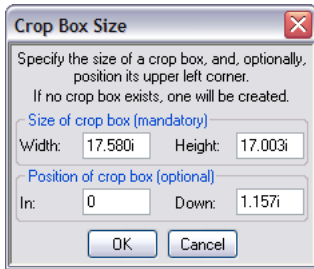


Figure 2.12. The Crop Box Size dialog. This dialog is opened by clicking the Crop to Size button in the Display window.

If you have already cropped your image and then click Crop to Size, the dimensions and placement values of your current crop will be shown, and may be changed. If the image is not cropped, the full size of the image is entered in the size width and height.

Tiling

Images may be tiled through the Display window. When you display an image, you will see a Tile button (the third button from the bottom left corner of the Display window) after the two cropping buttons (Crop and Crop to Size). Clicking the Tile button once changes the display to tiling mode. The buttons in the bottom center of the window change from Close and Restore to Save and Cancel, red dashed lines divide the image into tiles, and red tile numbers appear in each tile. The initial placement of the tile lines and numbers depends on the settings in the Tiling Options dialog. Use the Cancel button to cancel tiling without closing the Display window, and click Save to save tiling without closing the Display window.



Figure 2.13. A tiled image in the Display window.

Tiles may be adjusted three ways—manually, through the Change Tiles dialog, and through the Tiling Options dialog. ColorBurst will not allow you to create tiles larger than the Layout Area or smaller than the Minimum Tile Size set in the Tiling Options dialog. If you stretch a row or column and an adjacent row or column becomes smaller than the minimum size, it is eliminated. The eliminated row or tile can be recovered by making the stretched row or column smaller again.

When adjusting tiles manually, there are several options available. Placing the arrow over a red dashed line changes the arrow to the resize arrow; click the mouse and move the line to stretch the column or row of tiles. Click the right mouse button over a tile to move that row of tiles. Click the left mouse button over a tile to move that column of tiles.

Change Tiles

Once you are in tiling mode, if you click the Tile button a second time, the Change Tiles dialog will open. This box allows you to enter the number of tile columns and rows, as well as resize each individual tile and specify

which tiles to print. The current number of columns and rows appears when you open the box; the calculated size of the tiles resulting from these numbers appears below in the entry boxes. This dialog is also available from the Scaling, Rotation, & Tiling dialog, by clicking the Tile button.

There are three ways to constrain tile sizes. If you select Keep columns in row/rows in column the same, all of the tiles within a column will be the same width, and each tile in the same row will be the same height. You may also choose to keep only one of these dimensions the same, allowing you to create staggered tiles of different sizes within each row or column.

The Select Tiles to print group allows you to print specific tiles. Each tile is numbered according to the Print Rows or Print columns setting in the Tiling Options dialog. Each tile that will print is numbered in the Display window. The default is to print all tiles, so all tiles will display with a number when a file is tiled. When any other range is entered, only the selected tiles will display with tile numbers, and only those tiles will print.

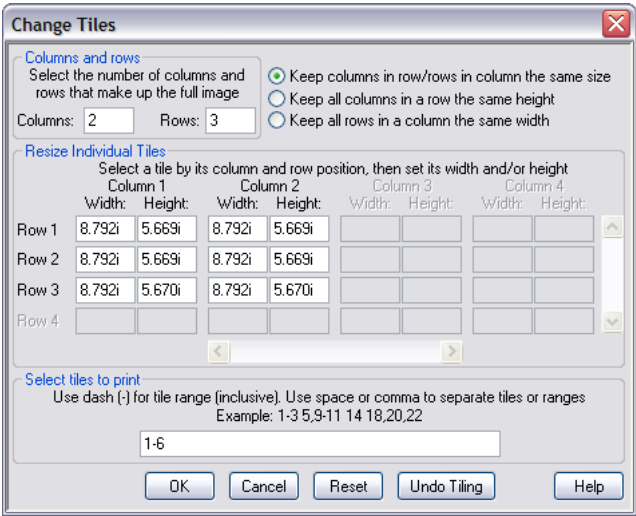


Figure 2.14. The Change Tiles dialog. This dialog is opened by clicking the Tile button in the tiling mode of the Display window.

Clicking the Reset button will restore the Tile Size set in the Tiling Options dialog. Click the Undo Tiling and then Save to remove all tiling

from the image. Clicking Save will close the Change Tiles dialog and divide the image into equal tiles according to the numbers entered in the Columns and Rows boxes. Clicking Cancel closes the Change Tiles dialog without making any tiling changes.

Once the Change Tiles dialog is closed, to save your tiling information, select the Save button. The buttons at the center will change back to Close and Restore; click the Close button to close the tiled image.

When tiling is saved and the Display window is closed, the box in the layout window representing the image will change to represent only the first tile of the image. If you print the first tile, the printer will advance and print each succeeding tile until all tiles are printed. Tiles can be printed in order of rows or columns, as set in the Tiling Options dialog.

Unless you Cancel the tiling information, the image will be tiled when it is printed. Tiling does not alter the original file. All tiling information is stored in the internal structures of the layout. The tiling information remains in effect as long as the layout remains in effect. The only way to save tiling information is to write a CLF file. If you want to send a tiled image to the spooler, you must tile the image on the screen, select the Write CLF button in the File Information dialog to write a CLF file, and then send the CLF file to the spooled queue.

If you want to tile an image that is scaled, rotated, and/or cropped, it is a good idea to make those changes before tiling the image. If the tile size is set to a specific size in the Tiling Options dialog, making the image larger (by scaling or changing its crop) may result in more tiles. Making a file smaller may result in fewer tiles. If you set a number of columns and rows in the Change Tiles dialog, making the image larger will make each tile larger, which may result in tiles that are larger than the layout area. Likewise, making the image smaller will make each tile smaller, which may result in tiles that are smaller than the minimum size. If this occurs, an error message will appear to inform you that tiling will be reset to tile by the size set in the Tiling Options dialog. Any changes from scaling, rotation, or cropping changes will undo manual tiling.

You may print multiple copies of each tile by entering the number of copies in the Printer Options dialog. The first tile will print as many times as specified, then the second, and so on.

Tiles are always printed with cut marks to show where the overlap and trim is to be cut so that adjacent tiles abut exactly. These marks are always 1/4 inch long by one pixel wide and are positioned according to the Tile Overlap and Trim Outside Tiles values entered in the Tiling Options dialog.

Scale&Rotate

The Scaling, Rotation, and Tiling dialog can be opened by choosing Scale&Rotate from the File menu, by clicking the Scale&Rot button in the File Information window, or by clicking the fourth button from the bottom left corner of the Display window. Scale&Rotate will be disabled in the File menu if no files are open. The Scaling, Rotation, and Tiling dialog contains three tabbed windows; it opens in the Scale, Rotate, Tile tab.

General tab

The first tab from the left, General, shows the currently selected file's name and information. The Unit of Measure, used for layout and file dimensions and in the Display window, may also be changed here.

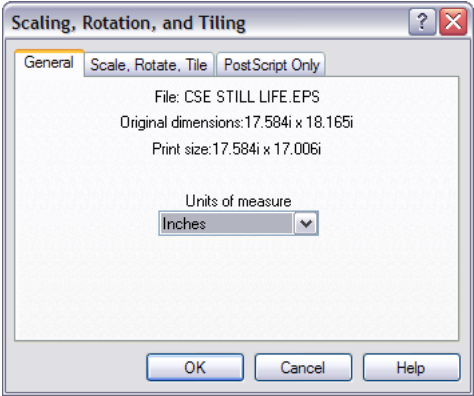


Figure 2.15. The General tab of the Scaling, Rotation, and Tiling dialog.

Scale, Rotate, Tile tab

The Scale, Rotate, and Tile tab provides several options for scaling images, including a scaling method specific to tiling. You may also rotate files and access the Change Tiles dialog.

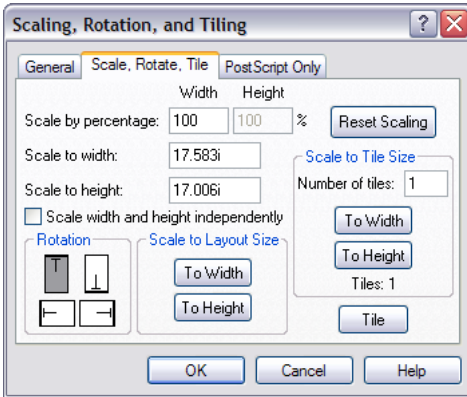


Figure 2.16. The Scale, Rotate, Tile tab of the Scaling, Rotation, and Tiling dialog.

The first way to scale an image is Scale by percentage. A number entered here changes the image size to a percentage of the original size. Therefore, numbers less than 100 make the image smaller, while numbers greater than 100 enlarge the image. The default is 100%, the original size of the image. The Height box is enabled when the Scale width and height independently checkbox is selected; this allows for each dimension to be scaled to a different percentage.

The second way to scale an image is by a user-defined width or height. When a number is entered in either the Scale to width or Scale to height entry box, the other dimension will automatically change to keep the proportions of the original file, unless the Scale width and height independently checkbox is selected. You may enter the width or height in printers points, picas and points (p), inches (i), feet (f), millimeters (mm), centimeters (c), meters (m), or pixels (x). The default unit can be selected in the Units of Measure pop-up menu (located in the General tab).

The Scale width and height independently checkbox allows for anamorphic scaling. When this box is selected, you may scale the width and height without affecting the other dimension. When this box is unchecked after scaling a file, the original ratio is used based on the value in the Width box.

Scale to Layout Size

A third method of scaling is by the width or height of the layout size. Selecting either the To Width or To Height button in the Scale to Layout Size group changes the width or height of the selected image to the width or height of the layout size. Once one of these buttons is selected, the dimension and percentage values in the dialog will change automatically.

Scale to Tile Size

The Scale to Tile Size group makes tiling a scaled image easy. Set the tile size in the Tiling Options dialog. Enter the number of tiles you want to print in the Number of tiles box. Select the To Width button to scale the image so that there are that number of tiles at the set width across, or the To Height button to scale the image so that there are that number of tiles at the set height down. The dimensions will automatically change in the Scale to width and Scale to height boxes. The total number of tiles (across and down) is shown below the To Height button.

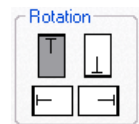
Reset Scaling

To undo scaling and return to the original image size, select the Reset Scaling button.

Rotation

You can rotate a file by selecting one of the four file orientation symbols in the Rotation group, shown right.

An image may be rotated in 90° increments. The “T” shape in the 4 boxes indicates the top of the file. By default, the upper left symbol will be highlighted, which means the top of the file is up, and the image has not been rotated from its original orientation. The upper right symbol will rotate the image 180° from its original orientation, making it appear upside down. The lower left symbol, when selected,



will rotate the image 90° to the left, and the lower right symbol will rotate the image 90° to the right of the original orientation.

You may scale and/or rotate a file with multiple pages. You may choose to alter each page separately, or you may alter each page in the same way. To scale or rotate all pages in a file at once, select the first page of the file and then scale or rotate. You will be asked, "Make same change to all pages in job?" If you click Yes, all pages will be changed. If you click No, only the currently selected page will be affected.

You can change the size of tiles without having to display an image by clicking the Tile button. This button will open the Change Tiles dialog, which allows you to enter tile size values directly. You may also remove tiling from the image entirely.

PostScript Only tab

The PostScript Only tab can be used to change the page size of a PostScript file. When a PostScript job is opened, its size is determined from its header. Often, however, this size is incorrect, usually because the software that created the file assumed a specific paper size that was too small to fit the full image. This results in showing just the lower left portion of the image or even a completely empty image where no part of the job falls inside the page window.

To change the page size, enter a new page width and height. The image itself does not change; only the window enclosing the image changes to the new size. The scaling factor is not affected. The box representing the image in the layout window changes to reflect page size changes, and the layout is refit. Use the Reset Size button to revert back to the file's original dimensions.

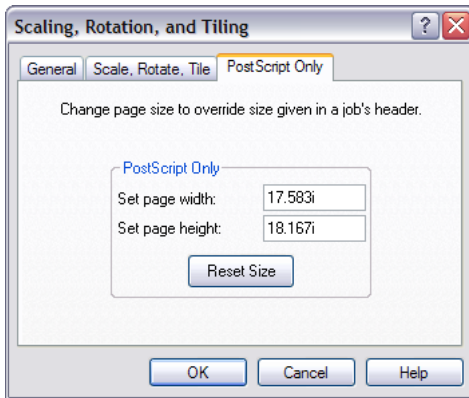


Figure 2.17. The Postscript Only tab of the Scaling, Rotation, and Tiling dialog.

Select the OK button to finalize your selections and close the Scaling, Rotation, and Tiling dialog. When the window is closed, the layout will reflect any changes you made. A scaled image will appear at its new size with its name in red type. A rotated image will appear at its new orientation; the name of the file is rotated as well to indicate the angle of rotation. If you display a rotated image, the display will show the image rotated. You may select a scaled and/or rotated image and scale and/or rotate the image again. If you restore a scaled image back to its original size (100%) and select the OK button, the layout will show the image at its original size, and the name will go back to blue type.

NOTE: When an image is scaled or rotated, a general refit takes place. Refit repositions all images using the current best fit formula. Any repositioning using the mouse will be lost.

3

Printer Setup Menu

The second menu item is Printer Setup. This menu is used to save and restore ColorBurst settings as a Printer Setup file, also known as a ColorBurst “environment”. The name of the Printer Setup file (.env file) currently in use is displayed in the menu bar after the Help menu.

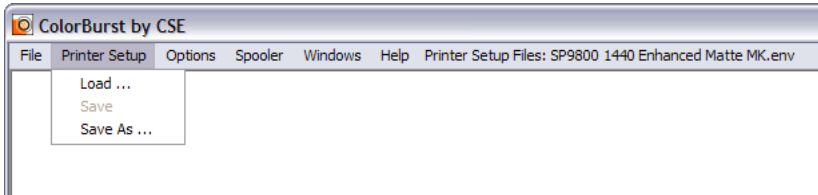


Figure 3.1. The Printer Setup menu is used to load and save Printer Setup files, also known as ColorBurst “environments.”

A Printer Setup file contains ColorBurst settings from all of the Options menu dialogs that take effect without restarting ColorBurst. When ColorBurst is installed, a folder named “ENV” (short for “environment”) is created in the ColorBurst folder that contains printer setup files (named *.env) for different printers, inks, and media. Printer Setup files not only make using ColorBurst extremely convenient, they are the most important part of multi-queue spooling. They tell the spooler how to handle the files in a particular queue during spooling.

Load

Selecting Load under the Printer Setup menu opens a standard Open dialog, with the default path as the ColorBurst ENV folder. After choosing a file, a message will appear asking you if you are sure you want to restore the ColorBurst environment. Restoring a Printer Setup file

restores the options saved in the Printer Setup file, and you will lose the current settings. The name of the newly restored printer setup file appears in the menu bar. The Message window also states that the file was restored.

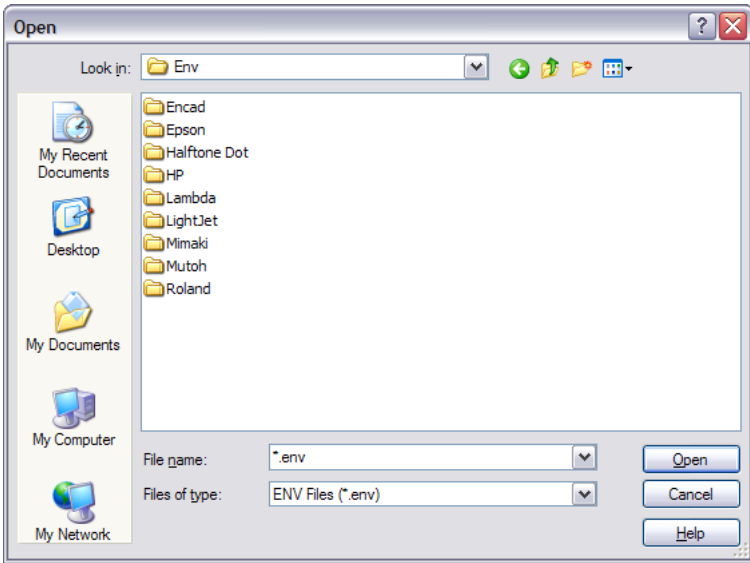


Figure 3.2. The Open dialog appears when you select Printer Setup > Load.

Save and Save As

Selecting Save will save your ColorBurst settings by overwriting your current ENV file. Choosing Save As will open a Save As dialog. Saving a printer setup file saves all current settings in all Options dialogs that take effect without restarting ColorBurst in an ENV file.

Your custom Printer Setup file may be restored at a later time, and may be used by the Spooler. Each spool queue can use a different Printer Setup file. All files in a queue will be processed using the settings in the Printer Setup file specified. For more information on Spooling, see Chapter 5: Spooler Menu.

4

Options Menu

The third menu item is Options. All of these selections open dialogs that establish the working environment for ColorBurst.

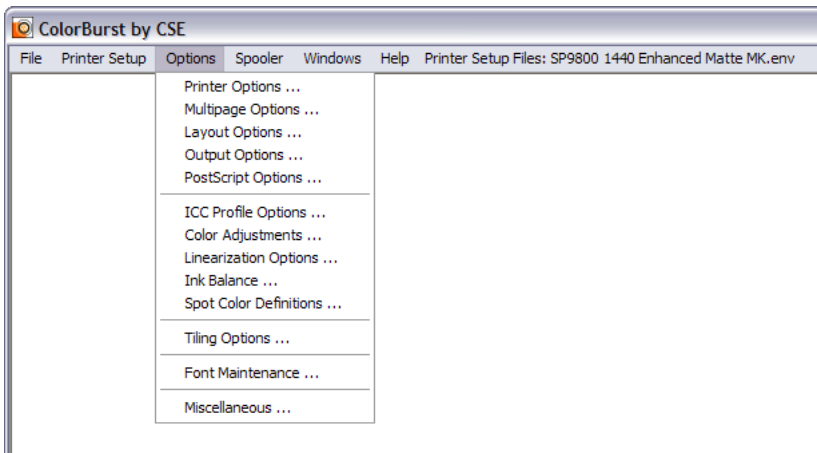


Figure 4.1. The ColorBurst Options menu.

Printer Options

The first selection in the Options menu is Printer Options. Selecting this will display the Printer Options dialog.

Before describing the contents of this dialog, a brief description of the layout feature is necessary. A layout is in effect when the layout window is displayed on-screen. This window emulates the media that the selected printer uses. The layout window is proportional to that media; the layout window title bar displays the dimensions of the media and a dashed line shows the printable image within that media. The dimen-

sions displayed in the title bar are in the units selected in the Units of Measure group.

General tab

The Printer Options dialog opens in the General tab. This tab contains important settings for your printer including printer type, layout size, and resolution.

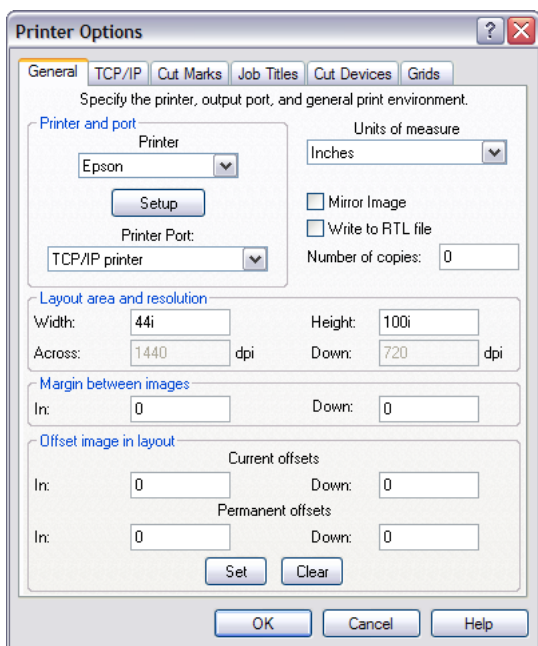


Figure 4.2. The General tab of the Printer Options dialog.

Printer and Port

The Printer and Port group allows you to select your printer model and choose the printer port that your printer is attached to. When you choose ENCAD, HP Series, Epson, Mimaki, or Roland in the Printer pull-down, you can click the Setup button to open a Printer Setup dialog box. The other printers do not have special setups. Each Printer Setup is described in detail below. In the ProLab version of ColorBurst, the LightJet and Lambda are also available.

Printer Port

The Printer Port pulldown menu allows you to select an output port for your printer. You will see LPT1, LPT2, LPT3 and None in the pulldown list, as well as any defined NT print queues. Choose the port that your printer is physically attached to. You may select None if you are saving files only and do not intend to send data to a printer. See Write to RTL file for more information on saving RTL files using the None port.

ENCAD Printer Setup

To set ENCAD options, choose ENCAD in the Printer pop-up menu and click the Setup button. The ENCAD Printer Setup dialog will open.

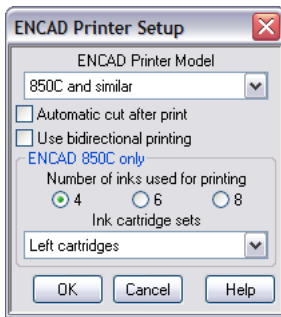


Figure 4.3. The ENCAD Printer Setup dialog.

The ENCAD Printer Model pop-up menu lets you specify how many inks your printer supports. When using a four-color printer, select CMYK only printers in the pop-up menu. When you select 850C and similar in the pop-up menu, the ENCAD 850C only group becomes active to allow you to specify which cartridges will be used. Selecting 4 inks will make the Ink cartridge sets pop-up menu active, allowing you to choose the left, right or both sets of cartridges to use for printing.

When you print to a ENCAD, the paper will not automatically cut after printing unless you select the Turn on automatic cut feature checkbox.

The Bidirectional printing checkbox turns bidirectional printing on and off. Normally the printhead prints while moving in one direction, then moves back to the starting point to print the next pass. Bidirectional

printing will put ink down while the printhead moves in both directions. This results in faster printing with a slightly lower print quality.

Epson Printer Setup

When you choose Epson in the Printer pop-up menu and click the Setup button, the Epson Printer Setup dialog opens, allowing you to set specific Epson settings.

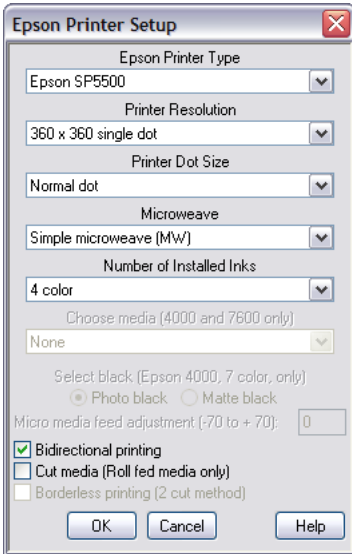


Figure 4.4. The Epson Printer Setup dialog.

The Epson Printer Type pop-up menu tells ColorBurst which type of Epson printer you are using so it can communicate with the printer correctly. The printer selected in this pop-up menu determines which choices are available in the rest of this dialog.

The Printer Resolution pop-up menu shows the available printer resolutions for the printer type you have selected. For printers that allow variable dot printing, you will see variable dot resolutions listed as well as single dot resolutions (standard). When a variable dot resolution is chosen, the printer will use ink droplets of different sizes. Variable dot increases print quality.

The Printer Dot Size pop-up menu shows all dot size options available for the printer and resolution you have chosen. The dot size will affect print quality—the smaller the dot, the finer the print.

If Epson's Microweave is available for the selected printer, you will see the valid choices listed in the Microweave pop-up menu. If Microweave is not available, you will have only one option, "Off."

Depending on the printer you have selected in the Epson Printer Type menu, you will see a list of available color modes. Choose the number of inks that you want your printer to use. When 6 color (or higher) is chosen in the Number of Installed Inks menu, the Light Ink Curves in the Color Adjustments dialog will be activated.

The Use bidirectional printing checkbox turns bidirectional printing on and off. Normally the printhead prints while moving in one direction, then moves back to the starting point to print the next pass. Bidirectional printing will put ink down while the printhead moves in both directions.

The Cut Media checkbox tells the printer to cut after printing is completed. This setting overrides any settings on the control panel of the Epson printer.

