

Preparing colour images for mono

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Introduction

In modern digital cameras, images start out in colour even if you have an in-camera effect to convert to mono, the raw images is still in colour.

Objective

This workshop is about preparing an image in readiness for conversion to mono. It is slightly technical.

Format

The first half is an interactive presentation and club members are encouraged to join in and ask questions. The presentation covers the technical aspects of gamma, the histogram, what the black and white points are, and why that middle triangle wiggles around as one adjusts the other two.

Understand these sets the scene for the conversion method. Photoshop has (at least) eighteen different tools for converting colour to mono. PS Elements has two (depends on the version) and a demo using the less common methods reveals some interesting effects.

The second part is a guided practical session.

Members can bring their laptops and experiment for themselves. This takes the form of a small project with an associated handout and a supplied image (delivered in advance via email to the club's programme secretary or other official).

As a bonus: an effective method for resizing a print oriented image for suitability as a projected image, and a foolproof method for adding a key line boarder around the image that doesn't distort into a wavy line on projection.

Outcomes

Club members discover what's really going on in the levels and curves tool. This knowledge helps in understanding other tools. A handout with the suggested workflow is included. And live demos illustrate the techniques which members can apply themselves in the practical session

Expenses

- ◆ Standard PAGB formula for travel.
- ◆ £10 contribution towards paper, handouts, and wear and tear.