B&W with Adobe Photoshop Hue-Saturation Layer

There are many techniques that can be used to convert a color image to grayscale using Adobe Photoshop. The numerous techniques lead to endless discussion on which is best. We do not have that answer, but prefer to show one method here

Inksupply.com has created this document to outline one technique that will allow for more control over the conversion compared to simply clicking on Image > Mode > Grayscale in Photoshop. While there are many other methods to create a grayscale image, experts disagree on which method is best.

Step 1: To start, open a copy of the image to be altered. Please note that the quality of the image will affect the final result, high quality tiff or jpeg images are preferred.



Step 2: Select "*Hue/Saturation*" from the layer adjustment icon found at the bottom of the layer panel, it is a small circular icon that is half black and half white. The Channel Mixer option is also available in the *Image > Adjustments > Hue/Saturation* in your Photoshop menu. This option will create an adjustment layer that will allow the Hue, Saturation and Lightness of the layer to be altered.



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Step 3: After selecting Hue/Saturation a dialog box will appear, simply click OK on this box to close it.



Step 4: After closing the Hue/Saturation dialog box, go back to the layer adjustment icon and reselect *Hue/Saturation* to create a second adjustment layer.



This time when the Hue/Saturation dialog box appears move the Saturation slide all of the way to the left (Setting should be -100). At this point the image will be grayscale. Next, select OK to close the dialog box.

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Step 5: There should now be three layers present in the layer control panel. The top layer is the Hue/Saturation layer that was created last, and contains a Saturation value of -100. The next layer down is the Hue/Saturation Layer that was left unchanged. The final layer is the original image.

Highlight the middle layer by clicking on it. Next, using the dropdown menu with the word "Normal" in it, change this value to "Color". This step is shown below.

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Step 6: Double click on the middle layer to bring up the Hue/Saturation dialog box. By changing the Hue slider, the image can be filtered in many different ways. Continue to make adjustments to the "Hue" slider until the image is satisfactory.

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When the image is satisfactory flatten the image (Layer > Flatten Image) to finalize the changes. Using this method will result in a high contrast black and white image as shown on the last page of this document compared to the grayscale option offered by Photoshop.

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Hue/Saturation Black and White



Photoshop Grayscale

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