HP Printer Setup

When you choose HP Series in the Printer pop-up menu and click the Setup button, the HP Printer Setup dialog opens. This is where you can set specific HP settings.

The HP Printer Type pop-up menu is important if you select Use special print method, which enables the Special Print Only group. ColorBurst needs to know which HP printer you are using so it can properly communicate with the printer when using the options in the Special Print Only group.

When you print to the HP, the paper will automatically cut after printing unless you select the Inhibit automatic cut checkbox.

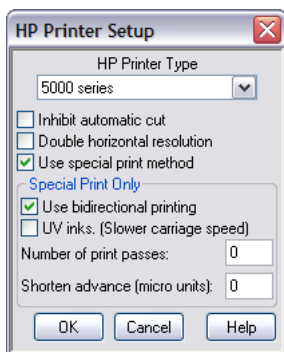


Figure 4.5. The HP Printer Setup dialog.

Selecting the Double Horizontal Resolution checkbox will double the ColorBurst print resolution. The maximum resolution you may enter in the DPI box in the Printer Options dialog is 720 dpi. Use the Double Horizontal Resolution checkbox to print at 1440x720 enhanced resolution.

Selecting Use Special Print Method gives you access to the Special Print Only group. The Use bidirectional printing checkbox turns bidirectional printing on and off. Normally the printhead prints while moving in one direction, then moves back to the starting point to print the next pass. Bidirectional printing will put ink down while the printhead moves in both directions.

Selecting UV inks will decrease print speed, which is necessary for UV inks—you must select this option when using UV inks to maintain print quality.

The Number of print passes box allows you to set the number of passes through ColorBurst. However, if you plan on using 8 pass or 6 pass, it is recommended to use the front panel on the HP to set your number of passes.

8 pass select Best (2000 series) or Photo (3000 series) on the front panel of the HP; prints 18 square feet/hour

6 pass select Normal (2000 series) or Productivity (3000 series) on the front panel of the HP; prints 28 square feet/hour

4 pass 42 square feet per hour (recommended for photo gloss and semi-gloss)

2 pass 2 square feet per hour (designed for heavy bond)

The Shorten advance (micro units) box allows you to physically shorten the printhead advance. This is useful when you are getting banding in your output and you are sure all of your jets are firing. To test your printhead, go to the front panel of your HP and press the Enter button. Scroll to Utilities, select Service tests, then select Image quality print. The HP will print a test pattern that will show you if all of your jets are firing properly. If they are and you are getting banding, enter a positive number in the Shorten Advance box to shorten the advance, or a negative number to enlarge the advance. The recommended number is 3; requiring a value over 5 indicates a printer problem.

Roland Printer Setup

When you choose Roland in the Printer pop-up menu and click the Setup button, the Roland Printer Setup dialog opens, allowing you to set specific Roland settings.

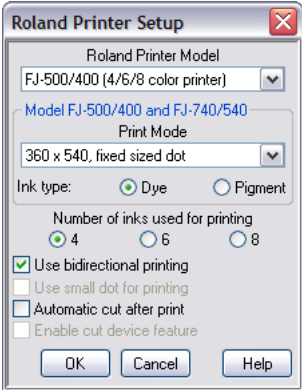


Figure 4.6. The Roland Printer Setup dialog.

The Roland Printer Model pop-up menu lets you specify which Roland printer you are using. When the FJ-500/400 is selected, the Model

FJ-500/400 only group becomes active. The Print Mode pop-up menu allows you to change the resolution and specify whether the printer uses a fixed size or variable size dot.

When the FJ-500/400 is selected in the pop-up menu, you may choose either 4, 6, or 8 inks used for printing. Selecting 4 enables the Ink type buttons, to choose between Dye and Pigment.

When Other models is selected in the pop-up menu, you may only choose printing with 4 or 6 inks. Other Models also activates the Use small dot for printing checkbox. Select the Use small dot for printing checkbox if you want the Roland to print at 720 dpi. If it is unchecked, the Roland will use regular dots, which is 360 dpi.

The Use bidirectional printing checkbox turns bidirectional printing on and off. Normally the printhead prints while moving in one direction, then moves back to the starting point to print the next pass. Bidirectional printing will put ink down while the printhead moves in both directions.

Select the Enable automatic cut after printing checkbox if you want the Roland to automatically cut the media after the print is finished.

Mimaki Printer Setup

When you choose Mimaki in the Printer pop-up menu and click the Setup button, the Mimaki Printer Setup dialog opens, allowing you to set specific Mimaki settings.

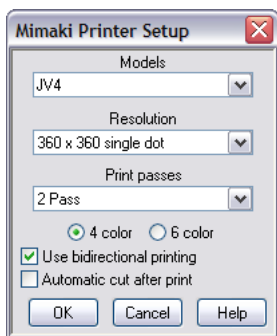


Figure 4.7. The Mimaki Printer Setup dialog.

Select the 6 Color Printing checkbox if you want the Mimaki to print using six ink cartridges.

The Use bidirectional printing checkbox turns bidirectional printing on and off. Normally the printhead prints while moving in one direction, then moves back to the starting point to print the next pass. Bidirectional printing will put ink down while the printhead moves in both directions.

Select the Automatic cut after print checkbox if you want the Mimaki to automatically cut the paper after the print is finished.

Units of Measure

The Units of Measure pop-up menu sets the default unit of measurement used in ColorBurst: Printers points, Picas and Points (p), Inches (i), Feet (ft), Millimeters (mm), Centimeters (c), Meters (m), or Pixels (x).

There are two methods in which these values may be entered. The first is to select the type of units you are using in the Units of Measure pop-up menu, then enter your offset values. The second method is to enter the value, then follow it with the letter(s) designating your unit type. After a value has been entered, it will be converted to the unit of measurement currently selected in the Units of Measure option box.

Unlike all other units, pixels is not an absolute unit. An offset of 200 pixels when printing at 200 dots per inch (dpi) is a one inch offset, but an offset of 200 pixels at 300 dpi is only 2/3 inches. Internally, offsets are saved as printers points. Whenever you enter an offset in pixels, it is converted to printers points using the current Output Resolution specified in the PostScript Interpreter Options dialog. As long as you do not change resolutions, you should have no side-effects when offsetting in pixels.

Mirror Image

The Mirror Image checkbox in the Printer Options dialog allows you to print an image reversed. That is, the printed image would be correct only if you look at its reflection in a mirror. You should use this option when printing on transparent material that is to be backlit when displayed.

Write to RTL File

The Write to RTL checkbox determines whether or not an RTL file is saved. RTL files are files written in the internal format needed by the printer. Because all color correction and pattern finish have already been resolved before the RTL file is written, printing an RTL file is very fast. This makes RTL files very useful when printing multiple copies. When you specify that multiple copies should be printed, an RTL file is always created regardless of the setting of Write to RTL File. After the first copy is done, the RTL file is read for all subsequent copies. This should speed up printing. If you have not selected Write to RTL File, the RTL file created for multiple copies is a temporary file that is deleted after all copies have been printed.

RTL files are saved with the extension .RTL. Tiled files saved as RTL files create an RTL file for each tile, each with the same name. The extension for these files starts with RTL, then R00, R01, etc. through R99.

The Write to RTL File checkbox works with the Printer Port pop-up menu to determine where output is directed. If Write to RTL File is selected and the printer port selected is None, an RTL file is created in the Output Directory set in the PostScript/Layout Output File Options dialog. If both an LPT port and the “write” option are selected, then the file is output to the printer and written as an RTL file to disk. When a print queue is selected, an RTL file is written to the queue and then sent to the printer. An RTL file can be copied directly to the printer at a later time for faster throughput.

Number of Copies

To print more than one copy of a layout, specify the number of prints you want in the Number of Copies edit box. A value of “0” (the default value) is equivalent to “1” which gives you one print. The maximum number of prints allowed is 50.

If you enter a negative number in the edit box, an error message displays and “0” is substituted for the invalid value. If you enter a value greater than 50, an error message is displayed and “50” is substituted for the invalid value.

Layout Area and Resolution

The Layout Area and resolution group defines the layout area for the current printer. The size of the layout area is represented in the layout window and is used in all best-fit formulas for positioning images in a layout. Whenever you change the size of the current layout area and save the changes, the layout window is automatically updated. If there are images in the layout when the layout area size changes, all images are refit within the new layout area, which may cause images to no longer fit. It is recommended that you change the layout area when the layout is empty.

You can set the width and height of the Layout area in the Width and Height edit boxes, using the currently defined units of measure or special characters to define the units desired. For most printers, you can set the resolution of your printer in the Across edit box (see Note below). The Across box shows the horizontal resolution. The Down box displays the vertical resolution and is for display purposes only; this field can not be edited directly. When a value is entered in the Across box, the Down box is changed to match the Across value. To set a resolution in which the horizontal and vertical resolutions do not match, use the Setup button to select a resolution in the Printer Setup window.

NOTE: For several Printer Types, such as Epson and Roland, the resolution should not be set using the Across box. To set the resolution for these printers, you must click the Setup button to open the Printer Setup window for the printer. These printers have preset resolutions in a pop-up menu in their Setup window. The pop-up menu settings in the Setup window will override any value entered in the Across box.

Margin Between Images

The Margin Between Images group allows you to specify how much white space should be reserved around each image in a layout. There are two edit boxes, In and Down, for specifying different amounts of space to the left and right of an image and the remaining space above and below an image. Margins are part of the calculation for positioning images in the layout. As the margin increases, fewer images will fit in the layout.

Offset Image in Layout

You may enter offset values through the Offset Image in Layout group. “Offset image” refers to a physical shift on the print media. The point of origin is established as the top left corner. Therefore, positive values will move all images in the current layout to the right and down, while negative values will move all images in the current layout left and up. Negative values can be entered to move part of the image off the media. This is important for centering large images, moving tick marks out of view, or eliminating built-in white space in the image.

Current Offsets is a temporary shift for the current job only. After entering these values, if you decide you would like to make them permanent, simply click the Set button. The current offset values will be transferred to the permanent offset values.

Permanent Offsets is a permanent shift for all jobs, today, tomorrow, next week. If you want to enter values that are different than the Current Offsets, simply enter them directly into the designated Permanent Offsets boxes. To reset these values to zero (default), simply select the Clear button.

TCP/IP tab

The TCP/IP tab in the Printer Options dialog is used to set an IP address when printing over Ethernet.

TCP/IP Printer

The TCP/IP Printer group lets you enter an IP address for your printer, to allow for Ethernet printing. The Test button will verify the IP number you have entered. When you are finished entering a valid IP number, click OK to save your IP address. The IP address will now appear in your Printer Port pop-up menu as TCP/IP Printer.

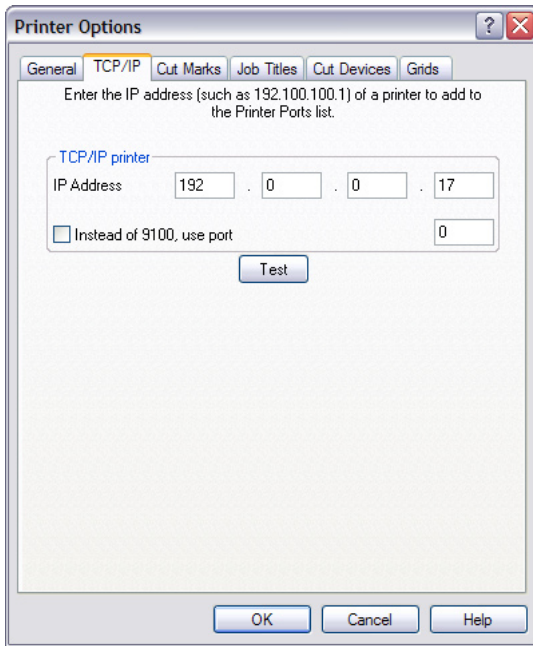


Figure 4.8. The TCP/IP tab of the Printer Options dialog.

Cut Marks tab

The Cut Marks tab in the Printer Options dialog is used to turn cut marks on or off, as well as specify the type of cut marks and their position.

Print Cut Marks

The Print cut marks checkbox determines whether or not cut marks are printed around each image in the layout. When this box is selected, ColorBurst creates marks to indicate the edge of the image, i.e. where to trim the image. The rest of the options in the Cut Marks tab are only available when this checkbox is selected.

Specify shape of marks

When the Print cut marks checkbox is selected, there are five different cut mark shapes to choose from. Each type is visually represented by a diagram to show what the marks will look like. To select a cut mark shape, click on the diagram to highlight it. The appropriate options in the

Cut Marks tab will become available depending on which shape/diagram is selected.

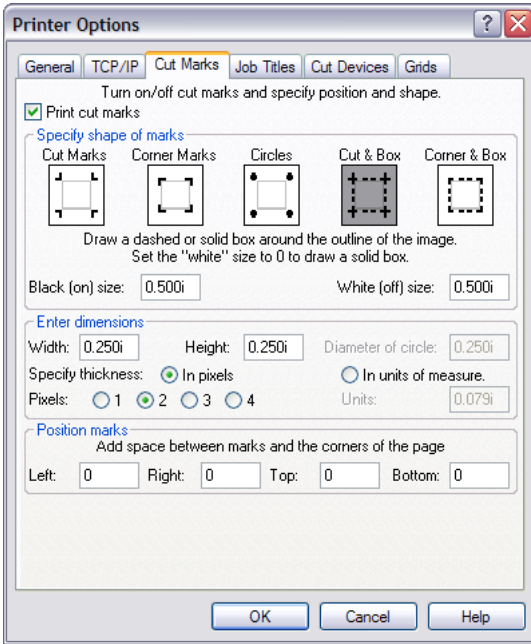


Figure 4.9. The Cut Marks tab of the Printer Options dialog.

For standard crop marks, select the first diagram, Cut Marks. This will create an “L”-shaped mark, facing out from the image, in each corner of the image. When used with tiling, the Cut mark will print at the overlap mark so that when the tiles are cut they will line up with each other without overlap.

The second option is Corner marks. This will print an “L”-shaped mark on the corners of the image facing into the image. When Corner marks are used with tiling, the marks print on the perimeter of the image, allowing physical overlap when trimmed.

The third option is Circles. This setting will print circles in the corners as cut marks instead of L-shaped marks. Circles should be selected when using cutters requiring circular cut marks, such as the I-Cut. In addition, you can use the settings in the Cut Devices tab to create I-Cut script files

(the Cut Devices tab is also in the Printer Options dialog). When Circles is selected, make sure to set the Diameter of circle to 0.25" in the Enter dimensions group when using the I-Cut.

The last two cut mark shapes create cut or corner marks as well as a dashed or solid box drawn around each image. These shapes can be selected when using an automatic cutting device, such as the Fotoba. The two entry boxes below the diagrams, Black (on) size and White (off) size, determine whether the line is solid or dashed. To draw a solid black box, set the Black (on) size to 1 (or any number other than zero) and set the White (off) size to zero (0). To draw a solid white box, set the Black (on) size to zero and set the White (off) size to any number other than zero. To draw a dashed line, give both boxes values other than zero. A value of zero in both edit boxes indicates that no cut box will be drawn.

Enter Dimensions

The Enter dimensions group lets you enter the Width and Height of the cut marks, if applicable. When Circles is chosen as the cut mark shape, the dimensions settings change to Diameter of circle. The default value for the cut mark Width and Height and for Diameter of circle is a quarter of an inch (0.250i).

The thickness of cut marks can be changed in the Enter dimensions group. Click on the Specify Thickness In Pixels button to choose a width of 1, 2, 3, or 4 pixels. If you want a different measure, you may enter it manually by selecting the Specify Thickness In Units of Measure button and entering the value in the Units entry box. It can be helpful to have wider marks when printing at high resolutions, where one pixel-wide marks may not be visible.

Position marks

The Position marks group lets you add space between the marks and the corners of the image. You can enter a positive number to add space around the image, which is useful for pole wraps. The maximum space allowed is 72" wide. A negative number will place the mark inside the image, for trimming bleed.

Job Titles tab

The Job Titles tab in the Printer Options dialog is used to specify job title options for individual images or entire layouts. A job title is printed information describing an image (or layout) that is not intended to be part of the final printed product. When titles are turned on, a gray bar representing each title will appear in the Layout window.

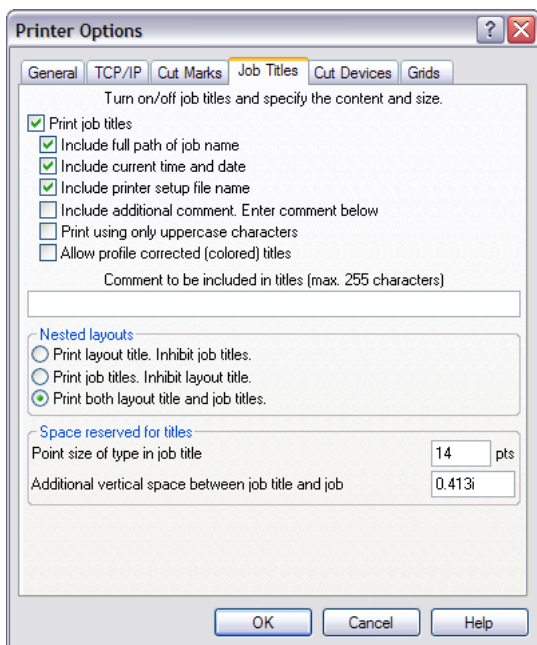


Figure 4.10. The Job Titles tab of the Printer Options dialog.

Print Job Titles and Title Options

The Print job titles checkbox determines whether job titles are printed. If selected, job titles are created and printed, and the rest of the options in the Job Titles tab become available.

The file name (or layout name for layout titles) is always part of a job title information. When layout titles are printed, the layout name is determined by the File Name Template in the Layout Options dialog. If no other title options are selected, the name is the only information printed.

Selecting the Include full path of job name checkbox will enable the inclusion of the full path used to open the file. If Include full path is not selected, the file name without any path is included in the job title.

If you select the Include current time and date checkbox, the current time, day of the week, and date will be included. The time and date are determined at the time the title is created.

If you select the Include printer setup file name checkbox, the name of the Printer Setup file will be included in the job title. The Printer Setup file in effect is shown in the main menu bar after the Help menu.

The Include additional comment box allows you to add a comment to the job title. Simply type your comment in the comment entry box below. You may enter a maximum of 255 characters. Any comment entered here will print in all image and layout job titles.

If you select the Uppercase checkbox, the entire title will print using uppercase letters. Otherwise, all characters except the first letter of the day and month name will be printed in lowercase letters.

Nested Layouts

The Nested Layouts group contains settings that determine the type of job titles that are printed. There are three choices: print a layout title only, print job titles only, or print both layout and job titles. Job titles appear above each individual image; a layout title appears at the top of a layout (above two or more nested images).

Space Reserved for Titles

The Space reserved for titles group allows you to set the size and spacing for titles. When job titles are included, the height of the title is added to the height of the image. This means that the job title affects vertical positioning and the height of the block in the layout window. Horizontal positioning is not affected by whether titles are included because, while the title may have enough information to extend past the right edge of the image, it is always clipped at the right edge. If the point size or spac-

ing values are adjusted, the Layout window will be updated to reflect the changes after the Printer Options dialog is closed.

You may change the size of the title using the Point size of type in job value entry box. The minimum size for titles is 4 points; the maximum size is 144 points.

The Additional vertical space between job title and job entry box allows you to adjust the amount of space between the title and job. This can allow space to cut the title away from the image. You may add up to 4 inches of extra space between the title and job.

Cut Devices tab

The Cut Devices tab in the Printer Options dialog has settings that can be used when you are using a printer with a built-in cutter or a cutting device such as an I-Cut.

Contours

The Contours group is used to find contour cutting data in image files, using spot color names to describe the contour. A contour is a vector outline of the shape to be cut. Contour shapes can be created in any program with vector illustration capabilities that allow you to specify a custom spot color as the stroke color, such as Adobe Illustrator or CorelDRAW. The contour shape should be an outline with no fill color (stroke color only, transparent fill). The stroke color is not actually printed, but it must be a named spot color—ColorBurst uses this spot color name to find the contour data. You may name your spot color anything you like, such as “contour” or “cut path”—it is only important that the name in your file matches the name in ColorBurst’s contour list. The contour names are not case-sensitive, i.e. “cut path” will match “Cut Path” and “CUT PATH”. When a contour is found, the contour is cut on the center of the stroke line, so you may set the contour path to any weight or thickness in your vector illustration program.

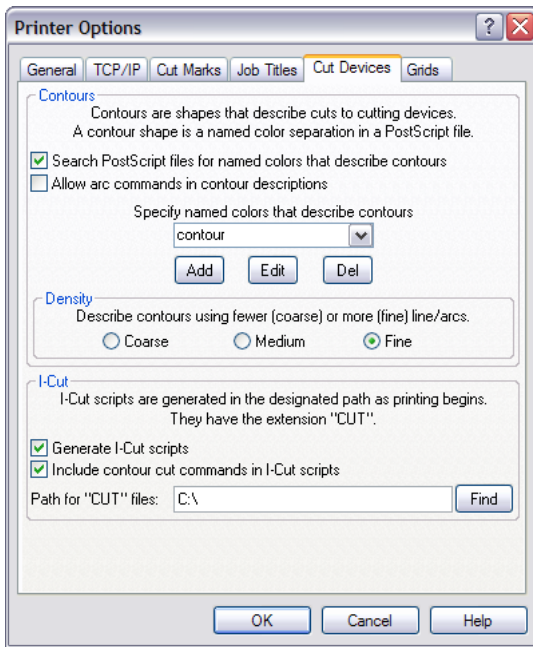


Figure 4.11. The Cut Devices tab of the Printer Options dialog.

The Search Postscript files for named colors that describe contours checkbox determines whether files should be searched for contour data. If this checkbox is selected, the contour name pop-up menu becomes active. Only names that appear in the pop-up menu will be searched for. If your contour path stroke color is not a spot color named in the pop-up menu, it will not be found.

You may add up to 20 contour spot color names. To add a contour spot name, type the contour name in the Specify named colors that describe contours box, then click the Add button. The name you entered will be added to the pop-up menu. You may change a name by selecting it in the list, typing in your changes, and clicking the Edit button. To remove a name from the list, select the name in the pop-up menu and click the Del button. Please note that changes to the list take effect immediately—if you click Cancel to close the Printer Options dialog, the names in the contour name list will not revert back to the original list.

The Density group allows you to choose how the contour line is interpreted. You may choose from Coarse, Medium, or Fine. Fine is recommended to give the smoothest contour.

I–Cut

The I–Cut group is used to create I–Cut scripts during printing. If the Generate I–Cut scripts box is selected, a CUT file used by the I–Cut cutter will be created in the path named in the Path for “CUT” files box. You can use the Find button to locate a path to save CUT files in.

CUT files are given the same name as the layout with a .CUT extension (layout names are determined by the File Name Template in the Layout Options dialog). It is recommended to print layout titles (in the Job Titles tab) when creating CUT files. This will make it easier for you to match your prints with CUT files, since the layout title name and CUT file name are the same.

The Include contour cut commands in I–Cut scripts box determines the shape of the cut. If it is not selected, cuts are limited to rectangular shapes. If it is selected, any contour data found during processing will be included in the CUT file. If searching for contours is not turned on in the Contours group (the Search PostScript files for named colors that describe contours box is not selected), any contour data in the files will be ignored, even if the Include contour cut commands in I–Cut scripts box is selected. In other words, both boxes must be selected to include contours in I–Cut scripts.

Grids tab

The Grids tab in the Printer Options dialog allows you to set up a uniform grid system for automatic image placement in the Layout.

Use Grids

The Use grids checkbox turns ColorBurst’s grid-based layout option on and off. When the Use grids checkbox is selected, the other options in the Grids tab become available. All of these settings work together to

determine grid size, grid placement, and image placement within the grid boxes.

