

Black & White Conversion

(Mary Ann Simek 2-05)

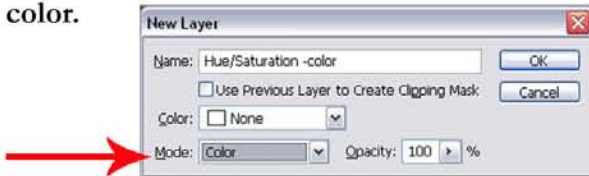
There are numerous ways to turn an image from color to black and white. I will show you only a couple of the ways it can be done, from simple to more complex.

B&W Conversion #1

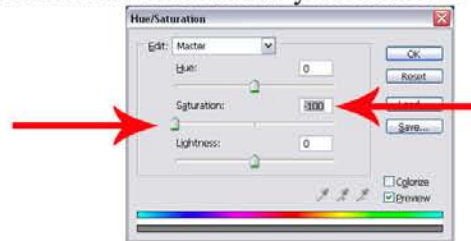
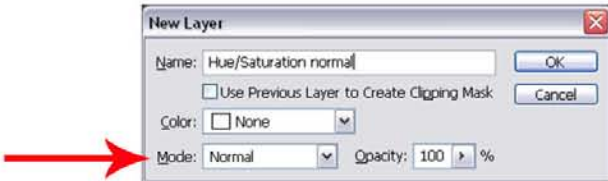
1. Open a corrected image that you want to turn to black and white.
2. Duplicate the background layer (ctrl/cmd J) Layer>New>Layer via Copy
3. Go to Image>Adjustments>Desaturate.
4. In many cases this will give less than a satisfying black and white image.

B&W Conversion #2

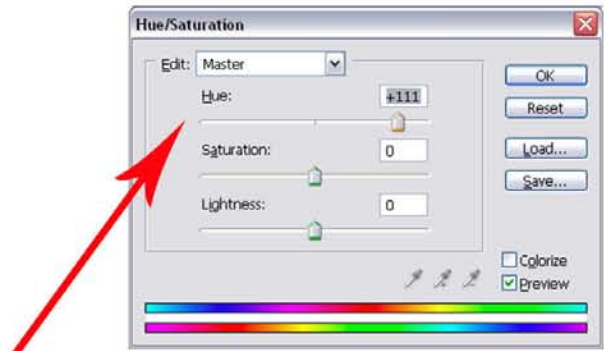
1. Open the file.
2. Choose Layer --> New Adjustment Layer --> Hue/Saturation and set the Blending Mode to Color. Name it Hue/Saturation color.



3. Choose Layer --> New Adjustment Layer --> Hue/Saturation and leave the Blending Mode to Normal. Set the Saturation to -100. Click OK. Name this layer Hue/Saturation Normal. Now you have two Hue/Saturation Adjustment Layers.



4. Double-click on the layer thumbnail of the Hue/Saturation color Adjustment Layer.



5. The Hue slider is what does all the work. Move it around to see how the conversion reacts. You can also boost the saturation to make the effect more dramatic.

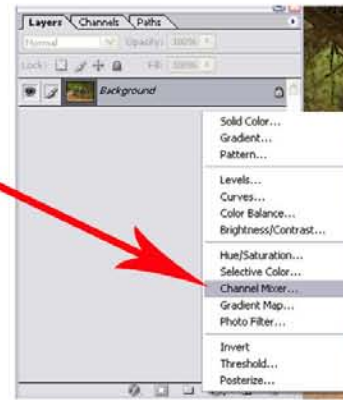
6. Try adjusting each of the individual colors under Edit, to see what effect you get.

7. When you are satisfied, Go to File>Save as and rename the new file.

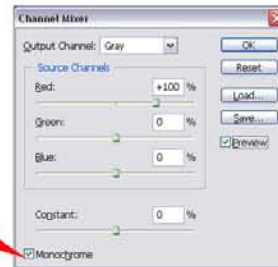
B&W Conversion #3

Using the Channel Mixer

1. Open the color image you want to convert to black and white
2. From the Layers Palette choose Channel Mixer Adjustment Layer



3. Put a check-mark in the Monochrome box at the bottom of the Channel Mixer dialog box. You will notice that the Output channel changes from RGB to Gray, and that by default the Red channel is set to +100%.



4. Begin moving the sliders for each of the color channels to create your black and white image. A rule of thumb when moving the sliders, is to make sure your percentages add up to no more than 100%.
5. The Constant slider at the bottom can be used to adjust the overall brightness of the image.

B&W Conversion #4

Greg Gorman's Recipe for Black and White Conversion

1. Open a color image in Photoshop in either 8 bit or 16 bit.
2. Under the Image menu, choose Mode > Lab.
3. Click (Highlight) the Lightness Channel.
4. Under the Image menu, choose Mode > Grayscale
5. Cmd/Ctrl Click on the Gray Channel (to load the selection).
6. Under the Select Menu, choose Image > Inverse.
7. Under the Image menu, choose Mode > RGB Color.
8. In the Adjustment Layers Palette choose Solid Color.
9. Select a color from the Color Picker or from the Swatches Palette
10. Your choice of color should be based on the tonal range you wish to see in your final B&W.
11. Go to your Layers Palette & change Blending Mode to Multiply.
12. Because your Color Fill is on a Layer you may adjust the opacity to dial back the color to your desire.
13. In addition (IMPORTANT), you may add a Curves or Levels Adjustment to achieve the desired result.
14. Should you wish to change the color of your B&W "Duotone" simply double click the color fill and reselect.