



Cachet Reference Image Guide

Radiant energy from the sun can be spread into its components by a glass prism, which produces a familiar rainbow, or spectrum. Each different color in a rainbow is physically differentiated from the other colors by the wavelength of the radiation that produces the sensation...



*Cachet*TM

Introduction

The Working Image

Reference Images

Orientation

The View Through the Window



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A new way to edit color images



When you work in Cachet you **edit-by-reference**—that is, you refer to the colors in a reference image to edit and correct the colors of a working image. A **reference image** is a picture that has already been color corrected in Cachet and printed using Cachet separations. A **working image** is the image you want to change.

The process is simple. You use this book to select an image—or part of an image—that looks the way you want your working image to look. Then you open a digital version of the image on your desktop and adjust the colors in your working image to match the colors in the reference image. Because you already know how the colors in your reference image look when printed, once you've matched the two images you can predict how the colors in your working image will print.



Uncorrected On a Picnic



Reference image



Corrected working image

When you match the colors in the working image to similar colors in the reference image, you can predict how the working image will print.

You no longer have to worry about calibrating your monitor or adjusting the lighting conditions in your work environment in order to properly color correct an image. Whatever the apparent differences between the printed reference image and the reference image on your screen, you know how the colors on the screen will print. So instead of adjusting your working image so it looks perfect on the monitor, you adjust it so it appears similar to your reference image.



Cachet comes with an initial set of 24 reference images in both printed and digital form. As you work with Cachet you can add images to this set. This book contains the printed versions of each image. The digital versions are on the two Reference Images disks that came in your Cachet package.

Start by choosing one or more reference images to use as guides. Use the thumbnail photos in the front of this book to get an idea of which image may be a good match for your working image. Then turn to the full page image for a closer look.

Here are some things to consider when choosing a reference image:

Look at the lighting

Color appearance can change in different lighting conditions, so it's usually important to pick a reference image with the same type of lighting as your working image. Look at your working image—does it have indoor or outdoor lighting? Is it lit from behind, overhead, or below? Is the lighting diffuse or highly directional? Look for a reference image with similar lighting.

You can improve the appearance of your working image by matching it to a reference image with more appealing lighting. For instance, your working image may show a cloudy beach scene—you can make it look sunnier by matching it to a sunny outdoor scene.



**Find an image with a
pleasing color balance**

The **color balance** is the relationship of red, green, and blue tones in the image—for instance, a “warm” scene may have a lot of reddish-yellowish colors and not a lot of blue, a “cool” scene may have a lot of bluish colors. Pick a reference image with a similar color balance, or one with a color balance you’d like your working image to have. In addition, pay attention to the amount of white and neutral tones in the images. If your working image has significant white or neutral areas, you want a reference image with good whites and neutral grays you can use for comparison.

**Look for foreground
objects with similar
colors**

Your reference image doesn’t necessarily need to have the same subject as your working image, but it helps if the foreground objects have the same colors.

In cases where your working image contains subjects with familiar colors such as grass, sky, sand, etc., you probably do want to chose a reference image with similar subjects. Also, if people are the main subject, you usually chose a reference image that shows people with similar skin tones.



Check the background color

Background color can affect the appearance of other colors in an image. So try to choose a reference image with background colors that are similar to your working image. Occasionally, the background color may be even more important than foreground colors. In that case, choose a reference image with a background color that matches.

Match a color exactly

Sometimes you may want to change a color in your working image to exactly match a reference image color. When you're picking a reference image with a particular color, remember to watch for lighting, color balance and background color—those factors affect the appearance of the color.



Create your own reference images

As you work with Cachet, you'll build up a library of images you've color corrected to your satisfaction. You can use those as reference images as well as the reference images that came with Cachet. If you often work with a particular subject, or you use certain colors regularly, you'll find that creating your own color corrected reference images with those subjects or colors will help you do your color corrections efficiently.

Getting the most out of your monitor

Although with Cachet you do not have to worry about monitor calibration or lighting conditions to properly color correct your image, it's good practice to adjust your monitor so your reference images look good on the screen. Adjust the brightness, contrast, or tint controls until you are satisfied with the appearance of the reference image—or, if you have monitor calibration software, set your monitor's gamma to 2.2 and the white point to D50. (With this setting your monitor will display a close approximation of the true colors of the reference image.)

Remember, it's not strictly necessary to correct your monitor. The color you see in the reference image on the screen will print like the color in the reference image in this book. All you need to do is match the color in your working image to the color in the reference image, and you can predict how your working image will print.