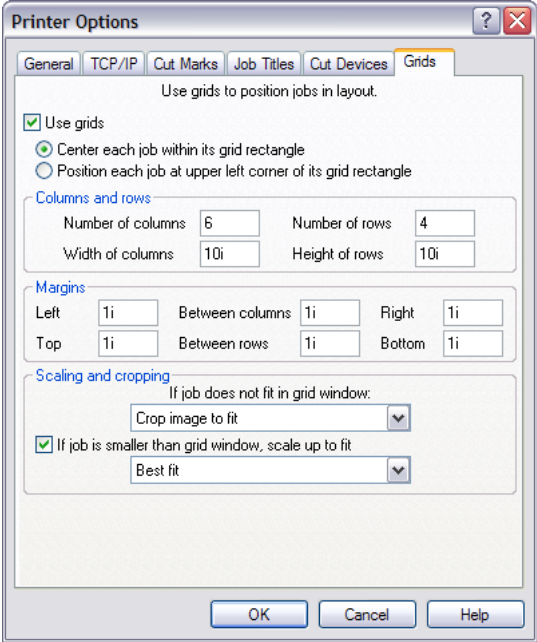


Figure 4.12. The Grids tab of the Printer Options dialog.

There are two image placement options when using grids. You can either center images inside each grid box or align the image to the upper left corner of each grid box.

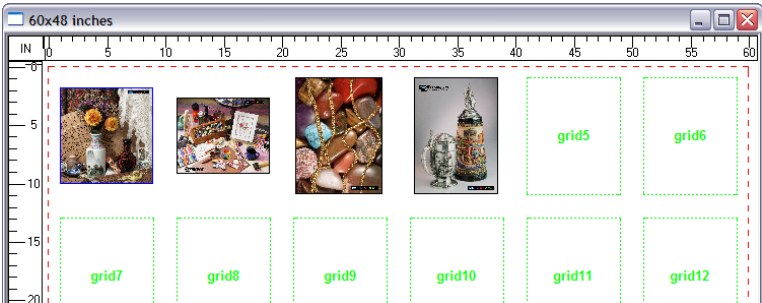


Figure 4.13. The Layout window with Grids turned on.

Columns and rows

The Columns and rows settings are used to divide the layout window into a grid. Type in the number of columns and rows, and type in a width and height.

Margins

The Margins settings allow you to define margins around the grid and between the grid boxes.

Scaling and cropping

There are three options available to handle images that are larger than the grid box size. The first option is Crop image to fit. This option will crop your image without scaling. The crop can be changed through the Display window. The second option is Scale image to fit. The image will be scaled proportionally to fit inside the grid box. The third option is Do not add job to layout. When this option is selected, you will get an “image does not fit” message when adding an image that does not fit in the grid.

If the image is smaller than the grid window, you can scale it up to fit the grid by selecting the checkbox. The pop-up menu can be set to Best fit, which will scale the larger dimension to the size of the grid box, or to Scale width and height anamorphically, which will scale the image to the exact dimensions of the grid box.

NOTE: The Layout size, set in the Printer Options General tab, will change to match the total dimensions of the grid boxes and margins entered in the Grids tab.

Multipage Job Options

The Multipage Job Options dialog lets you specify how to handle files that contain more than one page.

Place multiple pages of job in layout

When this option is checked, each page is placed in one layout. If the layout is filled, new layouts will be created until all pages are placed in

a layout. The Layout window will display the first layout and thumbnails will appear at the bottom to indicate subsequent layouts. Click on any thumbnail to view the layout, or scroll through layouts using the arrow buttons.

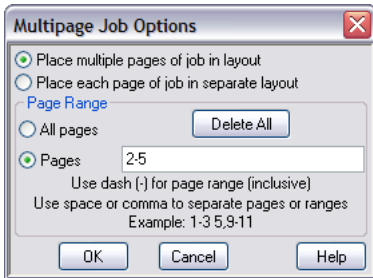


Figure 4.14. The Multipage Job Options dialog.

The File Information box will indicate which page of the document is currently selected. The first page of a layout is selected by default. For example, when you open a document that has 5 pages, the File Information box will read, “Page: 1 of 5.” You may select any page by clicking on it in the Layout window. Note that when you scroll through the layouts, the first page in the layout is selected.

Place each page of job in separate layout

This option tells ColorBurst to put each page in a multipage document in its own layout. New layouts will be created for each page in the file. The Layout window will display the first layout and thumbnails will appear at the bottom to indicate subsequent layouts. Click on any thumbnail to view the layout, or scroll through layouts using the arrow buttons.

Page Range

This group is active only when a multipage document is open. When you change the page range, the layout(s) will be updated immediately. You can change the page range as many times as you wish, including excluding pages and then adding them into the range again. To delete the entire file (all pages) click the Delete All button.

Layout Options

The next item in the Options menu is Layout Options, which opens the Layout Options dialog. These settings will change the layout environment. Among other options, you can choose the best-fit formula to use and specify the procedure to use on size discrepancy errors.

Direct to Printer

The Direct to printer checkbox allows you to specify whether layouts containing more than one file should be sent directly to the printer or whether intermediate RTL, TIFF, or CT files should be created. This checkbox is ignored when a layout contains only a single file. This is similar to choosing to create intermediate files from PostScript. There is a major difference between PostScript files and layouts, however. With PostScript files, there is no way to determine in advance how long the interpretation will take. Intermediate files are recommended to eliminate that variable. For layouts, all files included in the layout are in a raster form before printing begins. It is recommended that Direct to printer be selected so that intermediate files are not created.

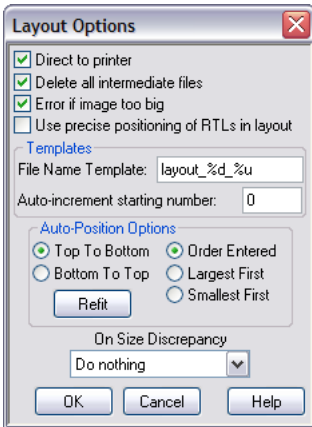


Figure 4.15. The Layout Options dialog.

When Direct to printer is not selected, output for the layout uses the settings established in the Postscript/Layout Output File Options dialog. For example, turning off Direct to printer and setting Create Scitex CT file and Save File Only, No Print in the Postscript/Layout Output File Options

dialog, will create a permanent CT file that is not immediately printed. If job titles are in effect, they will be seen when the CT file is printed.

Delete All Intermediate Files

The Delete all intermediate files checkbox specifies that all PostScript files that are rasterized before printing should be created as temporary intermediate RTL files. When this checkbox is not set, options in the Postscript/Layout Output File Options dialog determine how PostScript files should be handled. This checkbox is only considered when there is more than one file in the layout being printed. When a single PostScript file is printed, the Postscript/Layout Output File Options dialog always determines whether intermediate files are created and, if so, whether they should be temporary or permanent.

This checkbox is very important when the Direct to printer checkbox above it is not selected. In this case, output options for the layout are determined from the Postscript/Layout Output File Options dialog. The Delete all intermediate files checkbox allows you to specify different procedures for processing the layout from processing the PostScript files included in the layout.

The Delete all intermediate files checkbox overrides options set in the Postscript/Layout Output File Options dialog. Even if you do not set this checkbox, if Output directly to printer is selected in the Postscript/Layout Output File Options dialog, temporary intermediate RTL files are created from PostScript files. If Save File Only, No Print is selected, permanent intermediate files are created, but printing of the layout is not inhibited.

Error if Image Too Big

Selecting the Error if image too big checkbox will make sure that any image that will not fit in the image area is not added to the layout. The error message "Image will not fit on media," followed by the file name, will appear, and the file will not be added to the layout.

This option is most helpful in Spooler mode when layouts are in effect. If selected, any file found in the monitored queue that oversets the layout

will not be printed; instead it will be moved to the Error queue. This ensures that none of your spooled images will be truncated.

If this box is not selected, files that are too large to fit in the image area will be added to the layout if one of the following conditions is met:

- the image is the only image in layout,
- the image touches the left margin and oversets the width only, or
- the image touches the top margin and oversets the height only.

Use Precise Positioning of RTLs in Layout

This option is helpful when using Step & Repeat with RTL files. If it is not selected, there may be some white space between the RTL files in the layout. When selected, ColorBurst will pack the pixels next to each other for perfect placement. In doing so, the layout will take a little longer to begin printing, so it is recommended to only use this option when the layout contains multiple RTL files and perfect placement is a concern.

Layout File Name Template

The File name template edit box in the Layout Options dialog allows you to specify the name of an output file which will be created when more than one image is processed into an output file. An example of a layout output file is the RTL file that is created when Write to RTL File in the Printer Options dialog is chosen. When you select a spooled printer as your printer port, the spooled document name is built from this template. The file name template is also used to name TIFFs and CTs from layouts, layout Job Titles, and CUT files.

The File name template edit box here works along with the File name template edit box in the PostScript/Layout Output File Options dialog. When creating a file from a layout, the filename will be created from the information in this template, and will then be appended by the information in the PostScript/Layout Output File Options template.

Previous to the template, the output name was always LAYOUT. That is, the RTL of a layout was always LAYOUT.RTL. To avoid constantly overwriting the same file name, the name changed to a unique name,

LAYOUT.R00, LAYOUT.R01, etc. There were two problems with this file name selection: the file names were not descriptive, and the R00, R01, etc. files would not automatically show up in the list of illustration files to process. The template now allows you to specify your own name of layouts. If you choose not to specify a template, the old name, LAYOUT, is still the default selection.

The template can be an exact name of the output file such as XYZ. The problem with an exact name like this is that, like LAYOUT, all output file names will be the same. Furthermore, unless the name is exactly LAYOUT, extensions R00, R01, etc. will not be automatically created. That means that each new output file will overwrite the old one.

To allow you to specify different names using the same template, you can place one or more special codes in the template. Each special code consists of a percent sign (%) followed by a character. Any character in the template name which is not preceded by a percent sign is passed along as part of the output name. Special codes are replaced by information associated with the code. A common special code is %F which is replaced by the name of the first file that was entered in the layout. For example, suppose there are three images in a layout (ABC.EPS, DEF.TIF, and GHI.CT, entered in that order). Using the template %F with no other characters will create the output file named ABC. Using the template CSE_%F_X creates the output name CSE_ABC_X. Likewise, %L chooses the name of the last image that was added to the layout as its output name. In the previous example, the output name would be CSE_GHI_X. You can also have the output name include the time of day, the date, and three unique numbers (000 through 999) to better describe the file while also ensuring that one file does not overwrite the next.

Path names in the template are ignored. In most cases the output path is that specified in Output Directory in the PostScript/Layout Output File Options dialog. The template is searched for path separators (colon, backslash, and forward slash), and, if found, all characters up to the last separator are ignored.

An extension can be specified in the template, including names with special codes in them. In most cases, however, the output file type has a defined extension which will overwrite any extension that you specify. For example, if the output file is to be an RTL and your template builds the file name ABC.XXX, the name of the RTL file will become ABC.RTL. One exception to this is the name of the document displayed when your output file is sent to a spooled printer. That name has no predefined extension, so any extension that you enter will be passed along as the document name listed in the printer's window.

If the File name template is left empty, the default template will be LAYOUT. This is the name given to all output files prior to templates. This is the only template name that will automatically create different extensions to try to create unique file names. That is, RTL, R00, R01, ..., TIF, T00, T01, ..., etc. will only be created when the template name is LAYOUT.

Special codes begin with a percent sign (%) and are followed by a single character. Letters are case independent, that is f and F are identical. All defined special codes are replaced by other known information. Any character that follows a percent sign but is not defined below is ignored. Special codes are grouped into types below. An alphabetical list is included after the types.

The following section lists special codes which are replaced by file names or affect file names in order to try to make them unique.

Names

Output file names can include the names of images in the layout and can be incremented automatically.

%F First name. This code is replaced by the first name of the first image that was added to the layout. The first name includes all characters up to a "dot" that separates the file name from its extension.

- %L** Last name. This code is replaced by the first name of the last image that was added to the layout. The first name includes all characters up to a “dot” that separates the file name from its extension.
- %E** End name at character. This code can be used more than once to specify characters in the %F and %L names where the output name should end. Each %E should be followed by one and only one additional character. If the character following %E is then found in the file name, the name is ended at that character, not including that character. If more than one end code is desired, each should be included in the template preceded by %E. If the character following %E is a letter, that letter is case independent. An example might be that you use long file names with lots of spaces in the name. You could shorten the output name by truncating the name at the first space. Do this by specifying the special code %E followed by a space character. Using this code, a file named “Sunshine over L.A. on a smoggy day” would create the output file named “Sunshine.” This code is only useful if you use %F and/or %L in the template.
- %U** Increment up. This code tries to ensure unique output names by replacing the special code with a three digit number between 000 and 999. Each time a number is used, it is automatically incremented. For example, the template CSE_%U creates output files named CSE_000, CSE_001, CSE_002, etc. The first number to be used is the number set in the Auto-increment starting number edit box in the Layout Options dialog. The number returns to 000 after incrementing past 999. You can set Auto-increment starting number to any starting number.

Dates

Output file names can include the current date or parts of the date.

- %D** Date. This code is replaced by the current date in a YYMMDD format. Example: cb%d on July 4, 1997 becomes cb970704. The order is chosen to ensure that the last file created will be listed last alphabetically. You can place the date in a different order by using the individual parts of the date listed below.
- %A** Date. This is replaced by a two digit code holding the date of the month. The two digit code will be in the range 01 to 31. Example: cb%a on July 4, 1997 becomes cb04. This will usually be combined with other date special codes to build a date in the order that you desire.
- %M** Month. This is replaced by a two digit code holding the number of the current month. January = 01 and December = 12. Example: cb%m%a on July 4, 1997 becomes cb0704.
- %Y** Year. This is replaced by the last two digits of the year. Example: cb%m%a%y on July 4, 1997 becomes cb070497.
- %W** Day of the week. This is replaced by the first two letters of the day of the week. Sunday = su, Monday = mo, etc. Example: cb%w on a Wednesday becomes cbwe.

Time

Output file names can include the current time, that is the time when writing the output file begins.

- %T** Time. This is replaced by a six digit code holding the current time as HHMMSS using a 24 hour clock. Example: cb%t at 4:32:23 PM becomes cb163223.
- %H** Hour. This is replaced by a two digit code holding the current hour using a 24 hour clock. The replacement will be in the range 00 (midnight) to 23 (11 PM). Example: cb%h at 5:21 PM becomes cb17.
- %I** Minutes. This is replaced by a two digit code holding the minutes past the hour of the current time. All values will be between 00 and 59. Example: cb%h%i at 5:21 PM becomes cb1721.
- %S** Seconds. This is replaced by a two digit code holding the seconds past the minute of the current time. All values will be between 00 and 59. Example: cb%h%i%s at 5:21:34 PM becomes cb172134.

Miscellaneous

Other codes not fitting the types listed above.

- %%** (%). This specifies that the percent sign is needed as part of the output file name. That is, the percent sign starting a special code should be ignored and the character following is needed. Example: xyz%%. becomes xyz%.

Alphabetical list

All special codes are listed alphabetically:

- %%** Percent sign. Miscellaneous code.
- %A** Date of the month. Dates code.
- %D** Date. Dates code.
- %E** End name at character. File Names code.
- %F** First file. File Names code.
- %H** Hour. Time code.

%I	Minutes. Time code.
%L	Last file. File Names code.
%M	Month. Dates code.
%S	Seconds. Time code.
%T	Time. Time code.
%U	Auto-incrementing number. File Names code.
%W	Day of the week. Dates code.
%Y	Year. Dates code.

Auto-Position Options

The Auto-Position Options group allows you to select the best-fit formula to use when positioning images in a layout. The Refit button allows you to refit all images according to one of the best-fit formulas without establishing that formula permanently.

There are three best-fit formulas to choose from. Only one can be chosen at a time. They are:

- Order Entered
- Largest First
- Smallest First

Each formula is further defined by whether images should be placed using a top-to-bottom or bottom-to-top arrangement. Select one of the following:

- Top To Bottom
- Bottom To Top

Images are placed in the smallest unused area in the layout where they will fit. As long as there is space, images are placed to the right of previous images. When there is no more space to the right, new images are positioned below previous images when using a top-to-bottom arrangement, and above previous images using a bottom-to-top arrangement. Even though the bottom-to-top arrangement places images at the bottom of the media, once all images have been positioned, they are shifted

to the top of the layout. That is, unless you set a vertical offset, images will start from the top of the layout.

If an image does not fit in the layout, it is not added to the layout. Be aware, however, that even though it is not shown in the layout, that image is still the currently selected file. From the File menu, you can Display the image that does not fit, but if you Print the layout, the image will not be included. Depending on the formula used, an image that does not fit is not necessarily the image that you are adding to the layout. Later in this section, see the explanation of the Largest First formula for more information.

The default formula is Order Entered because it has no “side effects.” Once an image is positioned, it is not repositioned unless you choose to refit all images or a general “Refit” command is issued. “Refit” commands are issued when you turn job titles on or off, or when you change the layout area while a layout is in effect. If you want to manually position image with the mouse, you should use this selection. The only image that may not fit in the layout is the image that you are currently adding to the layout.

The Largest First formula usually provides the best fit. When you add an image to the layout, every image is ordered from largest to smallest (largest means the largest area, i.e. width times height). The layout is cleared and each image, largest to smallest, is re-added. This does have some side effects that you may find unpleasant. Be aware that an image that does not fit in the layout is not necessarily the most recently-added image. An error message informs you of the name of the file that will not fit. If you select Cancel, the layout will return to its previous positions and the current image will not be added to the layout. More than one previous image may not fit when an image is added. Each image that does not fit will produce an error message. You can Cancel at any time to restore previous positions, but be aware that once you have accepted an image for deletion, it will not be restored by a later cancellation. That is, if you select OK for the first image to be deleted but then Cancel the second, the first image will be lost and a “hole” appears where it used to be. Another side effect is that because all images are repositioned

from scratch, any manual repositioning that you might have made with the mouse is lost each time a new file is added.

The Smallest First formula is exactly like Largest First, but in reverse. All illustrations are ordered from smallest to largest. This has the same side effects as Largest First.

Refit Button

The Refit button repositions all image in the layout according to the best-fit formula currently defined in the Auto-Position Options group. The formula selected is not necessarily the current formula, however. Until you save your selections, the current best-fit formula does not change. You can use the Refit button to see how other formulas affect the layout without making that formula permanent.

On Size Discrepancy

The On Size Discrepancy pop-up menu determines how size discrepancy errors will be handled. First, a definition of “size discrepancy” errors.

When a TIFF, CT, or other raster format is added to the layout, its size is absolutely known. When a PostScript file is added, however, the size is calculated from information in its header. This may be incorrect because PostScript commands may force different sizes. Examples are commands that select a particular paper size and commands that set up a different orientation. The only way for ColorBurst to know that actual size would be to send it to the PostScript interpreter. When adding an image to the layout, that would be too time-consuming.

If a layout contains more than one image, its PostScript files are rasterized into intermediate files before printing. The actual size of the intermediate file is compared to the size calculated from the header. If the actual size is larger than the calculated size by the values in the Margin Between Images group, the image might potentially overlap another illustration in the layout. This is called a “Size discrepancy error,” and the procedure for handling the error is defined in On Size Discrepancy. The five defined procedures are:

1. Refit images/Delete
2. Refit/No Delete
3. Delete image
4. Stop print
5. Do nothing

First, the message, "Size discrepancy error!" is added to the message window. Then the image causing the error is checked to see if it really overlaps another image. If it does not, the message, "No Action taken" is added to the message window and processing continues.

If the size discrepancy does cause an overlap, one of the five procedures will be executed. The default action is Refit images/Delete. This issues a general refit command to reposition all images. If the refit successfully repositions all images, the message "No Action taken" is added to the message window. If any image in the layout does not fit, the image causing the error is deleted from the layout, and all other images are repositioned again. The message is "Deleting image from layout."

If Refit/No Delete is the defined action, a general refit command is issued, but if an image does not fit, no action is taken. Any overlap is printed. The message is "No action taken."

If Delete image is the defined action, the image causing the error is automatically deleted without refitting, leaving a hole where the image was supposed to be. The message is "Deleting image from layout."

If Stop print is the defined action, printing never begins and processing is stopped. The message is "Stop print on size discrepancy." This has the same effect as if printing completed its task. The layout window is closed.

If Do nothing is selected, any overlap is allowed to print. Images are not repositioned. The message is "No action taken."

You will probably be able to predict size discrepancy errors according to the software package that created the PostScript file. There are ways of eliminating size discrepancy errors:

- leave extra room in the layout,
- print only one illustration,
- select Convert from the File menu.

When all entries in the Layout Options dialog are complete, select the Save button or press <Enter>. Selecting the Cancel button or pressing <Esc> will cancel all entries you made. Selecting the Help button will open ColorBurst's Help file on the Layout Options dialog.

Postscript/Layout Output

The next Options item is Output Options. Selecting it will display the Postscript/Layout Output File Options dialog. These selections are used to establish defaults for other commands, such as Print.

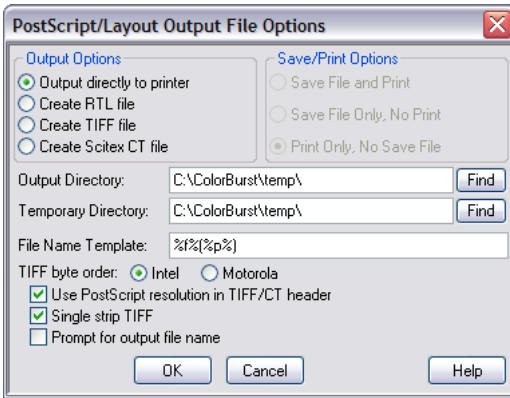


Figure 4.16. The PostScript/Layout Output File Options dialog.

Output Options

The Output Options group allows you to create an RTL, TIFF or Scitex CT with the Print command (under the File menu). The first option is to have the PostScript RIP bitmap Output directly to printer, in which case the

Save/Print Options are not applicable. The other options use the Save/Print Options to determine output.

Save/Print Options

When printing a file that is processed by the PostScript interpreter (PostScript files or any image that is scaled, rotated, etc.), you can print directly from the bitmap created by the RIP. This can be accomplished by creating an intermediate RTL file so that the printer is never waiting on the RIP.

The intermediate files can be saved for future use by selecting either the Save File and Print or Save File Only, No Print options. If you want the intermediate file automatically deleted following printing, select the Print Only, No Save File option. Output directly to Printer will save time if you do not need to create intermediate files.

Intermediate files for layouts, as opposed to single files, can also be created. All of the options in this dialog take effect for layouts whenever the Direct to printer checkbox is not selected in the Layout Options dialog.

RTL files are created by default. An RTL file is smaller than its equivalent TIFF, at least 8 times smaller and often, especially in drawn images that can be compressed, much smaller than that. Furthermore, TIFF and CT files still need more processing during printing. RTL files are completely ready for printing and should stay well ahead of the printer. RTL files may take longer to create in the first place, but will be faster once printing begins. Anyone printing to more than one printer simultaneously should consider creating intermediate RTL files instead of TIFF or CT files.

Output Directory

The Output Directory is where the intermediate file is created, if a "Save File" option is selected. This entry is by default the subdirectory TEMP of the directory specified for ColorBurst installation. This directory is also used as the output queue in Spooling (if not otherwise specified in the Spooler dialog).

Temporary Directory

Each time a layout is processed, ColorBurst creates temporary files. All files in a layout are ripped and saved as temporary files. After all files are processed, the temporary files are then assembled into a layout again and printed (or saved as one final file, depending on your output options). The temporary files are then deleted.

The Temporary Directory entry determines where ColorBurst saves the temporary files. The default path is the TEMP folder in the ColorBurst installation folder. It is recommended that the directory be a local folder, rather than on a server, so that the RIP time is faster.

File Name Template

This File name template edit box allows you to specify the name of an output file which will be created when only one image is processed into an output file. When there are two or more files in a layout, the File name template in the Layout Options dialog is used first, and then appended by the information in the File Name Template here. The File Name Template is described in detail earlier in this chapter, under Layout Options.

%P A special code, %P, has been added for use with this File Name Template (not the File Name Template in the Layout Options dialog). %P can be used for multipage documents, and will add the page number to the file name.

TIFF Byte Order

The TIFF byte order radio buttons allow you to choose between Intel and Motorola byte ordering when writing a TIFF file to disk. The TIFF file format begins with flags indicating whether the file uses Intel (low-high) or Motorola (high-low) byte ordering when specifying values larger than 8 bits. Although most software that reads TIFF format, including ColorBurst, can handle either byte order, some can only handle one type. This button allows you to specify the byte order used to write TIFFs so that ColorBurst TIFF files can be universally understood.

