



Checking for Potential Banding

How to test blends or gradients for potential banding in Adobe Photoshop

Bad blends or gradients don't always show up on every prepress proof. Often, you don't see them until the job runs on press. Follow this procedure to test your pixel-based vignettes for banding before submitting your job to Courier.

STEP 1

Open your pixel-based vignette in Photoshop.

Choose Image → Adjust → Curves.

STEP 2

Slide the bottom handle of the curve to the right to check one end of the spectrum.

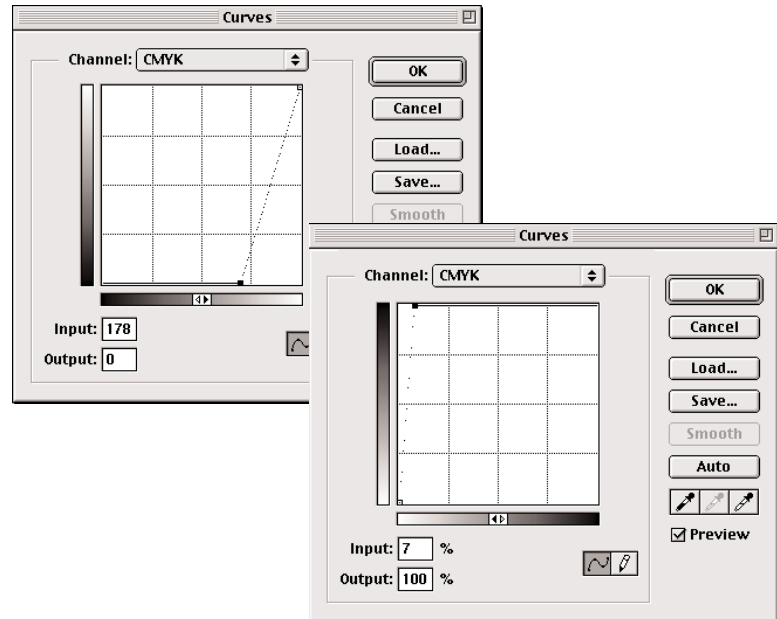
Slide the top handle of the curve to the left to check the other end of the spectrum.

CLICK CANCEL. Do not click OK.

STEP 3

If you saw no banding, your vignette will not show banding when output.

If you did see banding, your vignette will show banding when output. To fix the problem, refer to "Production tips for preparing files" on page 5 of *Right from the Start: The book professional's guide to preparing digital files for print production, Fifth Edition*.



← After sliding the handles, if your vignette looks smooth, it will not band when output.

→ After sliding the handles, if your vignette looks banded, it will band when output.

