

What Adobe Gamma Does

By calibrating your monitor at the system level, Adobe Gamma enables you to eliminate unwanted color casts from your monitor and to obtain the best display possible for your work environment. In addition, Adobe Gamma characterizes your monitor by means of an ICC profile, which is a file that includes a description of the characteristics of your monitor. This profile can be used by any application that uses ICC profiles to compensate for a monitor's color-display limitations. Accurately calibrating and characterizing your monitor is the crucial first step in developing a color-managed workflow.

How Adobe Gamma Works

The Photoshop installer installs Adobe Gamma control panel (Adobe Gamma.cpl) into the Windows/System folder (Windows Me and 98) or the Program Files/Common Files/Adobe/Calibration (Windows XP and 2000), and it installs the Adobe Gamma loader application (Adobe Gamma Loader.exe) into the Program Files/Common Files/Adobe/Calibration folder. In addition, it installs a shortcut to the Adobe Gamma Loader application in the Windows/Start Menu/Programs/Startup folder (Windows Me and 98) or the Documents and Settings/All Users/Start Menu/Programs/Setup (Windows XP and 2000). As a result, the Adobe Gamma loader application appears in the Start > Programs > Startup menu and starts automatically during Windows startup.

While loading Adobe Gamma.cpl during Windows startup, the Adobe Gamma Loader application applies settings in the Adobe Gamma.cpl file to the system and applies calibration settings you saved for your monitor at the system level.

How to Use Adobe Gamma

To calibrate your monitor and create an ICC profile in Adobe Gamma:

1. Choose Start > Settings > Control Panel.
2. Double-click Adobe Gamma.
3. Select Step By Step Wizard, and then click Next.
4. In the Description text box, type a name for the profile. Type a name you will easily identify, such as the monitor name and the date. (When you save the profile at the end of the wizard, you need retype the name.)
5. Click Next, and then follow the on-screen instructions. Before you save the settings, you can use the Before and After buttons to see how the changes you made affect the monitor's display.

After you create the ICC profile, Adobe Gamma saves it in the following folder (along with all other ICC profiles):

- Windows/System/Color folder (Windows Me and 98)
- Windows/System32/Spool/Drivers/Color folder (Windows XP)
- Winnt/System32/Spool/Drivers/Color folder (Windows 2000)