Use PostScript Resolution in TIFF/CT Header

When a TIFF or CT file is created from either a PostScript file or a layout of multiple files, the resolution (lines per inch or lines per millimeter) placed in the file header is normally the resolution of the intended printer. When the Use PostScript resolution in TIFF/CT header box is checked, the resolution is set to the resolution that is specified in the Resolution edit box in the PostScript Interpreter Options dialog. This setting can be used when the TIFF or CT is intended for a device like a high resolution film recorder which supports, and scales to, any resolution. Only layouts and files running through the PostScript interpreter, including scaled TIFFs and CTs, are affected.

Single Strip TIFF

TIFF images can be made up of a series of strips, or bands, to allow smaller memory allocations when reading a TIFF image. When ColorBurst writes a TIFF file, it usually sets up strips to be the size of a band that is created by the PostScript interpreter. It has been found that some software packages do not read TIFFs that contain multiple strips. Selecting this checkbox forces the TIFF to be written as a single strip so such software can process TIFF files from ColorBurst.

Prompt for Output File Name

The final entry in this dialog is the Prompt for output file name checkbox. If this entry is not checked, then the file is saved with the current file name and an RTL extension. If checked, each file can be specifically named. As the file is about to be created, a Save As dialog will appear to let you name the output file.

When all entries in the Postscript/Layout Output File Options dialog are complete, select the Save button or press <Enter>. Selecting the Cancel button or pressing <Esc> will cancel all entries you made since opening the dialog. Selecting the Help button will open ColorBurst's Help for the Postscript/Layout Output File Options dialog.

PostScript Options

The next item in the Options menu is PostScript Options. Selecting this will display the PostScript Interpreter Options dialog. The entries in this dialog setup the parameters for the JAWS PostScript Interpreter that is included with ColorBurst.

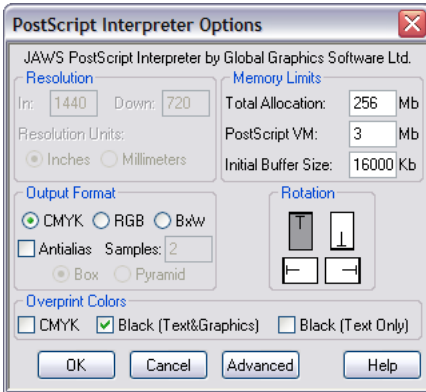


Figure 4.17. The PostScript Interpreter Options dialog.

Resolution and Scaling

The Output Resolution for the RIP can be set to any value in Resolution Units of either dots per inch (dpi) or millimeters (mm).

One way scaling can be accomplished is by modifying the Output Resolution. Some large format inkjet printers print at a fixed resolution of 300 dpi. For example, to double the size of the image, you could change the Output Resolution to 600 dpi (twice the original size). To scale the image to 1 1/2 times its original size, the resolution value would be 450 dpi. Changing the Output Resolution will scale all images in the layout. If you want to scale an images individually, set the Output Resolution to 300 dpi and scale the images through the Scaling & Rotation dialog.

If the unit of measure selected in the Printer Options dialog is Pixels, the resolution entered here will be used to convert pixels to/from absolute units of measure, such as printers point or inches. Job titles appearing above each printed image are rasterized using this resolution regardless of the resolution of the illustration that it describes.

Memory Limits

Memory Limits specifies how much memory will be allocated to the RIP for processing. It takes that memory when it is first initialized (the first time a PostScript file is interpreted) and does not return it until you exit ColorBurst.

The Total Allocation value refers to the amount of random access memory, or RAM, given to JAWS for interpreting the PostScript file.

NOTE: Try to ensure that the memory allocated is only real memory rather than virtual memory, because virtual memory will include disk space. If virtual memory is used, the time needed to access the disk can seriously impact the performance of the interpreter. Therefore reducing the Total Allocation (to eliminate virtual memory) can actually enhance performance. To test this scenario, turn off virtual memory. If the PostScript Interpreter can not run with that setting, reduce the Total Allocation.

The PostScript VM value is a portion of the Total Allocation described above. This is the portion of memory where the actual interpretation occurs. This memory is used by the interpreter internally for creating the displays and reading lists from the source file. The recommended value is 3 MB.

NOTE: Fonts take up a lot of VM memory. If many fonts are called in a job, you may need to increase VM. If you get a “font not found” error which seems incorrect, it may be that the font could not fit in VM. Increase VM size and try again.

The Initial Buffer Size entry is where you specify the size that the program reserves for the initial buffer. The value you enter in the box will be interpreted as thousands of bytes or “Kb.” The minimum size of the initial buffer is 32Kb, but more than that will usually result in better performance. The default size is 16000Kb.

As a file is about to be printed or displayed, the initial buffer is divided into smaller chunks used for specific purposes, according to the type of file that is being read. Whatever is left over is used for reading the file. If the initial buffer is not large enough to handle the demand, the following error message will be displayed: "Initial buffer too small. Increase size and restart." Because the initial buffer is allocated when the program begins, changes to its size can only be accomplished by setting the new size, exiting, and restarting the program.

Output Format

The Output Format group allows you to specify whether a PostScript file should be rasterized using CMYK (cyan, magenta, yellow, black) or RGB (red, green, blue) colors or 256 shades of gray. Furthermore, you can Antialias the output using either color model. Antialiasing is explained in more detail below.

Click either the CMYK, RGB, or BxW radio button to select the color model. RGB refers to color. CMYK refers to the inks used to reproduce the colors. BxW refers to grayscale. CMYK is the default, and is most commonly used. Select RGB if you are outputting to an RGB file.-If you select BxW when processing color files, an 8-bit file is created/printed.

Printing, of course, uses CMYK inks so RGB colors are converted before printing. Any conversion of RGB to CMYK uses the setup that you define in the RGB to CMYK dialog, or by the profiles in the ICC Profile Options dialog. This should allow you better control than letting the PostScript RIP convert an RGB image to CMYK for you. The default RGB to CMYK conversion used by a PostScript interpreter is to convert 100% of the neutral gray of the RGB colors to black, and remove 100% of the generated black from the CMY colors.

Antialiasing is a method by which sharp color transitions (also known as jaggies) are "smoothed." Antialiasing is especially useful in smoothing the staircasing effect in large text characters by blending gray into the black to white transitions. Be aware, however, that antialiasing involves a considerable performance penalty!

You turn on antialiasing by clicking the Antialias checkbox. You must then specify the number of samples and the formula to use for antialiasing. The number you enter in the Samples edit box sets the internal resolution of the PostScript RIP. Using four samples at 300 dpi, for examples, actually rasterizes the images at 1200 dpi. Before outputting the raster image, however, the extra data is “res’d down” to 300 dpi. The Box and Pyramid radio buttons select the formula chosen to convert from the high resolution image back to the resolution of choice. The Box formula (sometimes referred to as “unweighted”) is considerably faster, often about 4 times faster, than the Pyramid (or “weighted”) formula, but Pyramid gives better quality. Note that at sufficiently high resolutions, “jaggies” are not nearly as problematic as at low resolutions. The Box formula may be a very good compromise between speed and quality.

When a “band” (a memory buffer about the size of Total Allocation minus PostScript VM) of raster information is ready, the appropriate antialias formula converts the entire band back to the resolution needed for output. An obvious effect of antialiasing is to notice very long pauses at regular intervals. The more Samples that you choose, the fewer the lines per band, so pauses come more frequently. Be aware that if at any time your RIP seems to be running much more slowly than you think it should, you may have antialiasing turned on inadvertently. Antialiasing is never in effect when you display an image on the screen.

Rotation

The Rotation box allows you to rotate all PostScript images in a layout 90°, 180°, or 270° from each image’s original orientation. The T shape in the 4 boxes indicates the top of the image. By default, the upper left symbol will be highlighted, which means the image has not been rotated from its original orientation. You may rotate all types of images individually through the Scaling & Rotation dialog.

OverPrint Colors

The OverPrint Colors group allows color to “overprint,” or combine, as opposed to “knock out” colors below it. The CMYK checkbox is separate from the two black overprint boxes. Overprinting can be very helpful for showing trapping and other effects, but it can also change the look

of the images, especially those that are intended for Level 1 PostScript interpreters. The file OVERPRT.EPS, included with ColorBurst in the TESTFILE directory, shows how CMYK overprint works. Display this file on the screen with CMYK overprint on and off and notice the difference.

Selecting CMYK overprint tells the PostScript interpreter to honor overprint commands in the job. CMYK overprint only works when CMYK is set in the Output Format group—RGB and BxW ignore overprinting.

Black overprinting is different than CMYK overprinting. It might only be noticed in the printed output. When black, especially text, is placed over other colors, it normally knocks out the colors below it, which may result in a white halo around the black. By turning on black overprint, the black is combined with the colors below it and the white halo disappears. Some black inks, when combined with other inks, may change hue. If this is the case, overprinting may be undesirable. You can specify black overprint for all generated black by selecting Black (Text&Graphics). Setting Black (Text Only) turns on black overprint for text but not for other black in the page, such as rules. Setting either turns the other off automatically.

Advanced PostScript Options

The Advanced button at the bottom of the PostScript Interpreter Options dialog opens the Advanced PostScript Options dialog. The information in this box is used by the PostScript interpreter, and usually does not need changed. If the information here is not correct, the PostScript interpreter will fail.

Initialization File

The file named in the Initialization File entry is needed by the JAWS RIP to set up its environment. The file should have been delivered on the installation diskette(s), and the name should have been entered during installation. This file is for internal use. It must exist and should not be changed except when specifically instructed. The initialization file calls many other setup files, also delivered on the installation diskette(s). If the initialization file or other files it calls are not found, the following error message results: "Error occurred before errordict set up. Check your init

files.” The initialization file is normally named INIT.PS and is placed in the LIB subdirectory under the directory you named during installation.

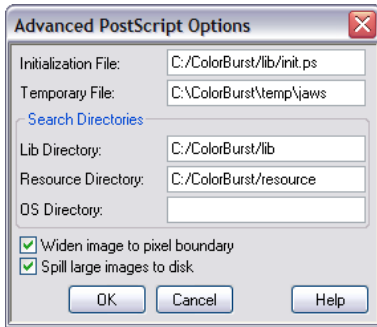


Figure 4.18. The Advanced PostScript Options dialog.

Temporary File

The Temporary File entry names a file that the JAWS RIP needs for storing internal information while it is interpreting and rasterizing PostScript files. The temporary file is used anytime JAWS needs more memory than is available to it in the Total Allocation buffer.

The Temporary File usually includes the full path of the temporary file. The path must exist. If the file cannot be created, you will receive the error message: “Temporary file for PostScript Interpreter cannot be created!” The temporary file entry is usually filled during installation. The default name is JAWS.BND in the subdirectory TEMP of the directory specified for ColorBurst installation.

JAWS Search Directories

The directories named under the JAWS Search Directories group generally contain PostScript (.PS) files needed by the JAWS RIP. Files in these directory paths should not be altered except when specifically instructed.

The entry boxes are usually filled during installation. The default name of the Lib Directory is LIB and the default name of the Resource Directory is RESOURCE. Both directories and further subdirectories are created under the directory that you name during installation.

Currently, the OS Directory edit box, intended for specific operating system setup, is not used. Its default name is the directory you name during installation.

The Widen image to pixel boundary checkbox is on by default. This checkbox should be left on to avoid roundoff errors when scaling and tiling images at high percentages.

The Spill large images to disk checkbox is also on by default. This checkbox allows newer PDF formats to buffer to disk as required during processing. Leave this checkbox on to avoid errors when processing PDF files.

NOTE: If the PostScript interpreter has already been initialized, the following message will result: "Restart ColorBurst to have changes take effect." All changes except Resolution will not take effect until ColorBurst has been re-launched. Resolution changes will take effect with the next job.

ICC Profile Options

Kodak Digital Sciences' ICC Engine, referred to as KCMS, is integrated into ColorBurst. KCMS is an industry-accepted color correction system which can enhance the current color correction within ColorBurst or completely replace it. KCMS works from pre-built ICC Profiles, allowing you to print CMYK, RGB, and grayscale files, with both vector graphics and photographic images, in the same layout and get good output for each type of image. You can choose different profiles for different types of output, such as RGB, CMYK, or Hexachrome.

KCMS is embedded in the ColorBurst RIP. Any job running through the PostScript interpreter has its colors corrected while being interpreted. When a file is printed that does not go through the PostScript interpreter, ColorBurst uses the KCMS ICC Profiles to correct the image on a pixel by pixel basis.

The ICC Profile Options dialog allows you to set ICC Profile options. Profiles can be turned on or off without restarting ColorBurst to have

changes take effect. In addition, you may inhibit specific ICC Profiles by using the On/Off buttons. The dialog is separated into tabs; it opens in the Input Profiles tab.

General tab

The General tab in the ICC Profile Options dialog gives you control over which color management tools to use in ColorBurst.

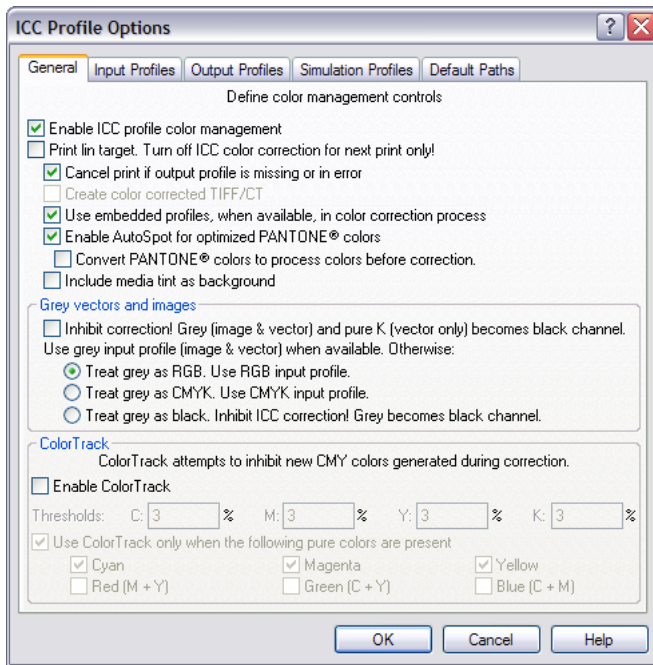


Figure 4.19. The General tab of the ICC Profile Options dialog.

Enable ICC profile color management

The ICC Profile Options dialog allows you to turn ICC Profile correction on and off. When you turn off ICC Profiles, normal ColorBurst correction is used automatically, and all ICC options are disabled. If ICC Profiles are enabled, the image is corrected by the ICC profiles first, then corrected by ColorBurst.

Print lin target

The Print lin target option is used only when printing a lin target for relinearization—lin targets should always be printed with ICC turned off. This checkbox eliminates the need to turn ICC back on after printing your lin target.

Cancel print if output profile is missing or in error

When this option is selected and the output profile can not be found or is incorrect, the Print command will be canceled. This allows you to save media if the output profile is not found.

Create color corrected TIFF/CT

Select the Create color corrected TIFF/CT option to force ICC color correction when any file is converted to a TIFF or CT output file through the PostScript interpreter. Header information will inhibit ICC profile correction on files if they are subsequently printed by ColorBurst. If you convert an ICC profile-corrected file to a different file type, the new file will also be noted as color corrected.

Use embedded profiles

The Use Embedded Profiles checkbox is available for users that embed profiles in their images using programs such as Photoshop. When this box is checked and an image file contains a profile, the input profiles in ColorBurst are ignored and the embedded profile is used as an input profile instead. If this checkbox is not selected, any embedded profiles are ignored.

Enable AutoSpot for optimized PANTONE® colors

When this option is selected, ColorBurst will automatically find any PANTONE spot colors during file processing. AutoSpot's color optimization allows for greater accuracy of PANTONE colors.

Convert PANTONE® colors to process before color correction

When this option is selected, ColorBurst will automatically find any PANTONE spot colors during file processing and convert them to CMYK process before color correction takes place. This can be used as a work-around for files that contain a PANTONE colored vector graphic that

overlaps a transparent object, drop shadow, or other bitmapped object. The vector and bitmapped objects will print correctly but the PANTONE spot color matching will be compromised.

Include media tint as background

The Include media tint as background option is used only when Absolute Colorimetric is selected as your input profile rendering intent. When this checkbox is selected, the input profile's "paper white" will be preserved. This white value is often a slight tint and will be printed as the background color. If this checkbox is off, the Absolute Colorimetric white value will be forced to white (C=0%, M=0%, Y=0%, K=0%).

Grey vectors and images

These options control how black and white images print. When black and white images are corrected using ICC profiles, small amounts of cyan, magenta and/or yellow ink are often added to black to neutralize the printer's black ink. To print black and white images using black ink only, select the Inhibit ICC Correction checkbox.

If Inhibit ICC Correction is not selected, ColorBurst will use the Grey vector and Grey image Input Profiles (in the Input Profiles tab) to process black and white images using all inks.

When the Grey Input Profiles are not available (i.e. not specified in Input Profiles or not found), there are three options for handling black and white images. You can either convert the image to RGB and use the RGB input profile, convert the image to CMYK and use the CMYK profile, or inhibit ICC correction and print the image using black ink only.

Enable ColorTrack

ColorTrack is a method by which ColorBurst eliminates the speckled look of pure colors that is typical of color profiling software correction. For example, in a light green tint, profiles will often add small amounts of magenta and even black. These magenta and black dots give the tint an undesirable grainy or speckled look. ColorTrack recognizes green as a pure color and eliminates the additional magenta and black dots that the

profile adds. This usually has no effect on scanned images where pure colors are unusual, only drawn images such as tints and blends.

When you select Enable ColorTrack, the other options in this group become active. You may set the individual ColorTrack thresholds for each ink color (Cyan, Magenta, Yellow, and Black ink). Setting a Cyan threshold of 10%, for example, will remove all cyan speckling from any area with up to a 10% cyan dot value (0% is white, 100% is the color at full strength). The threshold is subtractive, meaning that the threshold amount is subtracted from the ink value—if the threshold is 10%, then an 11% dot would print as 1%, a 12% dot would print as 2%, etc.

NOTE: Yellow has no visible dot and mixes with other inks to change the hue, so it is strongly recommended that the Yellow threshold is set to 0%.

You may also choose to use ColorTrack only when specific pure colors are being printed (Cyan, Magenta, Yellow, Red, Green, or Blue). Sometimes the speckles change the hue in a subtle way and it is not desirable to remove them. For example, this option allows you to decide to allow speckles to appear in a red tint, but not in a pure yellow tint.

Input Profiles tab

The Input Profiles in effect are specified in the Input Profiles tab. You may specify any or all of them—ColorBurst will use only the ones needed for each print job.

There are six different Input profiles listed in the Input Profiles tab. There are separate profiles for CMYK, RGB, and Grayscale data, in both vector graphic and photographic (image) formats.

To set a profile, use the On/Off button to activate it. When disabled, the name of the profile and its Find button will be grayed so that keystrokes and mouse clicks are ignored.

The Find button allows you to browse for the proper profile. Each profile name entered is checked to see if it is a proper profile, and if it has the correct options for the entry you chose. That is, a profile for CMYK data will be improper if entered as an RGB profile name. If a profile is not found or improper, the previous name in that field will be re-established. A description of the profile will be displayed under the profile filename.

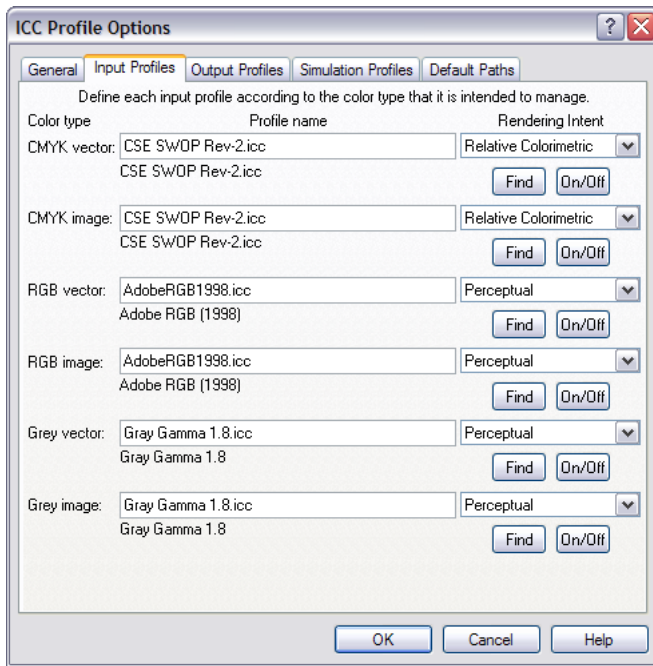


Figure 4.20. The Input Profiles tab of the ICC Profile Options dialog.

The Rendering Intent pop-up menu is used to define how the profile will remap the input colorspace to the output colorspace. Perceptual rendering will remap the input data evenly in the output data space. Colorimetric rendering will remap all out-of-gamut data to the closest possible value in the output colorspace, and all other data will remain the same. Saturation rendering tries to retain the same level of saturation as the original data, but at the expense of color hue. Absolute Colorimetric rendering is similar to Colorimetric, but uses an absolute white point as a reference. In general, use Perceptual rendering for photographic images and Colorimetric for vector graphics.

Output Profiles tab

The Output Profiles are set in the same manner as the Input profiles.

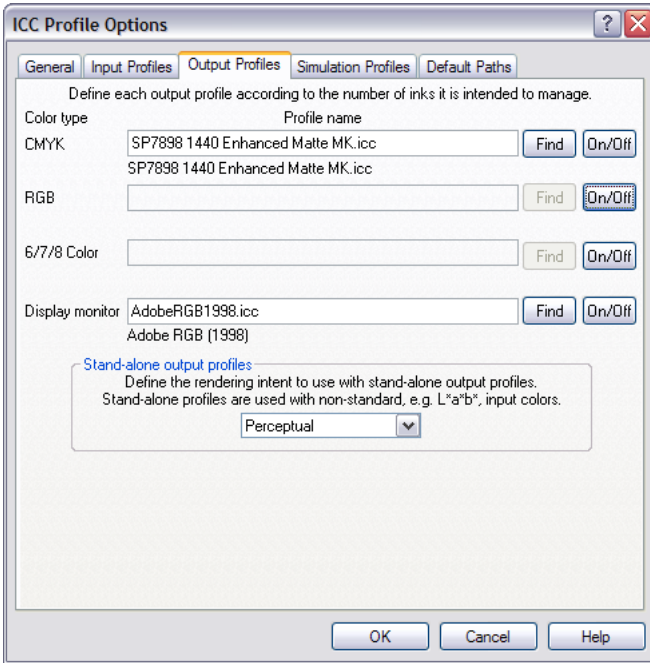


Figure 4.21. The Output Profiles tab of the ICC Profile Options dialog.

Choose a Profile to manage and activate it with the On/Off button. Use the Find button to find the profile you want to use. The file is checked to make sure it is valid, and the description will appear below the filename. You may set profiles for output to a CMYK printer, an RGB printer, such as a film recorder, a Hexachrome printer (CMYK plus orange and green ink), and to the display monitor. Any of these can be disabled using the On/Off button.

The Stand-alone output profiles group lets you assign a rendering intent for input that is not included in the Input Profiles tab. This is helpful when processing L*a*b* files—L*a*b* files do not go through an input profile, so the rendering intent can be set here. The rendering intent is used the same way as described above in the Input Profiles tab.

Simulation Profiles tab

Simulation, or proofing, profiles are used to simulate output to one type of printer on another type of printer. For example, you can simulate the output of a Mimaki printer on an Epson. The simulation is extremely accurate, as long as the output device has a larger ink color gamut than the simulation device. If you simulate a printer with a wider color gamut on a printer with a smaller gamut, some color clipping will occur.

