

PRINTING WORKFLOW (Laurie Naiman, 2012)

(For Mac OS 10.6.8, Adobe Photoshop CS5 & Epson 3800 printer. Details vary w/ OS, editing application and version, and printer)

Preparing master edited file

- Duplicate, flatten and close the master image – work on temporary copy
- Make sure there are no sensor dust spots visible. If so, remove.
- Color space? Adobe RGB for personal printer; sRGB for some print services; ProPhoto?
- Decide on image size (adjust to fit pre-cut window mat by unchecking Constrain Proportions?)
- Resize – resolution (360 ppi for Epson; 300 ppi for other?);
- Sharpen (Smart Sharpen) after enlarging image view to 100% (double-click on Zoom tool)
- Inspect closely for unwanted spots that may become visible after sharpening, and remove
- (If sending to commercial printer use their guidelines for color space, resolution, file format (JPG, Tiff or PSD) & paper size. May need to add 'white canvas' to image to match paper size.)

Printer and Paper Setup (using Photoshop CS5)

- Brush paper lightly w/ clean fine-haired paintbrush to remove loose particles, and then insert into desired printer slot
- Open printer program from within photo editing application (e.g., Cmd/Ctrl-P in Photoshop)
- On opening screen, choose:
 - **Document profile** (same as chosen color space – usually Adobe RGB 1998)
 - **Color Handling:** 'Photoshop Manages Colors' (make sure color management is turned off in print settings dialog)
 - **Printer Profile:** select profile for printer/paper combination from the dropdown list of profiles (discuss how to save downloaded printer profiles)
 - **Rendering Intent:** Relative colorimetric (or Perceptual?)
 - Check **Black Point Compensation**
 - **Printer:** same as the one that you are using
 - **Print Settings:** click to select paper size and position. When done, 'Scaled Print Size' should reflect image size. Make sure image and paper orientation coincide (ie, Landscape vs Portrait)
 - Click on '**Print**'

After Print Emerges from Printer

- Lay flat. Best to wait at least 10-15 min. for ink to dry before deciding if it looks right.
- Best to inspect under overcast daylight (near window) or under a small fluorescent lamp (e.g., Ottlite)
- If print is Ok, **do not save** sharpened image file (copy) unless you later expect to make more prints of same size. If you do plan this, rename file to include image size – e.g., 'oceanbeachFS8x10.psd' (FS = flattened & sharpened)
- Place uncovered print face-up in a protected area (e.g., shelf, drawer) for about 24 hours. Then insert in drawer, box or clear envelope while waiting to decide what to do with it.