

Pro Monitor Benefits for Digital Photography



Challenge

Prices for professional-level monitors have come down and you're wondering whether it's time to upgrade. What's to be gained by stepping up to a monitor with more advanced color capabilities?

Solution

Whether you're a beginner, a career digital photographer, or somewhere in between, your monitor is your digital dark room and its color capabilities will impact the accuracy with which you view, edit and reproduce your photos.

Your camera digitally encodes color into a specific color space, such as sRGB or Adobe RGB. Most general-use monitors are not able to entirely cover these spaces. Since no monitor can display colors that fall outside of its available color space(s), if you shoot in sRGB (or Adobe RGB) and your monitor covers only part of this space, your images as shown on screen will be missing colors.

This has a significant impact on photo quality. When you view photos in a color space smaller than the one in which they were shot, the missing color data reduces the level of detail, resulting in muddier, less vivid colors. When editing photos, any work performed on a less-than-accurate monitor won't represent the final colors reproduced. And, by adjusting an incomplete image, any changes you make to these incorrect colors can make what you're trying to fix worse.

Professional-grade monitors are purpose-built for color accuracy. With full Adobe RGB and sRGB color space coverage, pro monitors deliver greater detail and more true-to-life colors. Additional features like 6-axis color adjustment and color space/Gamma level presets provide simplified fine tuning. Monitors with a 3D lookup table (LUT) enable the monitors to automatically adapt to deliver smoother color gradations; while a low Delta E metric indicates greater color performance.

What you'll need for ultimate screen precision ideal for photography:

- ▶ A ViewSonic® VP Series Professional Monitor