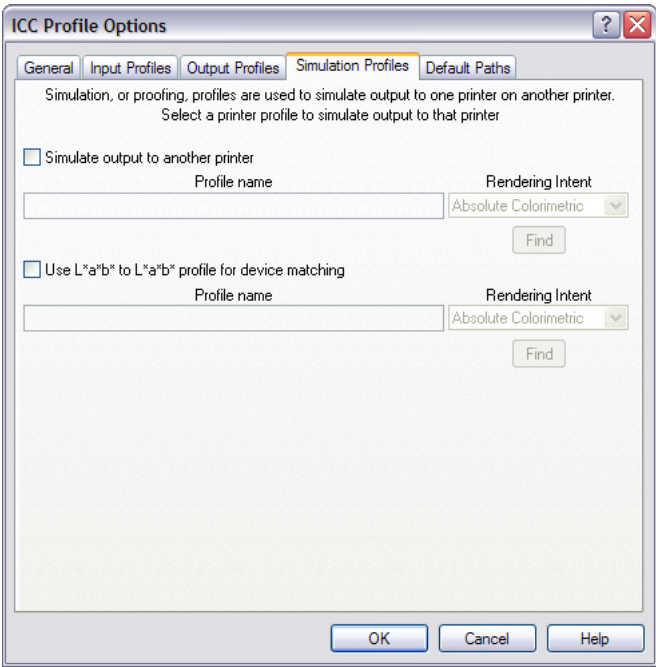


Figure 4.22. The Simulation Profiles tab of the ICC Profile Options dialog.

The Simulate output to another printer button activates the Profile name entry box. The Simulation Profile is set in the same manner as the Input and Output profiles. Use the Find button to find the profile you want to use. The file is checked to make sure it is valid, and the description will appear below the filename. The profile can be disabled using the On/Off button. The Rendering Intent is used to remap the color from one type of printer to another; see Input Profiles (above) for a description of each rendering intent.

The Use L*a*b* to L*a*b* profile for device matching checkbox allows you to use L*a*b* to L*a*b* profiles for simulation. L*a*b* is absolute color. When using this simulation, the total raw L*a*b* input data is restricted to the L*a*b* color space of the device. Input data goes through the L*a*b* simulation profile and then out to the Output device profile. This is useful for devices that you cannot make an ICC profile for. It also allows you to stay in L*a*b* color, which is device-independent color.

Default Paths tab

The Default paths tab allows you to specify the default paths for Input and Output profiles. Use the Find button to select a folder for the default paths.

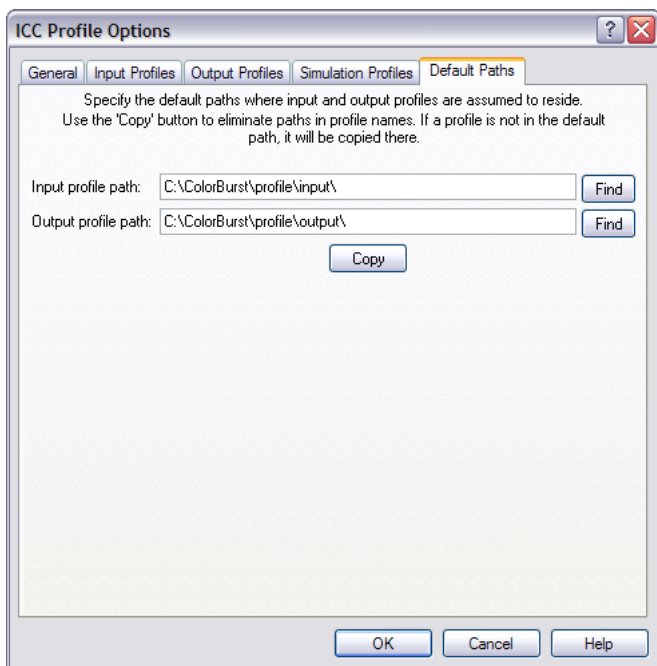


Figure 4.23. The Default Paths tab of the ICC Profile Options dialog.

The Copy button is used to eliminate paths in the profile names in the Input and Output Profile entry boxes. If any profiles are not located

in the default path, clicking the Copy button will copy the profile to the default path folder. This allows you to keep all of your profile files together. It is recommended that your default paths are local, rather than on a server.

When all entries in the ICC Profile Options dialog are complete, select the Save button to keep them or select the Cancel button to restore the values to their previous settings. You may access ColorBurst's Help files about the ICC Profile Options dialog by selecting the Help button.

Color Adjustments

The entries and modifications made in the Color Adjustments dialog control settings such as the screening, brightness, and ink density.

Ink Limits tab

The Ink Limits tab in the Color Adjustment Options dialog gives you access to the Ink Limits, Sharpness, and Extra TIFF Channel controls.

Ink Limits

The Ink Limits group works with the Ink Limit test file ("Media Ink Limit.eps", located in the Testfile folder) to control the maximum amount of ink printed and avoid prints that are too wet. To determine the ink limit, print "Media Ink Limit.eps" and look for the last dry patch for all colors. On glossy media, the wet patches may show ink running, while on matte media the paper may buckle. Another sign that the patch is too wet is rounded edges; on an acceptable patch the corners will be sharply defined. The number above the last dry patches (percentage of ink) is the number that is entered in the Total ink limit box. When the Enable Ink Limiting box is selected and a number less than 400 is entered in the box, the total amount of ink printed will be reduced to the percentage entered.

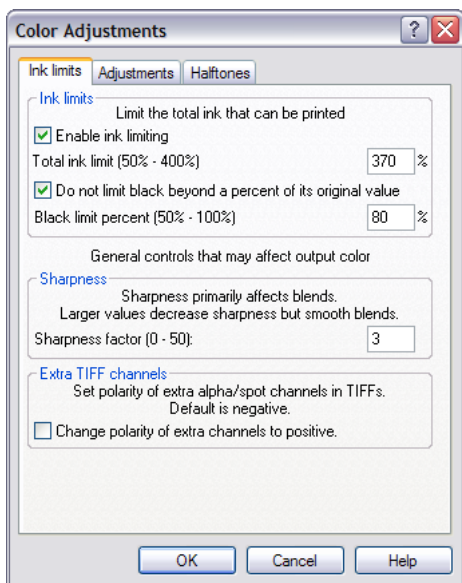


Figure 4.24. The Ink limits tab of the Color Adjustments dialog.

The Black limit box works with Enable Ink Limiting; if Enable Ink Limiting is selected, Black limit becomes available. Selecting this box will keep black at the percentage entered when ink is limited using Enable Ink Limiting. For example, when Ink Limiting is not used or it is set to 400%, each ink is allowed to print at 100%. If Ink Limiting is set to 200%, each ink is limited to 50%. When each color is limited to 50%, it is difficult to get a rich black. If the Black limit percent is set to 80%, the other inks will be held back to 40% and black will print at 80%, producing a deeper black. The default (and minimum recommended) setting is 80%; a setting of 100% can create banding problems when printed.

Sharpness

The Sharpness factor will add electronic noise to vector blends, such as gradients created in Adobe Illustrator. The added noise will create a smoother blend and reduce the appearance of any banding that occurs.

The Sharpness factor can be set to any value from 0 (no noise) to 50. The recommended range is from 1 to 6.

Extra TIFF channels

When alpha channels and spot channels are added to TIFF files in Photoshop or other imaging programs, the data in the channel is considered “negative” if the color indicates masked areas. Positive channels are created with color indicating selected areas.

By default, ColorBurst expects the channel data to be in “negative” format (masked areas are colored), which needs to be inverted to print properly. If you designed your alpha or spot channels in “positive” format (selected areas are colored), select the Change polarity of extra channels to positive checkbox to pass the data through as you see it on the screen in Photoshop.

Adjustments tab

The Color Adjustment Options dialog opens in the Adjustments tab. This is where the majority of the color settings are made.

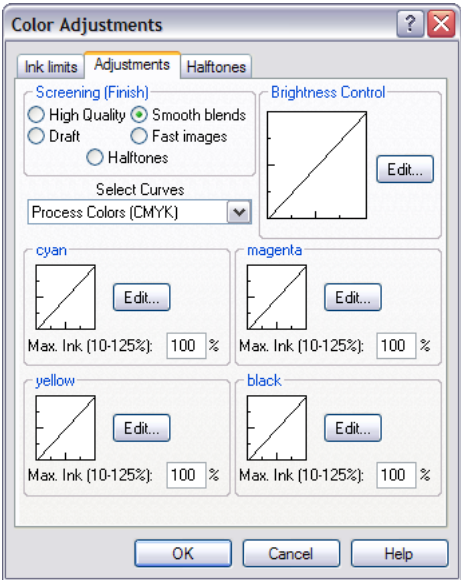


Figure 4.25. The Adjustments tab of the Color Adjustments dialog.

Screening (Finish)

Color data that is sent to a large format inkjet printer has to be patterned in some manner to give acceptable print quality. The three main formulas for patterning an image are dithering, error diffusion, and halftoning. Dithering is by far the fastest method, but its quality is lacking. There are many formulas for error diffusion, but the higher the quality of the image, the more calculations and thus the slower the print. Halftoning simulates output from a printing press. ColorBurst allows you to match your quality and speed requirements by selecting one of five screening formulas in the Patterned Finish group box. The five formulas are High Quality, Draft, Smooth Blends, Fast Images, and Halftoning.

When image quality is of utmost importance, select High Quality. This screening formula provides the finest print of all of the screening options, but is also the slowest.

NOTE: When High Quality is selected and the print resolution is at 720 dpi, it is required to set the gamma to 1.0 in the Ink Limits tab (in the High Quality Screening group).

The fastest pattern is Draft. It uses a dithering pattern with no error diffusion.

Smooth Blends and Fast Images are very high quality error diffusion patterns. Both eliminate any pattern in the output and give very similar printed results. Smooth Blends should only be used when printing blends (gradients) from vector data, because this option is slower than Fast Images. An alternative way to print vector data would be to rasterize your vector images in your drawing program (such as Illustrator or Freehand) and then print using Fast Images.

The Fast Images pattern prints much faster than Smooth Blends and should be used when printing image (raster) data and vector data without blends. Because Fast Images is always done within the RIP, files that are not normally run through the RIP, e.g. unscaled/unrotated TIFFs, CTs, or Targa files, now must be encapsulated and run through the RIP. This extra time, especially for very large files, may offset any time savings

that you get from the faster screening. If much of your work does not go through the PostScript RIP now, you should run timing tests before deciding to use the Fast Images finish.

The Halftones Screening option will activate the Halftones tab in the Color Adjustments dialog. This tab is where you can select what type of halftone dot to use (Round, Cosine dot, etc.), as well as the halftone screen angles.

Brightness Control

The Brightness Control is independent of the other curves in the Color Adjustments dialog, and should be modified after setting the other curves, as it will make the entire image lighter or darker. To edit the Brightness curve, click on the Edit button to open the Brightness Curve's Color Curve Information dialog.

Select Curves

The Select Curves pop-up menu gives you different settings for the four ink curves shown below the menu. To change an ink's curve, click the Edit button to open the Color Curve Information dialog, described below. To adjust the percentage of maximum ink output, enter a value in the ink's Max. Ink entry box, also described below.

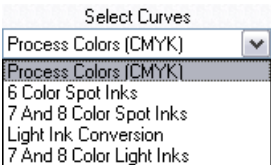


Figure 4.26. The Select Curves pop-up menu in the Adjustments tab of the Color Adjustments dialog.

The first setting, Process Colors (CMYK), lets you control the amount of Cyan, Magenta, Yellow, and Black ink; these are the standard inks on every printer. If you are using the Pre-press version of ColorBurst, the Installed Ink Sets selection in the Spot Color Definitions dialog will affect these curves. The description of the Color Curve Information dialog has more information on changing the Process Color curves.

The next setting, 6 Color Spot Inks is used in conjunction with the Spot Color Definitions dialog. If you add a Defined Spot Color to your Installed Inks list in the Spot Color Definitions dialog, a curve will be available for that spot color in the Color Adjustments dialog. The curve can be set for each spot color ink using the Edit button. The spot color named should correspond to an ink installed in your printer, as well as a defined color name in your file. The bottom two curves are disabled because there are only two definable spot colors using a 6 color printer.

The 7 and 8 Color Spot Inks selection works in the same way as the 6 Color Spot Inks. The colors for each curve are named in the Spot Colors Definitions dialog. All four curves are available under this setting.

The Light Ink Conversion selection is used to support six color printers that have Light Cyan and Light Magenta ink. These curves function differently from the Process Colors (CMYK) curves—they are used together to distribute the file's data among the regular and light inks. The Cyan and Magenta curves in the Process Colors pop-up menu control the overall Cyan or Magenta ink, and then these curves control how the Cyan and Magenta color data is separated into the light and regular ink.

For example, the Light Cyan Curve Data may be set as follows: 0%=0, 40%=100, 100%=0. Cyan would then be set to: 0%=0, 40%=0, 100%=100. These settings indicate that from 0% to 40% data, the Light Cyan ink should be used, and the Cyan ink should be used for data over 40%.

When using Light Ink Conversion, it is recommended to set Cyan and Magenta Process Curves to 1, and Max Ink to 100%.

The 7 and 8 Color Light Inks selection works in the same way as the 6 Color Light Inks. The color curves work together to distribute the data between the yellow and light yellow and black and light black inks. When you use a seven or eight color printer with all four light inks, the Process Colors curves, Light Ink curves and 7 and 8 Color Light Inks curves are all used together to process the image data.

Edit Button and Color Curve Information

Selecting any of the Edit buttons in the Color Adjustments dialog (in each of the Ink Control and Brightness Control groups) opens a Color Curve Information dialog for that control. You will see the name of the curve at the top left corner of the Color Curve Information dialog above a graphical representation of the curve.

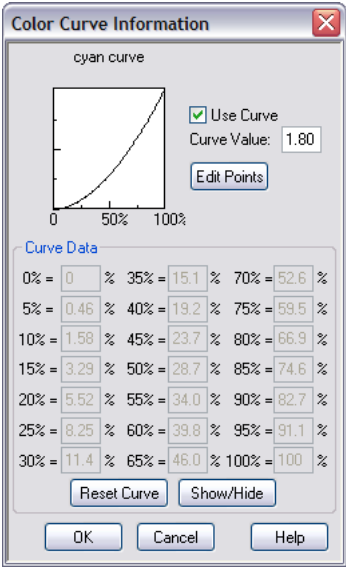


Figure 4.27. The Color Curve Information dialog. This dialog can be opened for each ink curve by clicking the Edit button in the Adjustments tab of the Color Adjustments dialog.

A curve converts input dot values that are read from the file being printed to output dot values that actually print. The curve can be edited in two ways. It can be treated as a mathematically smooth curve defined by one value, or it can be manually defined at various points.

Suppose, for example, you want to lighten the midtones of your black ink slightly while leaving the highlights and shadows basically unchanged. In the Color Adjustments dialog select the Edit button in the Black Ink Control group. The Color Curve Information dialog appears. You might define one point on the curve to convert a 50% input dot value to a 45% output dot value. This would remap every input dot between 0% and 50% along a straight line from 0% to 45%. Every input

dot between 50% and 100% would be remapped along a straight line from 45% to 100%. This curve would convert a 25% input dot value to 22.5% on output, and convert a 75% input dot to a 72.5% output dot.

You might also choose to lighten the midtones by defining a curve as a mathematical formula. In this case, you would set the Use Curve check-box and set Curve Value to 1.15. Now each point is mapped according to the formula. A 50% dot is converted to 45.06%, 25% is converted to 20.31%, and 75% is converted to 71.83%.

If you are using a mathematically defined curve but want to make manual adjustments to it, you can select the Edit Points button to convert calculated points from the mathematical curve to actual points on the curve as if you had entered each point manually. You can then edit these points as you wish.

You can manually adjust defined points on the curve either by entering precise values in the Curve Data table or by moving points with the mouse and watching the results.

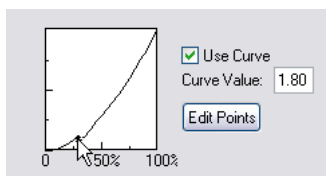


Figure 4.28. Each curve can be edited manually in the Color Curve Information dialog.

The Color Curve Information dialog can be used not only to change an existing curve, but to view precisely how the curve remaps points. The Show/Hide button toggles between showing only defined points on the curve in the Curve Data table and showing all calculated points between the defined points. Calculated points are shown in gray and cannot be edited.

Max. Ink

The Max. Ink controls may be used when Enable Ink Limiting is not selected in the Ink Limits tab. In almost every case, ink densities for large

format inkjet printers must be reduced to eliminate pooling of ink on the media. The maximum printed ink that can be independently controlled in the Color Adjustments dialog by the Max. Ink (10-125%) edit box in each ink control group.

The four Max. Ink (10-125%) edit boxes should be the first controls adjusted when doing initial color calibration. For example, let's assume you enter a value of 50% for the Cyan Max. Ink. This means that when a 100% cyan dot is to be printed, only a 50% dot is actually selected. All other dot values are adjusted accordingly. When a 50% dot is specified, only a 25% dot is selected, etc.

Halftones tab

The Halftones tab is only available if Halftones is selected in the Screening (Finish) group. This tab contains halftone dot and screen settings.

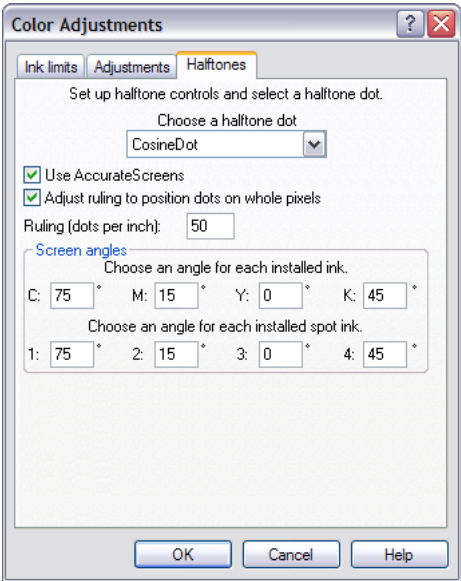


Figure 4.29. The Halftones tab of the Color Adjustments dialog.

Choose a halftone dot

Halftone dots come in many different shapes, such as elliptical, round, diamond, and so on. The choose a halftone dot pop-up menu allows you to select the shape of your halftone dot.

Use AccurateScreens

The Use AccurateScreens checkbox will turn on Adobe AccurateScreens. This option will create smoother transitions, creating more shades of gray. It is recommended that this checkbox always be selected.

Adjust ruling

The Adjust ruling to position dots on whole pixels will adjust any partial dots to whole dots. It is recommended that this checkbox always be selected; partial dots may cause unwanted patterns in halftoned output.

Ruling (dots per inch)

The Ruling entry box allows you to enter the dots per inch to use when halftoning. The recommended value is 1/10th of your printer's dots per inch. For example, if you are printing on a 360 dpi printer, set Ruling to 36 dots per inch.

Screen angles

The Screen angles entry boxes contain the screen angles to use for each ink. Screen angles will be used for any installed ink, as set in the Spot Color Definitions dialog. The first four inks and their default screen angles are: Cyan at 75, Magenta at 15, Yellow at 0, and Black at 45 degrees. For additional installed light inks, the angles should be exactly the same as the CMYK angles—light inks are used to blend with the CMYK inks so they must overlap.

Linearization Options

The next selection in the Options menu opens the Linearization Options dialog. Linearization will allow you to standardize your color output by equalizing the steps between specified ink densities or chroma values. You can use the Linearization settings to create consis-

tent output and match output from multiple printers of the same type (same ink and media).

For more information on Linearization and creating ICC profiles, please refer to the SpectralVision Pro documentation, found in your ColorBurst\Profiling Tools & Docs folder.

General tab

The Linearization Options dialog opens in the General tab, where you can turn linearization options on and off and specify a LIN file.

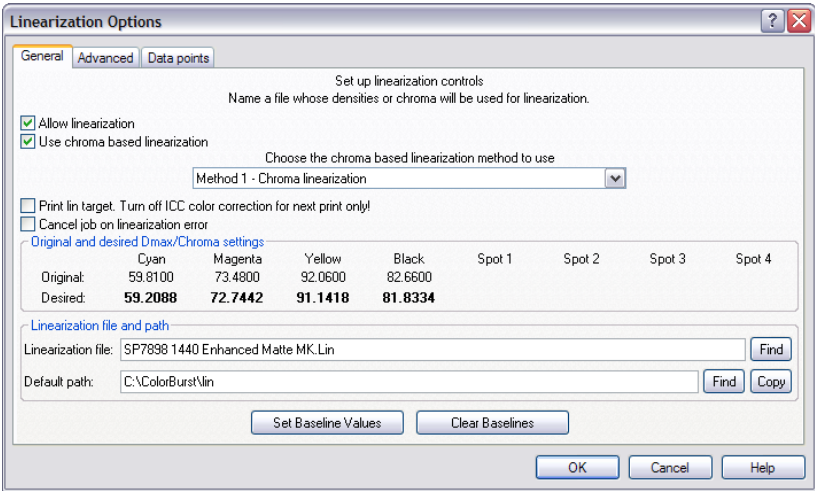


Figure 4.30. The General tab of the Linearization Options dialog.

Allow linearization

Select the Allow Linearization checkbox to linearize your input data using a specified .LIN file. When creating a LIN file, do not select this box. The input data will not be linearized when this box is not checked.

Use chroma based linearization

The Use chroma based linearization checkbox is available when a LIN file that contains both ink density and chroma or L*a*b* data is loaded. When this checkbox is selected, the chroma or L*a*b* data in the LIN

file will be used to perform chroma based linearization, depending on the selection in the method pop-up menu, and the ink density data in the LIN file will be ignored. When this checkbox is not selected, the ink density data will be used for linearization and any chroma or L*a*b* data is ignored.

If you are relinearizing, you must make sure that the chroma based linearization method matches the original method used in the profile. When an environment is loaded, the correct method is chosen automatically based on the profile's data. Do not change this setting.

If the a LIN file containing chroma or L*a*b* data has not been loaded, this checkbox will be disabled (dimmed) and linearization will be based on ink density.

Print lin target

Select the Print lin target checkbox only when creating a linearization file or a new ICC Profile. This option will automatically be deselected after one print. This button will disable all ICC color correction so that the print will contain raw data, which can then be read by a spectrophotometer to create an ICC profile based on the printer's raw output.

Cancel job on linearization error

Select this checkbox to cancel your current print job when there is an error processing the linearization data. A message will appear indicating that there was a linearization error, and the current layout will not print. If this box is not checked and there is an error with the LIN file, printing will continue without linearization.

Linearization file and path

The Linearization file and path group contains fields for the linearization file name and default path for LIN files. The data in the Linearization file (LIN file) is used to linearize your output. In order to linearize your input, a LIN file must be specified. When a LIN file is loaded, the Dmax or peak chroma values in the LIN file will be displayed in the Original and desired Dmax/Chroma settings group (directly above the Linearization file and path).

You can use a LIN file by itself, or use a LIN file and Desired densities or chroma values. LIN files can be created on a regular basis to get a “reading” of your printer’s current output, so that it can then be adjusted according to your Dmax or peak chroma values for consistent output.

Dmax or peak chroma values should be set when an ICC profile is created. When Dmax or peak chroma values are specified, the Linearization file’s 100% values and the Dmax/Chroma values are compared. The information in the current LIN file will be adjusted according to the Dmax/Chroma values. Using Dmax or peak chroma values can help you match output for multiple printers of the same type (using the same ink and media) and ensure consistent output on the same printer from day to day.

The Set Baseline button can be used as a shortcut to setting your desired Dmax/Chroma values. This button will set the desired Dmax/Chroma values to 5% below the Dmax or peak chroma of the LIN file. This is the same as to going to the Advanced tab, selecting Set desired Dmax/Chroma from next read of linearization minus (-): and entering 5% as the value.

Advanced tab

The settings in the Advanced tab will override densities or chroma values set from the LIN file.

Desired density/chroma values

You may enter Desired density/chroma values, which are the ink densities or chroma values that you will use to standardize your output. In order for these values to be used, you must make sure the Use original Dmax/Chroma settings checkbox is not selected.

Different Desired values may be entered for each of the ink colors—Cyan, Magenta, Yellow, Black, and up to 4 spot color inks. Values of 25%, 50%, 75%, and 100% (the Dmax/peak chroma value) can be entered. ColorBurst will map the LIN file values to the target values

entered here. This is helpful if you already know the densities at which your inks should print (or chroma values if you are using chroma-based linearization).

