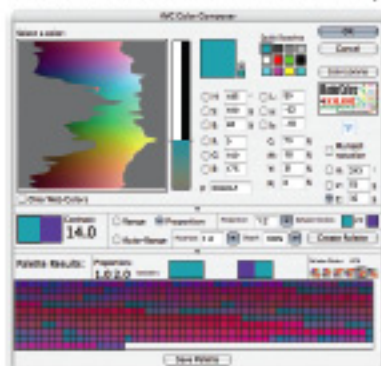


REVIEW HVC COLOR COMPOSER PRO

MASTER COLORS LLC

Use this powerful Photoshop plug-in to work in a totally new colour space that can automatically build custom colour palettes based on your own projects

The HVC Color Composer plug-in to Adobe Photoshop presents a unique perceptual HVC—hue, value, and chroma—colour space which is a natural, intuitive way for artists and designers to use colour. HVC Color Composer is an enhanced version of Photoshop's own Color Picker, allowing you to switch between the enhanced colour picker and the basic



colour picker at any time through Photoshop's preferences. HVC Color Composer has all of the features as the Photoshop colour picker and in the same basic layout so it will be completely familiar to any Photoshop user. The first significant difference you'll

notice in the picker is the Master Colors Perceptual HVC Space. This is a new colour space, resting along side the other spaces accessible through Photoshop. The H, V and C radio buttons in the picker are placed similar to the other 3-axis colour spaces. Just click one of the radio buttons to begin using the HVC colour space to select colours.

As an added convenience, the enhanced colour picker features a new "split slider". On the left side of the slider is an unchanging gradation, displaying the general range of the active axis. On the right side is a gradation displaying the range for that axis given the current position of the other two. So the right side displays values for the original colour, and changes as you pick new colours. It also denotes positions on the axis where the colours are outside the HVC bounds. The other spaces benefit from the new split slider feature as well.

All the other colour spaces standard to Photoshop are included in the enhanced picker: HSB, RGB, Lab and CMYK. You can activate these the same way you active HVC for selection: click one of the radio buttons next to the space and particular axis. And just as with the standard colour picker, if you select a colour using one space, the values for that colour in the other colour space text boxes are dynamically displayed.

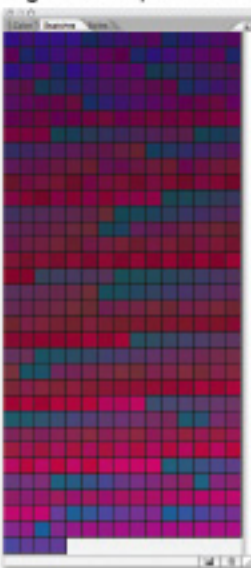
Colour spaces like RGB are not ideally suited for creative use. The human mind is not accustomed to considering colour in quantities of red, green and blue light. There are many visual distortions in RGB as well. HSB—just a re-organisation of RGB—is a bit better for navigating through colours, but suffers from the same visual distortions. CMYK and Lab, both

Requires: PowerPC G3 or later, Macintosh OS X v10.2 or later
Adobe Photoshop 7 later or Adobe Photoshop Elements 2.0 or later

have their uses, but accommodating the creative process is not one of them. Color Composer provides fully distortion-free clarity to colour selection. Color Composer instantly determines the numerical distances between millions of colours as measured by contrast. The Colour Quantification Technology built into the plug-in allows the software to organise mathematically coherent palettes, in much the same way harmony works in music. The software does the maths—the user gets beautiful, powerful palettes to use in a natural and intuitive way.

"THE COLOUR QUANTIFICATION TECHNOLOGY BUILT INTO THE PLUG-IN ALLOWS THE SOFTWARE TO ORGANISE MATHEMATICALLY COHERENT PALETTES..."

Start with one or more base project colours—we used the colour scheme from this issue of XTN—enter your desired palette settings and the HVC Color Composer will automatically generate palettes that work perfectly with those colours. Color Composer offers fully dynamic control over Depth and Contrast settings for generated palettes. This lets you easily narrow or widen the palette results dynamically to generate as many—or as few—complementary colours as you desire. The plug-in ends the tedious and sometimes seemingly impossible task of creating colour combinations that work well together. The palettes that are generated are unique, vibrant,



interesting arrays of colour that users would not be able to find using any other methods, not even by endlessly flipping through professional design swatch or palette books. Yet the palettes have actual significance to a designer's current project specifications. The palettes can be saved into Photoshop Swatch format files and then opened in the Swatch palette for easy and convenient use. This allows designers to work in an intuitive way where they can focus on the work in progress. HVC Color Composer Professional insures that everyone can intuitively create unlimited, powerful, interesting colour compositions with amazing speed.

SPECIAL XTN PRICING FOR HVC COLOR COMPOSER PRO

XTN readers can purchase HVC Color Composer Pro for £119.00, normally £149.00 until 30th April 2006

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