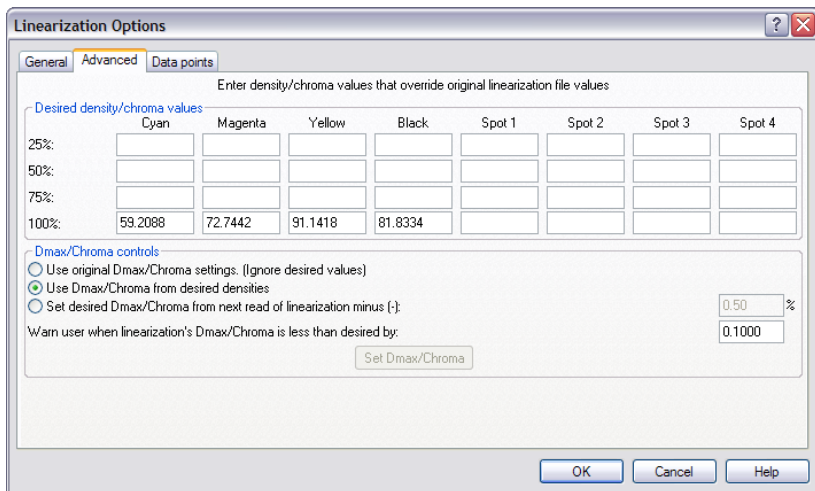


Figure 4.31. The Advanced tab of the Linearization Options dialog.

If any values are left blank, they will be calculated from the values that were entered to create uniform values. If all fields are blank, the LIN file will be used to determine the values.

Dmax/Chroma controls

The Dmax controls allow you to determine how the Dmax values are set. If you specify Use Dmax/Chroma from desired densities, the values entered in the Desired densities fields will be used (100% is the Dmax value). If you select Use original Dmax/Chroma settings, the 100% value will be read from the current Linearization file.

An additional option, Set desired Dmax/Chroma from next read of linearization file minus (-) __%, is available in the Dmax/Chroma controls group. When this option is selected, the Dmax or peak chroma value is read from the linearization file and a threshold of __% is allowed. For example, if you enter 5% here, the Dmax or peak chroma value will be read from the linearization file and reduced by 5% of that value. This allows built-in headroom from the possible maximum value to the work-

ing maximum value. This becomes very useful if an inkjet is clogged or another media is used and the maximum density or chroma reading is not as high in your LIN file as it is in the original LIN file. Entering a value here will make the lower reading acceptable. It is recommended to enter values in the range of 5% to 10%.

The Warn user when linearization's Dmax/Chroma is less than desired option will alert you if the readings in your linearization file have shifted dramatically from your 100% Desired density/Chroma value. For example, a shift of 0.05 in density is a natural occurrence, but a shift of 0.1 would be a visible difference. If you do not want to print with a visible shift, you should enter a value of 0.1 in this box. It is not recommended to enter anything higher than a value of 0.2 here. When the Dmax or peak chroma value is out of range, ColorBurst will alert you so that you will know there is something wrong with your printer.

Set Dmax/Chroma button

The Set Dmax/Chroma button should be used to validate LIN files, and can also be used to replace Dmax/Chroma values. When the Use original Dmax/Chroma settings radial button is selected and the Set Dmax button is clicked, the Desired density Dmax value is replaced by the 100% value from the LIN file. To revert back to your previous values, hit the Cancel button.

When the radial button is not selected, the Set Dmax button will simply check header data and tags to verify that the LIN file is valid. A warning will appear if the file is not valid.

Data points tab

The Data points tab displays the individual ink density or chroma values from the most recent Lin file reading for Cyan, Magenta, Yellow, Black, Spot color 1, Spot 2, Spot 3, and Spot 4. The data here will be listed as ink density values unless the Use chroma based linearization button (in the General tab) is selected. If chroma based linearization is selected, chroma values are listed. This data can be used to determine if ink den-

sity or chroma values level out in the 90% – 100% range. If the amount of gain for any ink is not at least .03 – .04, and the C, M, and K densities are at least 1.6 and the Y density is at least 0.9, then you can reduce the maximum value to the point where it declines or levels out without losing data. A new Lin file can then be made to create more tonal range and keep paper drier. (Chroma values will typically be in the range of 60-80 for CMK and 85-110 for Y, and will vary based on the ink set).

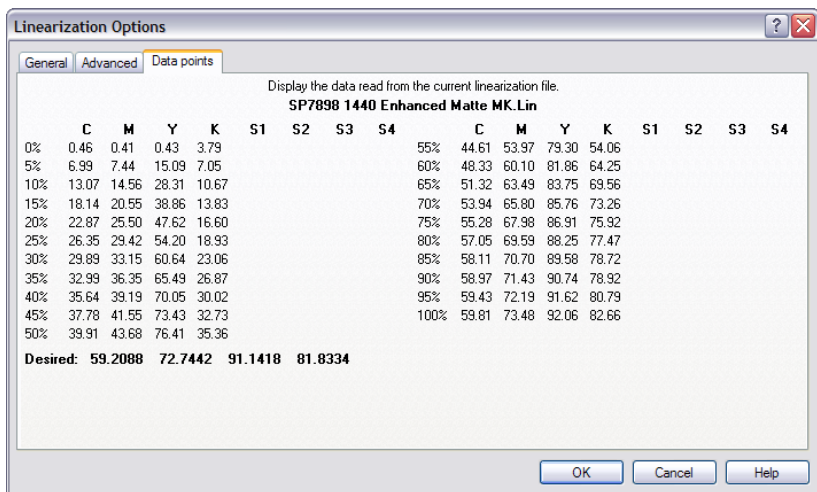


Figure 4.32. The Data Points tab of the Linearization Options dialog.

To reduce the maximum value, make a note of what percentage the data is leveling out at. Close the Linearization Options dialog and open the Color Adjustments dialog. In the Max. Ink field for the ink you want to adjust, enter the percentage of ink where the data levels out. Once you have set your maximum ink percentages, go back into the Linearization Options dialog and turn Linearization off. Make a new Lin file and load the new Lin file in the General tab of the Linearization Options dialog. The data for the new Lin file will be displayed in the Data points tab.

For information on creating Lin files please refer to the SpectralVision Pro documentation, found in your ColorBurst\Profiling Tools & Docs folder.

Ink Balance and RGB to CMYK

The Ink Balance and RGB to CMYK dialog allows you to control Ink Balancing and RGB to CMYK color conversion. This dialog is activated by selecting the Ink Balance item under the Options menu.

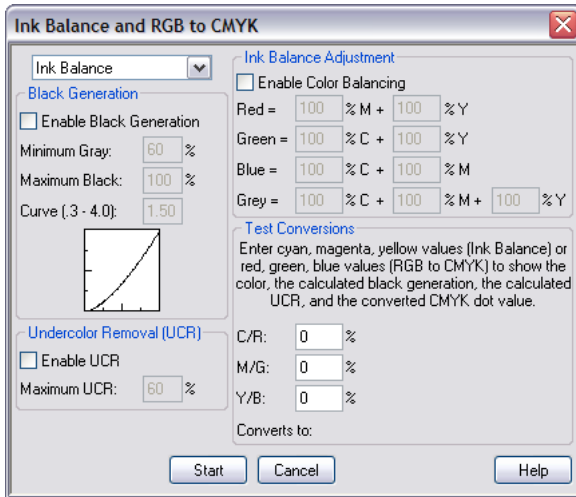


Figure 4.33. The Ink Balance and RGB to CMYK dialog.

The Ink Balance and RGB to CMYK dialog maintains two separate sets of controls. Ink Balancing is used as a final ink adjustment after all other color correction has taken place. RGB to CMYK is only used when RGB Output is selected in the PostScript Options dialog and you are printing to a CMYK printer (ColorBurst has to convert from RGB output to CMYK output). You choose which set of controls to edit by selecting either Ink Balance or RGB to CMYK in the first pop-up menu in the dialog.

In each set of controls, you may enable and edit Black Generation, Undercolor Removal, and Ink Balance Adjustment. We recommend that you use black generation and UCR only when converting RGB to CMYK, and use Ink Balancing for all images as part of a final correction process. You can, however, set up Ink Balancing when converting RGB to CMYK, and you can specify Black Generation and UCR in the final correction process. This section covers why you might want to use these additional capabilities.

Why would you use ink balancing when converting RGB to CMYK? RGB describes color; CMYK describes ink. Most CMYK images have already been balanced for ink mixtures through whatever process converted them to CMYK in the first place. SWOP ink standards are commonly used. This ink balance may not be right for your printer, but, if it is, you will not need to use ink balancing provided in ColorBurst.

An RGB image is converted to CMYK before any other correction takes place. The purpose of RGB to CMYK conversion, then, is to create as exact a duplicate as possible of the same image in its CMYK form. If you print both RGB and CMYK images, the more closely the conversion recreates your CMYK images, the more precise your other color corrections can be. Describing ink balancing allows you better control of the RGB to CMYK process.

Why would you use black generation and undercolor removal during the ink balancing process? In theory, black is black so the addition of CMY has no affect. In reality, the additional CMY makes for a deeper black, and, according to how your inks interact, CMY might even change black to a dark brown. Dark areas in CMYK images often have both black and CMY. Eliminating some or all of the additional CMY, then, is an ink adjustment to allow better detail in dark areas.

When you specify black generation and UCR for both RGB conversion and ink balancing, these corrections take place twice when printing an RGB image. The same holds true for ink balancing. Because it is difficult to calibrate when both corrections take place, we recommend that you separate the processes as we have described in the calibration procedures.

Black Generation

The Black Generation group in the Ink Balance and RGB to CMYK dialog allows you to turn black generation on and off. When black generation is on, the items in this group set up the variables used in the calculation of the added black.

The first item in the Black Generation group is the Enable Black Generation checkbox. When this checkbox is selected, black generation is active.

CMY is subtractive meaning that as more color is added, light is subtracted. Saturated CMY is black. RGB is additive; adding color adds light. Saturated RGB is white. Equal amounts of RGB or CMY colors are gray, but in reverse order of each other. A CMY element made up of 20% cyan, 30% magenta, and 40% yellow shares 20% gray because it has at least 20% of all three colors. An RGB element made up of 20% red, 30% green, and 40% blue, shares 60% gray. That is, 20% red is still 80% black, 30% green is still 70% black, and 40% blue is still 60% black. The RGB element shares at least 60% gray in all three colors. Black generation works on this shared gray.

Minimum Gray specifies a threshold where black generation begins. Black generation is effective in shadow areas of an image. Adding black to light grays often results in an unacceptably dark image. The Minimum Gray edit box allows you to specify what percent the gray shared by all colors has to reach before black generation begins. Remember that smaller percentages of RGB are darker so all three colors must be less than 60% to share 40% gray. The higher you set Minimum Gray, the darker the color has to be before black generation begins.

Maximum Black lets you specify the maximum amount of black that can be generated. Setting this to 80%, for example, will generate only 80% black from solid black. Black is generated in proportion to this value. That is, if a color generates 30% black when Maximum Black is set to 100%, that same color will generate 15% black when Maximum Black is set to 50%.

The Curve allows you to enter a value from .3 to 4.0 to specify how fast black generation proceeds. Black generation starts when the shared gray reaches Minimum Gray, and ends at 100% black which generates Maximum Black. The value input is represented graphically below the entry box. The value represents an exponential curve similar to a gamma curve. Entering "1" is a straight line. Entering a value less than 1 gives

a curve above the straight line which represents more black generation than the gray that it replaces. A value above 1 shows a curve below the straight line which represents slower black generation. As the curve value becomes larger, a steeper curve results toward the black ink. This would represent very little black generation at the minimum gray end and very fast black generation at the maximum black end. A value between 1 and 2.5 will probably give you the best result. The default is 1.

Undercolor Removal (UCR)

The Undercolor Removal (UCR) group in the Ink Balance and RGB to CMYK dialog lets you turn undercolor removal on and off, and lets you specify the percent of generated black that is removed. When UCR is off, any black that is generated is added to CMY. When UCR is on, some part of the black that is generated is removed from CMY.

Enable UCR is the first item in the Undercolor Removal (UCR) group. UCR is active when the Enable UCR checkbox is selected.

The Maximum UCR edit box lets you specify what percent of the black generation value is to be removed from CMY. If, for example, Maximum UCR is set to 20% and 30% black is generated, then cyan, magenta, and yellow is each decreased by 6% (20% of 30%). Setting Maximum UCR to 100% subtracts all of the generated black value from CMY.

Ink Balance Adjustment

The Ink Balance Adjustment group in the Ink Balance and RGB to CMYK dialog can be edited for adjusting ink percentages for printing CMYK images, as well as to control color conversion of RGB images to CMYK. You specify either of these sets of controls through the initial pop-up menu in the dialog.

When enabled, the controls allow you to specify red to be some percent of magenta and yellow inks, green to be some percent of cyan and yellow, blue some percent of cyan and magenta, and gray some percent of cyan, magenta, and yellow. In the RGB to CMYK controls, these percentages are used in converting RGB to CMYK. For example, if red is specified to be 100% magenta and 50% yellow, when a 20% red dot

is converted to CMYK, it becomes 20% magenta and 10% yellow. After a line of data has been color corrected, but before it is halftoned and printed, the cyan, magenta, and yellow are adjusted according to the Ink Balance Adjustment specifications for the Ink Balance controls.

If you enable Ink Balance Adjustment controls for both RGB to CMYK and Ink Balancing, an RGB image will be corrected twice before it is printed; once for each set of controls.

Test Conversions

The Test Conversions group in the Ink Balance and RGB to CMYK dialog displays the black generation, UCR and converted CMYK dot values that are calculated from any RGB or CMY percentages that you specify. In addition, the actual RGB color is displayed as a circle below the RGB edit boxes.

When the dialog first appears, the Test Conversions group displays a brief explanation plus the Red/Cyan, Green/Magenta, and Blue/Yellow edit boxes. When the RGB to CMYK option is selected in the pop-up menu, the values entered are displayed in a colored circle as percentages of RGB and two messages appear below the colored circle. The top message informs you of the black generation value that has been calculated from the RGB percentages, and the bottom message informs you of the UCR value that has been calculated. Each message displays both the percent and dot value. Dots are in the range 0 - 255, so 40%, for example, is equivalent to dot 102. Below this information, you will see Converts to: with the percentages of C, M, Y, and K that will be generated from the values entered. These percentages include ink balance calculations if they are in effect. When Ink Balance is selected in the pop-up menu, the values entered are assumed to be CMY, and the information is displayed accordingly.

The black and UCR calculations use the currently displayed items in the dialog, not the permanent values in effect. This allows you to change any or all of the settings in the Black Generation and Undercolor Removal (UCR) groups, run tests to see the effects that these settings have on

black generation and UCR, and then select the Cancel button to leave all current settings unchanged.

The display of the colored circle is only as good as the display hardware on your computer. Some display systems can only dither solid colors to give you the effect of the RGB colors. Other display systems should match the RGB colors quite closely.

Once all values in the Ink Balance and RGB to CMYK dialog are set, select the Save button to keep them or select the Cancel button to abort the values to their previous settings. You may access ColorBurst's Help files discussing the Ink Balance and RGB to CMYK dialog by selecting the Help button.

Spot Color Definitions

The Spot Color Definitions dialog handles all files that have spot color data, including separated input such as DCS or pre-separated PostScript. The dialog contains four tabbed windows; it opens in the Spot Color Definitions tab.

Spot Color Definitions tab

The Spot Color Definitions tab allows you to enter the name and output values for each spot color.

Spot Color CMYK Values and Defined Spot Colors

ColorBurst has the ability to stitch together and print pre-separated PostScript files generated by page makeup applications. Each pre-separated layer is named according to the process color or spot color used to print the layer. As ColorBurst encounters a separate layer, it displays the name of the layer in its message window.

The process colors (CMYK) need no special setup. When a spot color name is encountered, however, ColorBurst needs a CMYK (or RGB) definition to represent that colored ink. If no spot color by that name

has been defined, ColorBurst skips the layer and adds the message “-ignored” after the spot color name in the message window. If a spot color name has been defined as some combination of inks, ColorBurst processes the layer and combines it with the process colors.

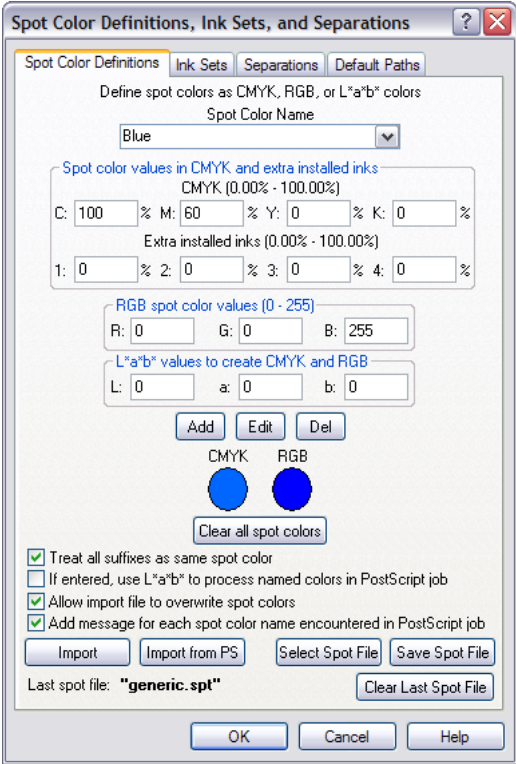


Figure 4.34. The Spot Color Definitions tab of the Spot Color Definitions, Ink Sets, and Separations dialog.

There are no predefined spot color definitions. It is the user’s responsibility to define all spot colors that he/she intends to use in pre-separated jobs. You may define an unlimited number of spot colors, however a maximum of 30 spot colors may be used per file. That means that a pre-separated job can have up to 34 layers—4 process colors and 30 spot color layers. If more than 30 defined spot colors are included in a job, the 31st and greater spot color layers will be ignored.

The Spot Color Definitions dialog allows you to define an unlimited number of spot colors. To add a new spot color, enter the name of the spot color in the editable portion of the Defined Spot Colors pop-up menu. If a name is already there, overwrite it with the name you want to add. The name is not case sensitive; “red,” “RED,” “Red,” etc. all match the color “Red” found in a pre-separated job. Next, enter the values of Cyan, Magenta, Yellow, and black in the appropriate box in the Spot color CMYK values group. If you are using a six-color printer, you may also enter values for inks 1 and 2; if you are using an eight-color printer, you may also enter values for inks 3 and 4 to make the defined color a combination of up to all eight inks. However, if your 8-color printer uses light inks, do not set values for the light ink cartridges—these values are determined through color correction by ColorBurst. Each value can be between 0% and 100% in hundredths of a percent.

Once you have the name and ink values showing in the proper fields, click the Add button below the pop-up menu. The new name will be added to the list in the pop-up menu with the values entered. To edit the ink values associated with this name, select the name in the pop-up menu, change any values, and click the Edit button. To delete the name and its values entirely, select it in the pop-up menu and click Del.

You may define a spot color using RGB or L*a*b* values as well as, or instead of, ink percentages. The RGB values will be used when outputting to an RGB film recorder, and are entered in the same manner as the CMYK values.

When trying to match a color that has already been printed, L*a*b* values can be used instead of CMYK values to recreate the ink color. A densitometer can be used on any printed swatch to find the L*a*b* values for that color. When the L*a*b* values are entered here, they will be interpreted through the current output profile to produce a print that matches your original swatch.

The CMYK and RGB color circles display the difference between the CMYK and RGB values. Please note that the CMYK color is used in this

display only, it does not represent output accurately due to the limitations of the screen.

If you make changes without clicking Add or Edit and you close the dialog using the Save button, the current ink values will be saved under the current spot color name. If you want to exit the dialog without keeping your changes, be sure to use the Cancel button to close the dialog.

Clear all spot colors button

The Clear all spot colors button will erase the entire list of spot colors. This button does not give any type of warning message, so make sure not to press it unless you are sure you want to delete all of your spot colors from the list. Once it is pressed, the colors are gone.

Treat all suffixes as same spot color

This checkbox allows you to specify that all spot colors beginning with the same name be treated as the same color. To do this, select a spot color name from the pop-up menu, click the Treat all suffixes as same spot color checkbox, and then click the Edit button. This must be done for each color one at a time. This is useful when printing files created from several different applications, since each supplies the same information with different names in the suffix.

If entered, use L*a*b* to process named colors

If you enter L*a*b* values for a Spot Color Name and this option is selected, ColorBurst creates the CMYK spot color values on-the-fly using the L*a*b* values, based on the current ICC Output profile. When this is not selected, the CMYK values from the Spot Color Name list are used.

Allow import file to overwrite spot colors and Import button

The Import button is available for users of Praxisoft's VectorPro and similar programs. This program can export a text file with a list of spot color names and their CMYK values, based on ICC profiles that can be built to match your ink and paper. The Import button will read this list of color names and values, and will add each spot color to ColorBurst's Defined Spot Colors list. The Allow import file to overwrite spot color checkbox

will rewrite any existing spot colors that have the same name as a spot color named in the text file that is being imported.

Add message for each spot color name

When this checkbox is selected, a message is added to the Messages window for each spot color name encountered in the PostScript job. You must have a Display monitor Output Profile specified in the ICC Profile Options for ColorBurst to create spot color messages.

Import from PS button

The Import from PS button will read spot color names and values from a PostScript file. When you click the Import from PS button, a standard Open window appears, allowing you to select a PostScript file (.PS, .EPS, .PDF, or .DCS). When the selected file is opened, it is ripped and each spot color found in the file will be added to ColorBurst's Defined Spot Colors list. The Message window shows the number of spot colors found and added to the list. This button should be used before opening files in a layout.

When the Allow import file to overwrite spot color checkbox is selected, the spot colors in the PostScript file will overwrite any existing spot colors that have the same name.

Select and Save Spot File buttons

The Select Spot File and Save Spot File buttons let you save and retrieve different sets of Spot Colors. Clicking the Save Spot File button opens a standard Save dialog and the Select Spot File button opens a standard Open dialog. Spot color files are saved with an extension of .spt and contain a list of spot color names and their ink values. No other settings in the Spot Color Definitions dialog are saved in a .spt file. The default location for .spt files is in the spot folder in the ColorBurst install folder.

When you save a spot color file and then save a printer setup file, the printer setup knows which spot color file to use, so all color names and values are saved with that printer setup file.

Clear Last Spot File

The name of the Last spot file in effect will be displayed at the bottom of the Spot Color Definitions window. You can clear, or remove, the last spot file using the Clear Last Spot File button. This will remove the association with the last spot file, but the spot names and definitions will still appear in the list. You can remove all of the spot files from the list using the Clear all spot colors button.

Ink Sets tab

The next tab in the Spot Color Definitions dialog, Ink Sets, lets you specify the color of each ink cartridge installed in your printer. This is useful when using Hexachrome inks or custom ink colors.

Current Ink Set

The 6, 7, and 8 color ink set buttons determine which inks sets are available in the Current Ink Set pop-up menu. When the 6 color ink set button is selected, only 6-color ink sets will appear in the pop-up menu; when 7 color ink set is selected, the pop-up menu will show only 7-color ink sets, and so on. Select an ink set from the pop-up menu that matches your printer and your job. The colors in the ink set you choose will show up in the Installed Inks menu. They will also appear in the Color Adjustments dialog's Light Inks and Spot Inks sets, allowing you to adjust their curves and define their usage. You may delete installed inks to add more by using the Delete button. The Reset button will restore setting to their default and remove any inks added to the list, as well as reset any ink reordering below.

Defined Spot Colors and Installed Inks

The Installed Ink list represents the colors, in order, of the ink cartridges installed in your printer. To define a Spot Color as an Installed Ink (the spot color must first be created in the Spot Color Definitions tab), click the arrow button between the Defined Spot Colors and Installed Inks pop-up menus. Your spot color will now be listed in the Installed Inks pop-up menu. ColorBurst now recognizes your extra ink cartridge as the color you entered in the spot color. The new Installed Ink can be ad-

justed in the Color Adjustments dialog, by selecting the appropriate Spot Inks curve in the Select Curves pop-up menu.

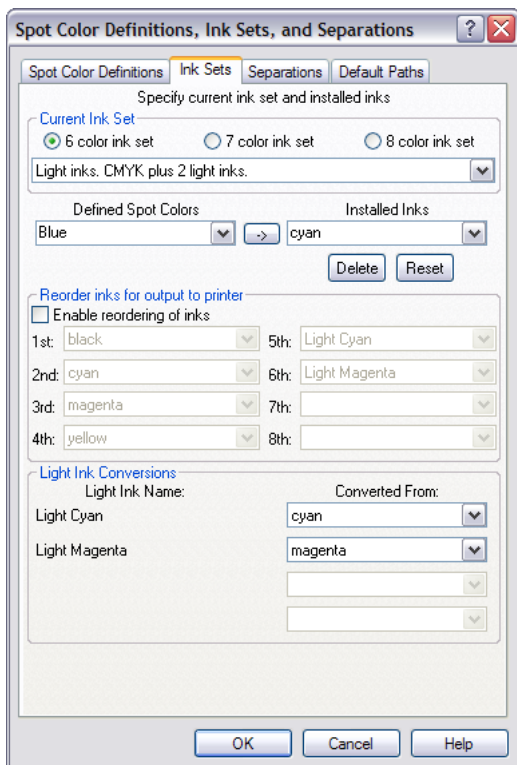


Figure 4.35. The Spot Color Definitions tab of the Spot Color Definitions, Ink Sets, and Separations dialog.

Reorder inks for output to printer

The Enable reordering of inks checkbox is available for use with very customized printer ink sets. This setting will not be necessary for most printers. There is a separate setting (on/off) for each ink set.

When creating custom ink sets, the order of the inks is critical—the order of inks defined in ColorBurst must match the order of the ink cartridges in your printer. When Enable reordering of inks is selected, you have the ability to define the order of the installed inks in relation to the printer. This will define a new order for the data file sent to the printer.

Light Ink Conversions

The Light Ink Conversions group allows you to define which ink is used when creating light ink data. This setting is particularly helpful when using both medium and light inks. If light inks are installed in the printer, you must make sure that the correct ink is selected. For example, if Light Magenta and Medium Magenta inks are installed in the printer, make sure that Magenta is selected next to both Light Magenta and Medium Magenta. This ensures that any magenta data in the file is correctly converted from magenta to light and medium magenta.

Separations tab

The separations tab tells ColorBurst how to handle pre-separated files.

Print Separations

When the Print separations individually checkbox is selected, each pre-separated file placed in a ColorBurst layout will print as separations instead of a composite image. This checkbox tells ColorBurst to ignore the rest of the settings in the Separations tab.

If Combine separations into multi image layouts is selected, ColorBurst will place each separation into the layout during processing. This checkbox can be used to save media.

Fast Separations

This checkbox tells ColorBurst to make the intermediate grayscale file smaller, for faster processing. It should be used with 4 or 6 color pre-separated files that do not contain spot colors. Normally, separated data is 8-bit data which is merged to a final composite job for printing. When Use Fast Separations is selected, ColorBurst RIPs directly to 1-bit. This means that ColorBurst cannot merge custom colors, so spot colors are ignored. If you don't want spot colors ignored, de-select the Print fast separations with spot colors checkbox; this will cancel the print job if a custom color is found.

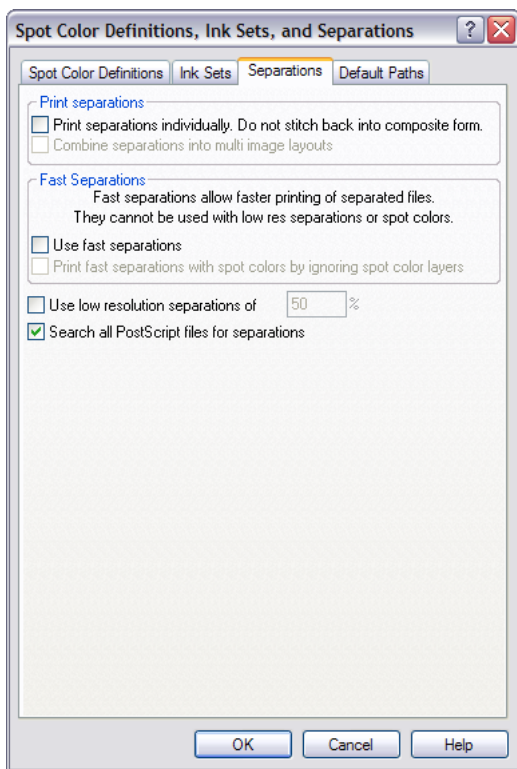


Figure 4.36. The Separations tab of the Spot Color Definitions, Ink Sets, and Separations dialog.

NOTE: If Fast Separations is selected, you must set Patterned Finish in the Color Adjustments dialog to Quality-Fast, and ICC profiles for Grayscale data must be turned off.

If Fast Separations is not selected, you have the option to use the Low-res separations instead.

Use Low Resolution Separations

This option can be used to speed the processing of large separated files. When a pre-separated file is processed by ColorBurst, a grayscale intermediate file is created from each separation, and then they are stitched back together to print the final image. The number entered in the Use Low Resolution Separations box is the percentage of the Layout DPI that

you wish to process the separations at. You may enter a value of 25% up to 100%. For example, if your layout is set to 600 DPI and you enter a value of 50% here, the intermediate grayscale files will be created at 300 DPI. Creating smaller intermediate files can speed the processing up significantly. The file is then printed at the original resolution, or 600 DPI in this example.

Search All PostScript Files For Separations

When selected, ColorBurst will search the beginning of every PostScript file processed to determine if the file is separated or not. This is useful when processing files created in programs that do not include separation comments in the beginning of the PostScript file. If you are certain that a file is separated but ColorBurst is not outputting the separations, turn this checkbox on so that ColorBurst can recognize the separations. Otherwise, this box should be left unchecked, since searching each PostScript file will make processing slower.

Default paths tab

The default paths tab tells ColorBurst where to look for spot color files.

Spot file path

The Spot file path entry is where ColorBurst will look when the Select Spot File button is used in the Spot Color Definitions tab. The default entry here is the Spot folder, located in the ColorBurst install folder.

Import file path

The Import file path is used with the Import button in the Spot Color Definitions tab. When the Import button is clicked, ColorBurst will open an Open dialog using the path entered here as the default path. The default entry here is the ColorBurst install folder; you should change it to wherever your Praxisoft files (or files from a similar program) are located.

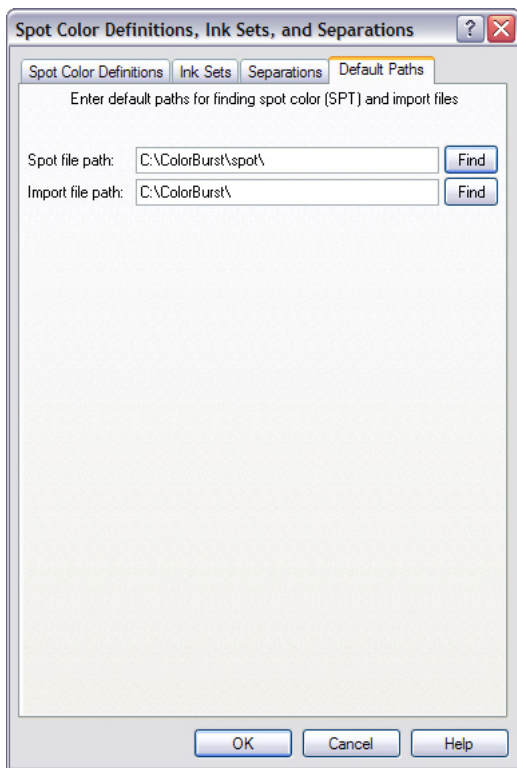


Figure 4.37. The Default Paths tab of the Spot Color Definitions, Ink Sets, and Separations dialog.

Tiling Options

The Tiling Options dialog can be opened by selecting Tiling Options under the Options menu.

The first options in the Tiling Options dialog let you choose the order in which the tiles print. Print rows prints tiles from the upper left to right, then the next row of tiles from left to right, and so on. Print columns prints tiles from the upper left to lower left, then the next column from top to bottom, and so on.

You may have all tiles in a job automatically fit into the current layout by selecting the Automatically include all tiles in current layout checkbox.

Any tiles that do not fit in the layout window will produce an error message, “Image does not fit in layout.”

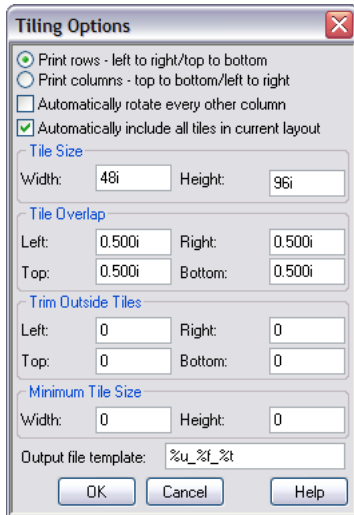


Figure 4.38. The Tiling Options dialog.

Tile Size

The Tile Size option lets you enter a tile Width and Height or set the tile size to the size of the current layout by selecting Set tile size from current image area. If this box is not selected, you must add each tile to the layout individually.

Tile Overlap

The Tile Overlap option lets you enter how much overlap should be printed on each tile. The overlap area prints on all interior sides of each tile, and 1/4" long crop marks are printed outside of the overlap area for trimming. Overlap and crop marks are added to the tile size when you enter a tile Width and Height. Overlap and crop marks are included in the tile size when you select Set tile size from current image area.

Trim Outside Tiles

The Trim Outside Tiles group lets you define the amount of image to trim around the perimeter of the entire tiled image. This is an independent measurement from the Tile Overlap, so that your perimeter trim

amount can be a different size than your overlap between tiles. A positive value entered here will place trim marks inside the image.

Minimum Tile Size

The Minimum Tile Size settings are optional; entering values here force tiles to be at least as large as the values.

Output file template

The Output file template edit box allows you to specify the name of an output file which will be created when saving a tiled image. Each tile is a separate file, unless there is more than one tile in the layout; a file will be created for the layout of tiles in that case. The File Name Template is described in detail earlier in this chapter, under Layout Options.

In the Tile Output file template, %t adds the number of the tile (the number of the tile is affected by print rows/columns). In all other file name templates, %t will add the time the file was created.

The default setting is the filename (%f), incremental numbers (%u), and tile number (%t); this ensures that no files are overwritten.

Font Maintenance

The next selection on the Options menu is Font Maintenance. Making this selection will display the Font Maintenance dialog. This selection enables the JAWS RIP that is used by ColorBurst, to update its list of known fonts, which is necessary for interpreting PostScript text commands when fonts are not included in the PostScript file.

ColorBurst recognizes three categories of fonts:

- ATM, which have a .PFB extension,
- True Type, which have a .TTF extension (usually found in the Windows directory),
- Non-ATM fonts, which have various extensions.

These fonts may exist in three separate directories or they may all be in the same directory. Either way, ColorBurst must know where they are; enter the directory path in the selection boxes marked ATM Fonts, True Type Fonts, and Non-ATM Fonts.

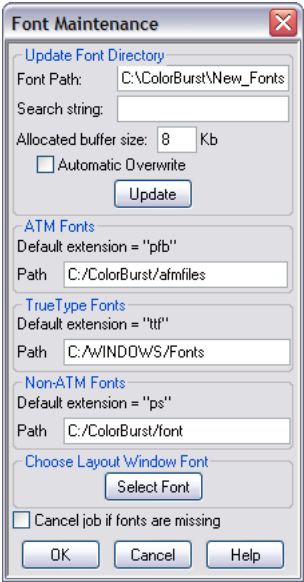


Figure 4.39. The Font Maintenance dialog.

Font Path and Search String

To update the ColorBurst font list, first specify the Font Path (including drive letter) and Search string (this is usually just the extension; separate multiple types with a semi-colon). Then click the Update button.

If any files in these directories are not fonts, screen messages will inform you of these errors. Also, a completion message will signal the end of the update.

Automatic Overwrite

ColorBurst will not automatically overwrite an existing font with a new one without your permission, either by responding “Yes” to the overwrite verification or by pre-selecting the Automatic Overwrite checkbox.

NOTE: The Save button only saves changes made to Path names in this dialog. The Update button updates the Font List and does not need to use this function.

Choose Layout Window Font

The Select Font button opens a Font window that lets you select the screen font used by ColorBurst. You may choose any True Type font installed on your computer, using any mode (bold, italic, etc.) and any point size. This is only used for ColorBurst screen display such as file names in the layout window—it has no effect on files.

Cancel job if fonts are missing

Select the Cancel job if fonts are missing checkbox if you want to cancel printing when ColorBurst can't find a font specified in a file. If this box is not checked, the font will be substituted and the file will print with the substituted font.

For more detailed information regarding fonts, font maintenance, and how to manually substitute fonts for those named in the PostScript input files, please refer to the ColorBurst Help files by selecting the Help button.

Miscellaneous

The Miscellaneous Options dialog is used to set up miscellaneous items that are not covered in other dialogs. Currently, two general categories are covered in Miscellaneous Options; turning on and off log file generation, and specifying APR (Automatic Picture Replacement) settings.

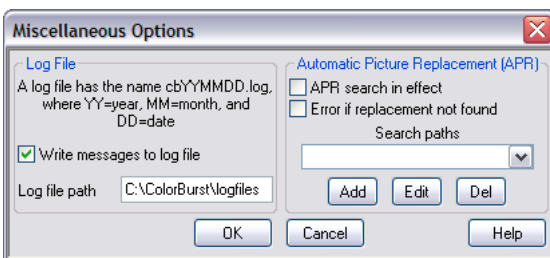


Figure 4.40. The Miscellaneous Options dialog.

Log files are files which contain all messages generated by ColorBurst for one 24-hour period. The name of the log file is generated by ColorBurst, but you specify whether log files should be created, and, if so, where.

APR is a method by which high resolution images needed for printing are automatically substituted for low resolution images used during page makeup. APR was created by Scitex Corp. A different but similar process is OPI (Open prepress interface). At the current time, ColorBurst only supports APR.

Log File

You can save every message that is written to ColorBurst's message window by turning on log file generation. Log file can be very helpful in listing activities, showing files that were printed, and pinpointing problems.

Log files are turned on in one of two ways. The primary method of turning logging on and off is through the Miscellaneous Options dialog. The group named Log File has two items. The first is the Write messages to log file checkbox. If this is checked, logging is in effect. Selecting this item will turn logging on if it is off and off if it is on. The second item in the group is the Log file path edit box. You should specify the full path of where you want the log file to be created in this edit box.

There is also a short cut in the message window itself for checking and activating/deactivating logging. At the upper left corner of the message window, a small rectangle can be selected to pop-up menu the window's control menu. One of the control menu items is Write Log File. If this menu item has a check mark next to it, logging is in effect. If there is no check mark shown, logging is not on. You can click on this menu item to turn logging on if it is off and off if it is on.

A log file lists messages for one 24 hour period. Its name is generated by ColorBurst in the form "CBYYMMDD.LOG" where "YY" is the last two digits of the year, "MM" is the month, and "DD" is the date. For example, a file named CB950130.LOG lists all messages that were displayed in the message window while logging was in effect on January 30, 1995.

The naming convention was chosen so that a directory list sorted alphabetically will show all log files in order from latest to earliest.

Automatic Picture Replacement

Automatic Picture Replacement (APR) is a process created by Scitex Corp. for substituting high resolution images needed for printing for low resolution images used during page makeup. APR is similar to OPI and is made up of a series of comments in a PostScript file which defines the name of the high resolution file. You turn searching for APR comments on an off, and you define search paths where ColorBurst looks for replacement files in the Miscellaneous Options dialog.

The APR Search in effect checkbox turns searching on and off. If the checkbox is selected, APR searching is in effect. When searching is on, ColorBurst looks for APR comments in the PostScript file as it is being read. If comments are found, ColorBurst checks that all required information has been found. Once found, all defined paths are searched looking for the file named in the APR comments. When found, ColorBurst checks that the file is a proper file type (TIFF, JPG, CT, EPS, etc.) and substitutes the file in place of the APR comments. Note that there is a small performance penalty encountered when searching for APR comments. If you never use APR substitution or you know that a file has no APR comments, it is better to turn off APR Search in effect.

When selected, the Error if replacement not found checkbox will report an error during processing if the file named in the APR comments cannot be found in the path specified in the Search paths pop-up menu.

The file named in the APR comments is assumed to have no pathing associated with it. You must define all paths where the high resolution file might be found in the Search paths pop-up menu. Search paths is a combination box with an edit box for entering names and a pop-up menu for listing existing names. You first enter the edit box. With the keyboard use up and down arrows to list all defined search paths one-at-a-time. Using the mouse, click on the arrow next to the edit box to list as many search paths as will fit in the pop-up menu. If necessary, a scroll bar will display to allow you to scroll to the top or bottom of the list.

Up to 8 search paths can be defined. There are three buttons used for changing the search paths. Use Add to add new search paths, Edit to change the name of an existing path, and Del to delete a defined path from the list. If adding a new path, overwrite any name in the edit box with the name of a path that you want to add. When the name is correct, select the Add button. You can then look at the defined paths in the pop-up menu to see that the new path has been added to the bottom of the list. To change an existing path name, select the path that you want to change so that it appears in the edit box. Change the name and select Edit. When you look at the list in the pop-up menu, you will see that the name of the search path has been changed. To delete an existing path, select the path so that its name appears in the edit box. Select Del to delete the name from the list.

The name of the high resolution file may have a long file name from a Macintosh workstation. Currently, ColorBurst can only search for long file names using AFP (AppleTalk Filing Protocol) services on a Novell Netware LAN. Before searching for a file, ColorBurst opens AFPWARE.DLL which is delivered with ColorBurst. This checks for a Novell LAN, and, if available, uses AFP services to find the file name. If a Novell LAN is not available, the short name of the file is searched for which is usually the first eight characters of the name.

5

Spooler Menu

The fourth menu item is Spooler. This setup will automate the printing process by monitoring up to fifty specified directories, or queues. Each queue is defined by the settings in the Setup Spooler dialog and, most importantly, a printer setup file.

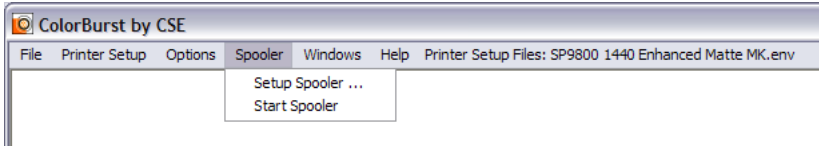


Figure 5.1. The ColorBurst Spooler menu.

The Setup Spooler dialog allows you to define a queue's Output queue, Done queue, whether layouts are on, etc. For example, you may define one queue to print single files and another queue to print layouts.

Choosing Save Printer Setup from the Options menu saves the current Options settings in an printer setup file. This allows you to further customize each queue. For example, you can set up several queues and have each go to a different printer, each may have different resolutions, different color corrections, different image areas, another queue may save files without printing, etc.

Setup Spooler

The initial selection on this pop-up menu is Setup Spooler, which will display the Setup Spooler dialog.

Queue to Monitor

The Queue to monitor pop-up menu allows you to define up to 50 unique queues. You may set the maximum number of queues that you want available in the Maximum queues edit box located near the bottom right corner of the Setup Spooler dialog. All of the other options in the Setup Spooler dialog (except the Time between checks option) are tied to the Queue to monitor; when you select a queue, the other settings define that queue.

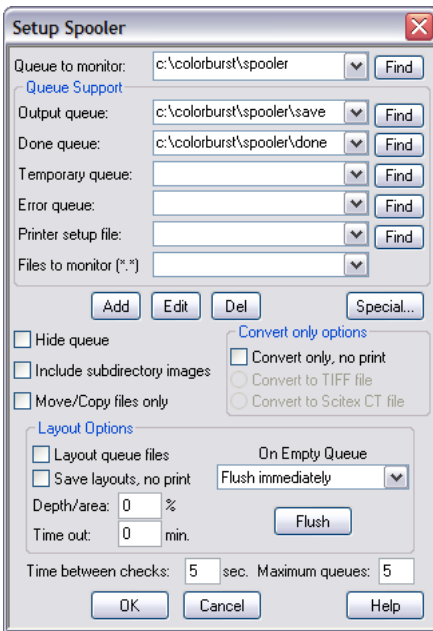


Figure 5.2. The Setup Spooler dialog.

To define a queue, enter the full path of the directory that you want ColorBurst to monitor in the Queue to monitor entry box. The Find button to the right of the entry box makes it easy for you select a folder to monitor. If the folder does not exist yet, you may enter a name and ColorBurst will create the folder for you. Next, enter the Queue Support information (either manually or using the find buttons) and choose any other options in the Setup Spooler dialog that you wish to define for that queue (see below for more details). Once you have defined the queue, select the Add button to add the queue to the pop-up menu list. To edit

an existing queue, select the queue from the Queue to monitor pop-up menu, make any changes, and select the Edit button. To delete an existing queue, select the queue you wish to delete from the Queue to monitor pop-up menu and select the Del button.

Queue Support

The Queue Support group contains six editable pop-up menus that are used to define the queue shown in the Queue to monitor entry box. In each of these boxes, except the Files to monitor box, the full path of the directory must be entered.

The Output queue entry is where the bitmap (TIFF or CT) or output is placed upon completion. If files are to be printed and not saved, the temporary files will be created here unless a Temporary queue is named. When both are named, a file that will be deleted will be created in the Temporary queue. If no output queue is defined, the output file will be created in the Output Directory specified in the Postscript/Layout Output File Options dialog.

The Done queue is where the input file is moved upon completion of the job. If no done queue is entered, the file in the monitored queue will be deleted, and no copy of it will be retained.

NOTE: The Done queue should be on the same disk volume as the Queue to monitor for a file to be able to be moved into that Done queue. Otherwise, the file is copied to the Done queue. If the file is very large, a copy instead of a move will seriously affect performance.

The Temporary queue is reserved for temporary intermediate files and job title files created during spooling. When images that are sent to the spooler are processed by the PostScript interpreter (PostScript files and any scaled, rotated, or cropped file), they may be converted into bitmap files before they are printed. These files are saved in the Output queue. If they are to be deleted after printing, and a Temporary queue is specified, the files will be created there instead of in the Output queue, and will

then be deleted after printing. If the output queue is not on a local disk, it is a good idea to create a Temporary queue to relieve network traffic.

Any files that create an error during spooling are moved to the Error queue. If an Error queue is not defined, the files are moved to the Done queue instead.

The Printer Setup file is the most important part of multi-queue. It tells the queue how to handle the files during spooling. It contains settings for all dialog options that take effect without restarting ColorBurst. This feature allows you to customize each queue.

When setting up a queue to monitor, you should already have an idea of what you want that queue to do (which printer to send the monitored files to, image area size, what type of color corrections, etc.). To give your queue the appropriate characteristics, you need to create a Printer Setup file for your queue. In each of the Options menu dialogs, make the selections that you want to define your queue. Then select Save Printer Setup from the Options menu. The entire name (drive, path, and file name) entered when saving the printer setup file should be entered in the Printer Setup file edit box in the Setup Spooler dialog. When the queue is monitored, it will use the printer setup file's settings to process the files.

A file named CURRENT.ENV is created when spooling begins holding the current printer setup file. It is used as the printer setup file whenever a printer setup file is not named. CURRENT.ENV is deleted when spooling is turned off. For these reasons, you should avoid naming a printer setup file CURRENT.ENV.

The type of file to monitor may be specified in the Files to monitor (*.*) entry. The file type may be a specific extension (such as "*.TIF"), a key letter or numeric sequence (such as "PG12*.EPS"), or all files (using the *.* argument). You may specify to monitor more than one type of file by separating entries with semicolons (*.TIF;*.EPS"). If no file type is entered, all files (*.*) will be monitored.

Special button and Special Queue Setup

The Special button in the Spooler dialog opens the Special Queue Setup dialog. This dialog is used to automatically scale every image in a queue and to print multiple copies of spooled files.

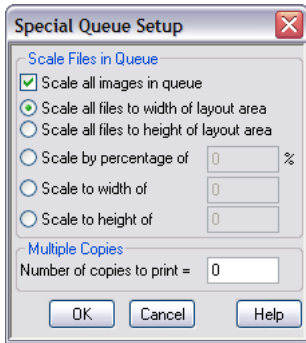


Figure 5.3. The Special Queue Setup dialog, opened by clicking the Special button in the Setup Spooler dialog.

The Scale all images in queue checkbox enables scaling of all images in a queue. When selected, five scaling options are available. The first, Scale all files to width of layout area, will scale each file in a queue to the width of the layout area (set in the Printer Options dialog). The second option, Scale all files to height of layout area, scales all images in the queue to the height of the layout area. The third option is to Scale by percentage. 100% is the original size of the image. Any number less than 100 will make the image smaller, and any number greater than 100 will enlarge the image. The fourth and fifth options allow you to scale all images in the queue to a specified width or height by entering that number in the edit box.

The Number of copies to print checkbox allows you to specify how many copies of each file to print. If you have layouts turned on in spooler, each layout will print the specified number of times. The default value is 0, which is the same as 1. For more than one print, enter the number of prints you want in the edit box.

Hide queue

Selecting the Hide queue checkbox will ignore that queue during spooling. You will notice that any hidden queues are disabled under the Queue to Monitor pop-up menu. Deselecting the Hide queue checkbox will make the queue active again.

Include subdirectory images

The Include subdirectory images checkbox allows you to specify whether or not the queue's subdirectories should be monitored during spooling.

NOTE: If the Include subdirectory images checkbox is selected all subdirectories will be monitored. Make sure your Output, Done, and Error queues are not set up as subdirectories of the monitored queue.

Move/Copy files only

When the Move/Copy files only box is checked, files in the monitored queue are not placed in layouts — they are simply copied to the Output queue and moved to the Done queue. When the Done queue is not defined, files are moved to the Output queue. If no Output queue is defined, the files in the monitored queue are copied to the Output Directory, defined in the PostScript/Layout Output File Options dialog. The Message Window will display information for each file copied or moved.

The Move/Copy files only option can allow ColorBurst queues to be used in a more general purpose manner, to be used as part of other spoolers on a system, or to add better flow control. You can restrict which files will be processed by setting up acceptable file names in Files to monitor (*.*). Files that are processed, however, do not have to be image files that ColorBurst can print.

Convert Only Options

All files processed by the Spooler will be printed unless the Convert only, no print checkbox is selected. Selecting this checkbox will enable the Convert to TIFF file and Convert to Scitex CT file option buttons.

For example, to convert a PostScript image to a Scitex CT through the Spooler, perform the following steps:

1. Select the Convert only, no print box.
2. Pick the Convert to Scitex CT file option.
3. Enter the PostScript image file type (such as *.EPS;*.PS) in the Files to monitor (*.*) entry field.
4. Start the Spooler.

Each file opened by the Spooler will be saved as an individual file. The Layout queue files checkbox is disabled when Convert only, no print is selected. If a CLF is processed when Convert only, no print is in effect, each file pointed to by the CLF is converted to the desired file type.

You may create one TIFF or CT file of your entire layout as opposed to creating many individual files. This may be accomplished using the Output Options and Save/Print Options in the PostScript/Layout Output File Options dialog box. To create TIFF files, set Create TIFF file and Save File Only, No Print. To create CT files, set Create Scitex CT file and Save File Only, No Print. Then turn the Spooler on by selecting Spool in the Spooler menu. TIFF files will have the names LAYOUT.TIF, LAYOUT.T00, T01, ... T99, and CT files have the name LAYOUT.CT, LAYOUT.C00, C01, ... C99.

Layout Options

The Layout Options group allows you to have layouts in effect when Spooler is on. Rather than having each file printed as it enters the queue, you can specify that files should be added to a layout. When the layout is full, it is either automatically printed, or saved as a layout file to let you print the layout when you are ready. You specify what to do when the monitored queue is empty before the layout is full. You can have the layout automatically printed/saved, have the layout printed/saved once some specified percent of the media is full, or wait until a defined timeout has been reached.

Layout files

The Layout queue files checkbox in this group determines whether files are printed individually or added to a layout for printing. If the checkbox is se-

lected, all files will be added to layouts as they are processed. If the checkbox is not selected, individual files will be printed as they are processed.

If the file to process is a layout file (CLF) containing pointers to more than one file and layouts are not in effect, the CLF is printed as if the layout had been built from individual files and the Print command issued. If a CLF is processed when layouts are in effect, individual files pointed to by the CLF are added to the current layout.

If layouts are in effect, a file in the queue is added to the current layout. If a file does not fit in the layout, processing continues as if the queue is empty. That is, On Empty Queue determines whether to flush the layout. If the layout is flushed, the file oversetting the layout is added to the new layout created after flushing is complete. If the layout is not flushed, the file causing the overset is ignored until that layout is flushed.

Spooler always converts PostScript files to intermediate RTL files and adds the intermediate files to the layout. By adding only raster formatted illustrations to the layout, printing can start as soon as the media is full, and size discrepancy errors are eliminated.

A CLF named SPOOLER.CLF in the monitored queue saves the layout each time an illustration is added. Spooler deletes SPOOLER.CLF when the layout is flushed. If you stop Spooler and later restart, SPOOLER.CLF automatically builds the layout that was in effect, if any. This allows you to interrupt Spooler and later pick up exactly where you left off.

Save layouts

The Save layouts, no print checkbox is designed to stockpile layouts for printing at a later time. Save layouts, no print builds layouts exactly as if printing were to occur, but when the layout is flushed, SPOOLER.CLF is saved as SPOOLER.C00, SPOOLER.C01, ... SPOOLER.C99, called spooled layout files, in the monitored queue. Printing is inhibited and intermediate files are not deleted. When the printer is ready, you can turn off spooling, Open a spooled layout file and print it.

Spooled layout files are designed to be printed only once. Temporary intermediate files pointed to in a spooled layout file are deleted after printing, and other files have been moved from the monitored queue. Trying to print a spooled layout file a second time, will cause a series of “Not Found” messages. Spooled layout files are normal CLFs which are not automatically deleted. It is your responsibility to delete them after printing.

An alternative to spooled layout files might be to create a single RTL file which is the exact image of what would be printed. That is, do not select Save layouts, no print, but rather choose print options that create an output file and inhibit printing. If you want to transmit the output, it is easier to work with a single file rather than many files. Also, a single file may print faster. Spooler creates such files in the Output queue. RTL files have the names LAYOUT.RTL, LAYOUT.R00, R01, ... R99. Note that these names are given even if there is only one image in a layout.

This is accomplished by not selecting the Direct to Printer checkbox in the Layout Options dialog. Output for the layout will then use settings established in the Postscript/Layout Output File Options dialog. To create RTL files, set Create RTL file and Save File Only, No Print.

On Empty Queue

An important issue to resolve when spooling with layouts in effect is what action to take when the queue is empty. If a file oversets a layout, it is treated exactly as if the queue is empty. For example, if there are only two small images in the layout and no files, or a file too large to fit in the layout, in the monitored queue, you might want to print immediately, or wait for more files. If a file is too large, and the queue is not printed immediately, the large file is ignored and all other files are processed normally. The On Empty Queue pop-up menu allows you to specify one of the following procedures:

- Flush immediately
- Flush on depth/timeout
- Flush on area/timeout
- Flush on timeout only

For example, if there is at least one file in the layout, and the queue is empty, selecting Flush immediately will cause the layout to be flushed. A message, "Empty queue – Flush immediate," is reported in the message window.

Selecting Flush on depth/timeout or area/timeout allows you to specify either a minimum depth or area (depth x width), or a timeout that must be reached before the layout is flushed. When the queue is empty, the deepest image in the layout is calculated as a percent of the full depth of the media. If that percent is equal to or greater than the percent entered in the Min. Depth/area edit box, the layout is flushed. Reported in the message window is "Empty queue – Flush by depth/area." If the minimum depth or area is not reached, Spooler calculates the number of minutes that have elapsed since the last file was added to the layout. If the number of minutes is equal to or greater than the value in the Time out edit box, the layout is flushed. The message reported is "Empty queue – Flush on time out." If neither minimum depth/area nor timeout is reached, Spooler does not flush the layout.

Selecting Flush on timeout only is exactly like Flush on depth/timeout and area/timeout except that only a timeout value is checked. The number of minutes in Time out can range from zero minutes (the same as Flush immediately) to 480 minutes (8 hours).

Flush Button

At any time you can force a specified queue's layout to be flushed by selecting the queue in the Queue to monitor edit box, and then selecting the Flush button. The next time that queue is monitored and found to be empty, the specified layout will be flushed with the message "Empty queue – Flush immediate." Only the specified queue is flushed.

Time Between Checks

After a file has been processed or if no files were found in the queue, ColorBurst waits the amount entered in the Time between checks entry box before it checks the queue again or checks the next queue. The default interval is five (5) seconds. This value is not saved for each queue; it applies to all defined queues.

Maximum queues

You may set the maximum number of queues that you will need in the Maximum queues entry box. The maximum number of possible queues is 50. This value is read as ColorBurst is opened and memory is set aside for the number of queues specified. If you try to define a new queue when the maximum number of queues have been defined, the error message "Too many Spooler queues defined" will appear. You must restart ColorBurst before any changes to this value will take effect.

Spool

To activate the spooling process, simply select Spool under the Spooler menu. A check mark will indicate that spooling is in effect, and the message "Spooler started" is reported in the Message Window. When spooling is turned off, the message "Spooler stopped" will appear in the Message Window.

6

Windows Menu

The Windows menu contains the Window Options dialog as well as three on/off settings for window and status placement in ColorBurst.

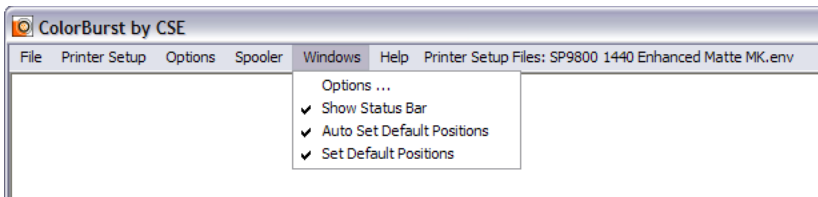


Figure 6.1. The ColorBurst Windows menu.

Window Options

The Window Options dialog allows you to customize the Display and Layout windows.

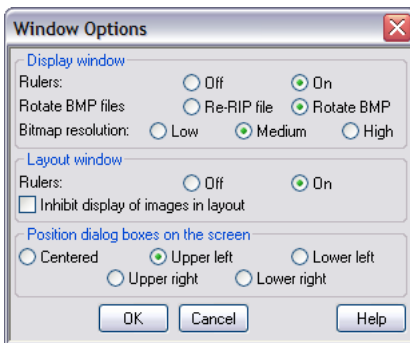


Figure 6.2. The Window Options dialog.

The options in the Display window group affect the Display window only. The first setting, Rulers, can be set Off or On. The default setting is On so that rulers are visible in the Display window.

The Rotate BMP files option is used to determine how to handle displaying rotated files when a non-rotated preview bitmap file already exists. If Re-RIP file is selected, the rotated file is ripped when displayed. If the file is very large, this may take a few moments. To save time, the Rotate BMP option will simply rotate the preview bitmap file (the original file is not ripped over again). To save processing time when rotating a BMP, it is recommended to set the Bitmap resolution (below) to Low or Medium quality.

The Bitmap resolution setting controls the quality and file size of the preview bitmap files used to display images. The quality can be set to Low, Medium, or High. As the quality increases from Low to High, the file size increases as well. Medium (the default setting) is recommended to give a decent display while keeping the file size manageable. Please note that bitmap preview images in the Layout Window are set to 1/2 of the Display resolution to keep file sizes and processing times at a minimum.

The Layout window group contains settings that affect the Layout window. The Layout window Rulers setting is independent of the Display window Rulers setting (above); turning this setting on will make only the rulers in the Layout window visible. When Inhibit display of images in layout is selected, images in the layout appear as boxes with the file name instead images, even when a bitmap preview file exists. When an image is displayed, a BMP preview is still created so that the image doesn't have to re-rip when it is displayed again.

The Position dialogs on the screen is used to specify where on the screen to open dialogs. The default is centered—when a dialog is opened, it will open in the center of the screen. If a dialog with tabs, such as ICC Options, is open and the Layout window is open and clicked on, the ICC dialog will go behind the Layout. The Layout window must be minimized to get back to the ICC Options. If Upper left is selected, the ICC dialog will be in the upper left corner. Even if the Layout window is clicked, part

of the ICC Options dialog will be accessible without the need of minimizing the Layout window.

Show Status Bar

The first on/off selection in the Windows menu, Show Status Bar, is used to control the visibility of the ColorBurst status bar at the bottom of the main window. The status bar shows a real-time status of settings in ColorBurst—whether Linearization, Ink Limiting, ICC Correction, Ink Balancing, and Cut Marks are on or off, and the selected printer, number of inks, and printer resolution. The options listed in the status bar are placed in order of their usage in the profiling process. These options are turned on or off in the corresponding dialog in the Options menu.

Auto Set Default Positions

Selecting Auto Set Default Positions in the Windows menu will automatically place the File Info, Messages, and Layout windows in their default locations when ColorBurst is opened. The default positions allow for maximum use of the ColorBurst work area. A checkmark will appear in the menu next to this item when it is selected (in effect).

Set Default Positions

The Set Default Positions selection can be activated at any time while working in ColorBurst to automatically place the File Info, Messages, and Layout windows in their default positions. A checkmark next to this item in the menu indicates that the windows are already in their default positions. If any window is moved or changed, the item is no longer selected. The window positions and sizes can then be reset by selecting Set Default Positions.

7

Help Menu

Help files are available for ColorBurst through the Help menu in the ColorBurst toolbar. Select Contents or the specific topic of your choice from the list in the menu.

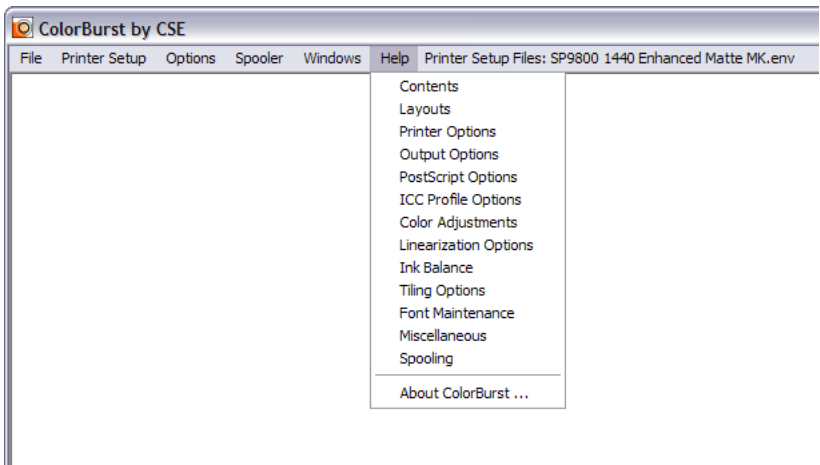


Figure 7.1. The ColorBurst Help menu.

Help buttons are also available in every dialog. These buttons open the Help file about the dialog that you are working in.

8

Message Window

ColorBurst features a “Message Window” that displays error and information messages generated during ColorBurst processing. The processes that are specific to ColorBurst, such as the PostScript RIP, creating an RTL, TIFF or CT, and sending to a printer, will produce messages with the following format:

-----	-separates jobs
C:\COLORBURST\CALIBRAT.EPS	-filename, in bold
Mon 02/13/06 10:26:28AM	-time/date stamp
Sending to Printer	-task
Elapsed Time: 00:01:45.6	-elapsed time

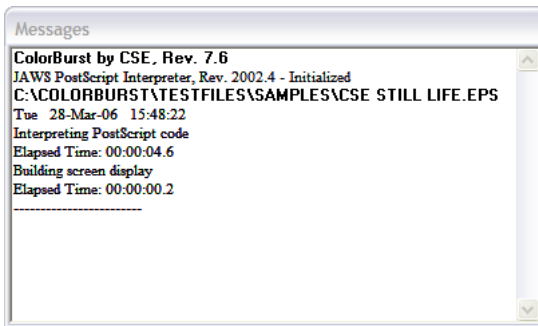


Figure 8.1. The ColorBurst Messages window.

Messages will continue to accumulate in the window, which may be sized within the ColorBurst main window. It may also be closed through the pop-up menu on the control box, but will return to the screen upon starting another task or restarting ColorBurst.

Other error and information messages that may occur during the RIP and printing processes will also display in the message window. These messages will be displayed line-for-line in the window. This type of error is ultimately written to the message window after first reporting via a standard Windows error dialog, on which you must select the Yes button to continue.

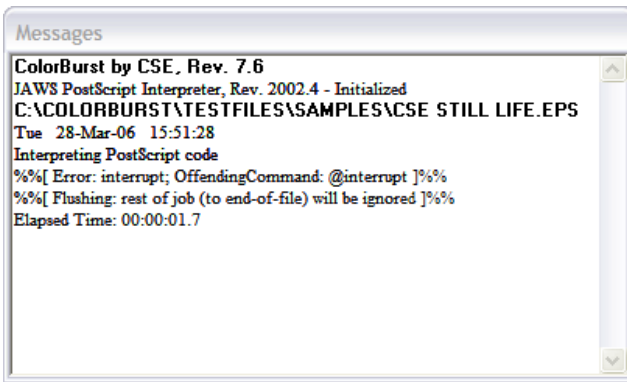


Figure 8.2. Information about processing, including error messages, is displayed in the Messages window.

The ColorBurst Messages window is scrollable. It currently has a 4K buffer. As messages accumulate and the buffer is exceeded, the oldest ones will no longer be available.

Appendix A

Fonts Delivered with ColorBurst

The following is the complete list of fonts included as part of the standard ColorBurst installation (the demo version does not include all of these fonts; only the substitute resource files). All fonts will reside in the FONT subdirectory under the directory specified during installation. Substitute Resource fonts are fonts that are actually set when the PostScript Font Name is called.

File Name	PostScript Font Name	Substitute Resource
ARI.PS	Arial	
ARIAB.PS	Arial-Bold	
ARIBI.PS	Arial-BoldItalic	
ARII.PS	Arial-Italic	
ARIN.PS	ArialNarrow	
ARINB.PS	ArialNarrow-Bold	
ARINBI.PS	ArialNarrow-BoldItalic	
ARINI.PS	ArialNarrow-Italic	
AGW.PS	AvantGarde-Book	CenturyGothic
AGWO.PS	AvantGarde-BookOblique	CenturyGothic-Italic
AGD.PS	AvantGarde-Demi	CenturyGothic-Bold
AGDO.PS	AvantGarde-DemiOblique	CenturyGothic-BoldItalic
ZAPS.PS	BookAntiqua	
ZAPSB.PS	BookAntiqua-Bold	
ZAPSBI.PS	BookAntiqua-BoldItalic	

File Name	PostScript Font Name	Substitute Resource
ZAPSI.PS	BookAntiqua-Italic	
BKD.PS	Bookman-Demi	BookmanOldStyle-Bold
BKDI.PS	Bookman-Demibolditalic	BookmanOldStyle-BoldItalic
BKL.PS	Bookman-Light	BookmanOldStyle
BKLI.PS	Bookman-LightItalic	BookmanOldStyle-Italic
BPSL.PS	BookmanOldStyle	
BPSD.PS	BookmanOldStyle-Bold	
BPSDI.PS	BookmanOldStyle-BoldItalic	
BPSLI.PS	BookmanOldStyle-Italic	
TWEM.PS	CenturyGothic	
TWEB.PS	CenturyGothic-Bold	
TWEBI.PS	CenturyGothic-BoldItalic	
TWEMI.PS	CenturyGothic-Italic	
CPS.PS	CenturySchoolbook	
CPSB.PS	CenturySchoolbook-Bold	
CPSBI.PS	CenturySchoolbook-BoldItalic	
CPSI.PS	CenturySchoolbook-Italic	
COPS.PS	Courier	
COPSB.PS	Courier-Bold	
COPSBI.PS	Courier-BoldItalic	
COPSBO.PS	Courier-BoldOblique	Courier-BoldItalic
COPSI.PS	Courier-Italic	
COPSO.PS	Courier-Oblique	Courier-Italic
HVL.PS	Helvetica	Arial

File Name	PostScript Font Name	Substitute Resource
HVLB.PS	Helvetica-Bold	Arial-Bold
HVLBO.PS	Helvetica-BoldOblique	Arial-BoldItalic
HVN.PS	Helvetica-Narrow	ArialNarrow
HVNB.PS	Helvetica-Narrow-Bold	ArialNarrow-Bold
HVNBO.PS	Helvetica-Narrow-BoldOblique	ArialNarrow-Bold
HVNO.PS	Helvetica-Narrow-Oblique	ArialNarrow-Italic
HVLO.PS	Helvetica-Oblique	Arial-Italic
MZC.PS	MonotypeCorsiva	
MZD.PS	MonotypeSorts	
NCB.PS	NewCenturySchlbk-Bold	CenturySchoolbook-Bold
NCBI.PS	NewCenturySchlbk-BoldItalic	CenturySchoolbook-BoldItalic
NCI.PS	NewCenturySchlbk-Italic	CenturySchoolbook-Italic
NCR.PS	NewCenturySchlbk-Roman	CenturySchoolbook
POB.PS	Palatino-Bold	BookAntiqua-Bold
POBI.PS	Palatino-BoldItalic	BookAntiqua-BoldItalic
POI.PS	Palatino-Italic	BookAntiqua-Italic
POR.PS	Palatino-Roman	BookAntiqua
SYPS.PS	Symbol	
TIB.PS	Times-Bold	TimesNewRoman-Bold
TIBI.PS	Times-BoldItalic	TimesNewRoman-BoldItalic
TII.PS	Times-Italic	TimesNewRoman-Italic
TIR.PS	Times-Roman	TimesNewRoman
TIM.PS	TimesNewRoman	
TIMB.PS	TimesNewRoman-Bold	
TIMBI.PS	TimesNewRoman-BoldItalic	

File Name	PostScript Font Name	Substitute Resource
TIMI.PS	TimesNewRoman-Italic	
ZC.PS	ZapfChancery- MediumItalic	MonotypeCorsiva
ZD.PS	ZapfDingbats	MonotypeSorts

Appendix B

Tiling Workflow

Use the following procedure to properly tile images.

Set Tiling Options

NOTE: The Tiling options **MUST** be set before tiling an image in the Display window.

1. Open the Tiling Options dialog. Turn the Include all Tiles in Layout button on or off as needed. Set Size from Layout Area to off. Set the width, height and overlap margins before scaling and tiling the image. If you have already scaled or tiled the image, you will need to do it again after setting the Tiling Options.
2. The Layout width and height (in Printer Options) **MUST** be larger than the Tile width & height plus overlap margins (Tiling options menu).

For example, if the panels are 48" x 96" with a 1" overlap, then the Layout must be at least 51" x 99". The extra space is required for the Overlap, Cut Marks and the Job Title.

As a rule, add 5" to the Layout width and height as compared to the Tile setup width & height. If the Tile Overlap is more than 1", increase the layout width & height by the same amount (beyond the 5" extra).

If No Cropping and/or No Visual Resizing is Required:

1. Place the job that will be tiled into the Layout (Open file). In the File Info window, click the Scale/Rot button to open the Scale, Rotate, Tile tab of the Scaling dialog. In the Scale to Tile Size group, enter the number of Tiles and click the To Width or To Height button as needed.
2. Click the Tile button and adjust panel sizes if required.

If Cropping or Visual Resizing is Required:

1. Place the file in the layout. Display & crop the file if needed. Once the file is cropped, click the Scale button at the bottom of the Display window (the far right icon).
2. In the Scaling menu, enter the number of tiles in the Scale to Tile Size box and click the To Width or To Height button as needed. Click OK to go back to the Preview window.
3. In the Display window, click the Tile icon (3rd from left) to view the Tile breaks. Click and Drag the Tile breaks as needed.
4. Click the Tile icon again to open the Change Tiles dialog to view or enter the exact sizes per panel. To finish, click Save, then Save & Close in the Display window.

NOTE: If you define the Tile Overlap to be zero and tile your image, and then set a tiling overlap other than zero, the overlap will move into the image, giving the image a windowpane effect. The Overlap allows space for framing between “windowpanes.” The Overlap and Trim values should be set to one half of the width of your desired “window frame.”