When you create color separations or print to a desktop printer, Cachet will automatically adjust the color in your working image to achieve the best printed results. Using a patented technology called EfiColor, Cachet can faithfully reproduce colors for any supported printing process you choose.



The images in this book were color corrected in Cachet and printed on a Heidelberg Speedmaster 102S press, on a 28"x40" sheet of 80 lb. Patina matte book paper, with a 150 lpi screen using Cachet separations, with the SWOP-Coated profile.

The images are organized in three categories—People, Landscapes, and Still Lives—and are listed alphabetically within the categories. Each image has a corresponding digital file with the same name. The compressed digital files are on the two Reference Image disks that came with your Cachet package.



*Cachet Reference
Image Guide*

Reference Image Preview

People

**Bar Scene
Page 1**



**Beach Kid
Page 2**



**Beach Picnic
Page 3**



**Breakfast Couple
Page 4**



**Businessmen
Page 5**



**Computer Kids
Page 6**





Family Portrait 1
Page 7



Family Portrait 2
Page 8



Five Kids
Page 9



Frisbee Team
Page 10



Sofa Kid
Page 11



Woman Portrait 1
Page 12





*Cachet Reference
Image Guide*

Reference Image Preview

People

**Woman Portrait 2
Page 13**

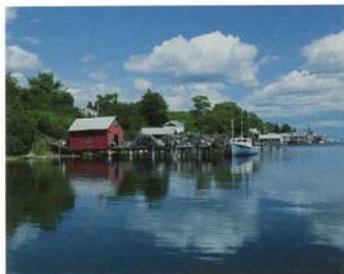


**Woman Portrait 3
Page 14**





Boathouse
Page 15



Brooklyn Bridge
Page 16



Chicago Skyline
Page 17



City Street
Page 18





*Cachet Reference
Image Guide*

Reference Image Preview

Landscapes

Cottage
Page 19



Field Road
Page 20



Waikiki Beach
Page 21





Fruits and Vegetables
Page 22



Kitchen
Page 23



Steel Shapes
Page 24





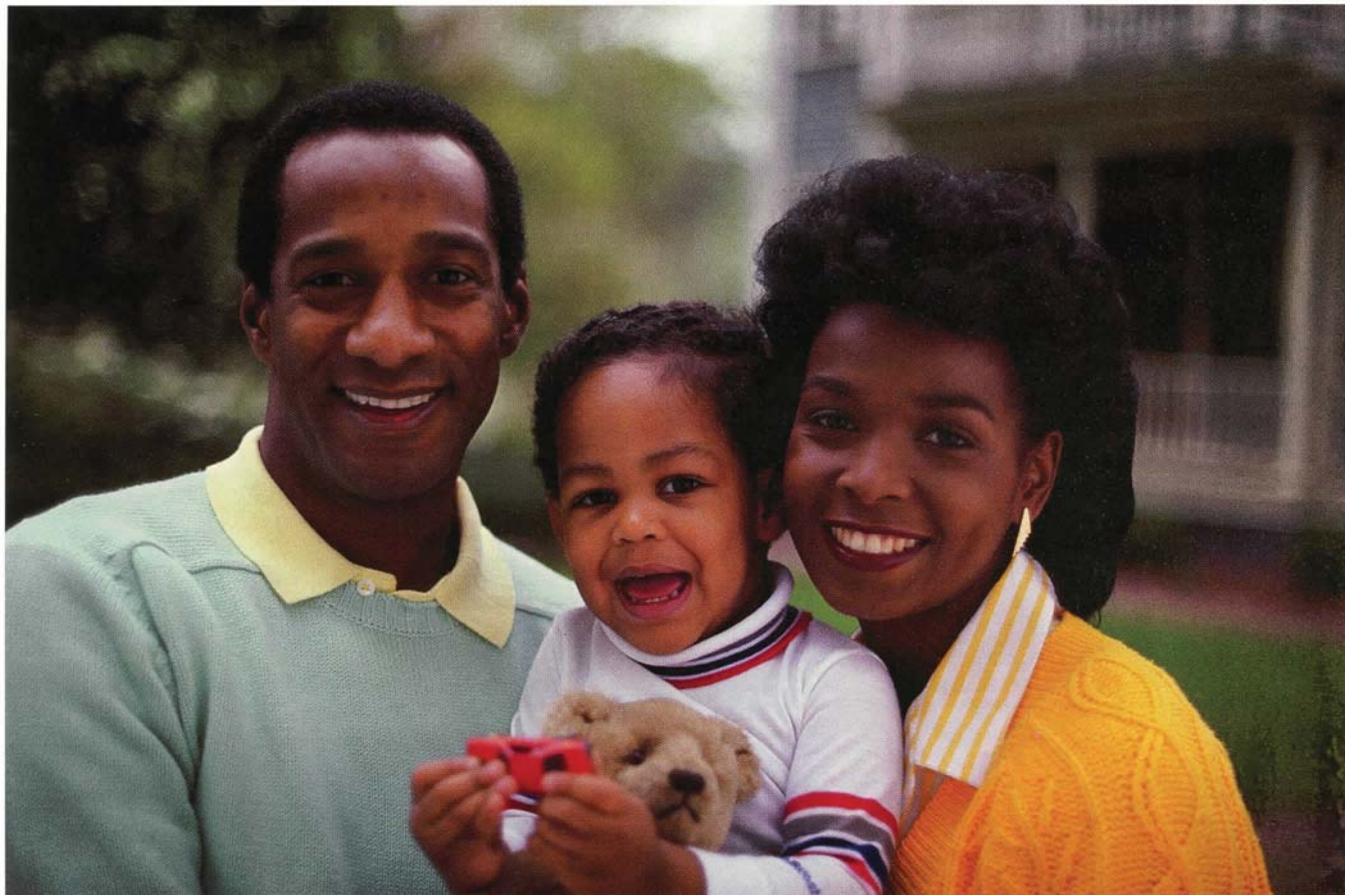






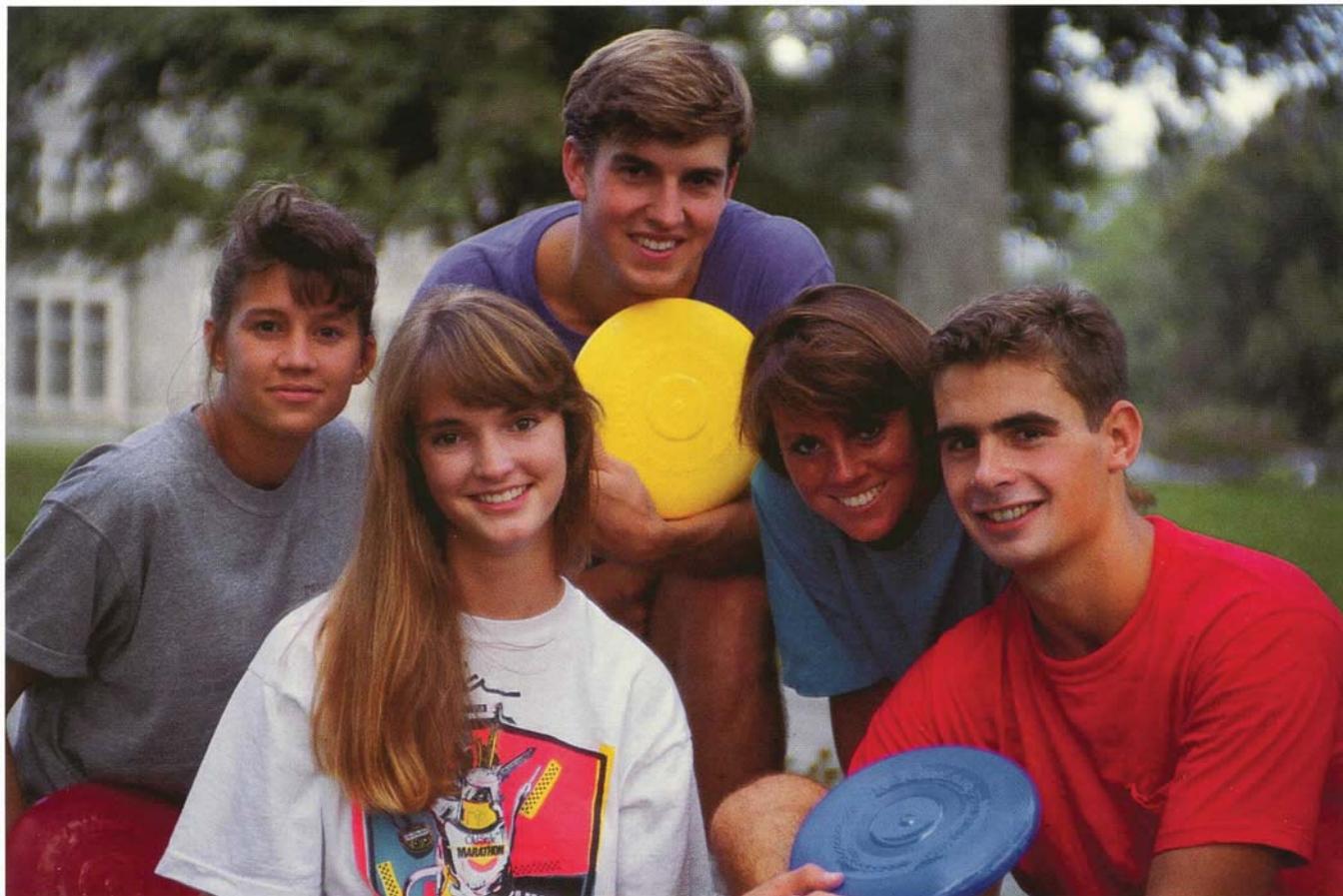
















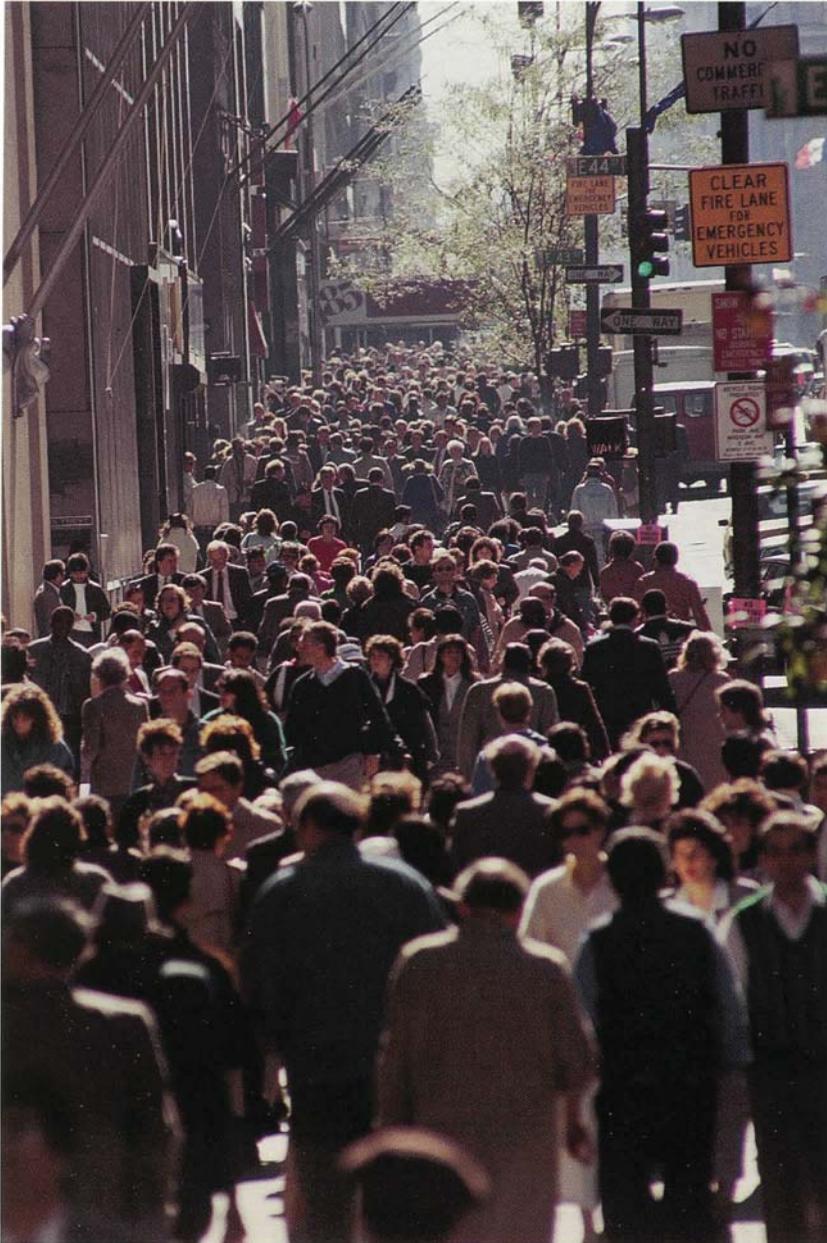








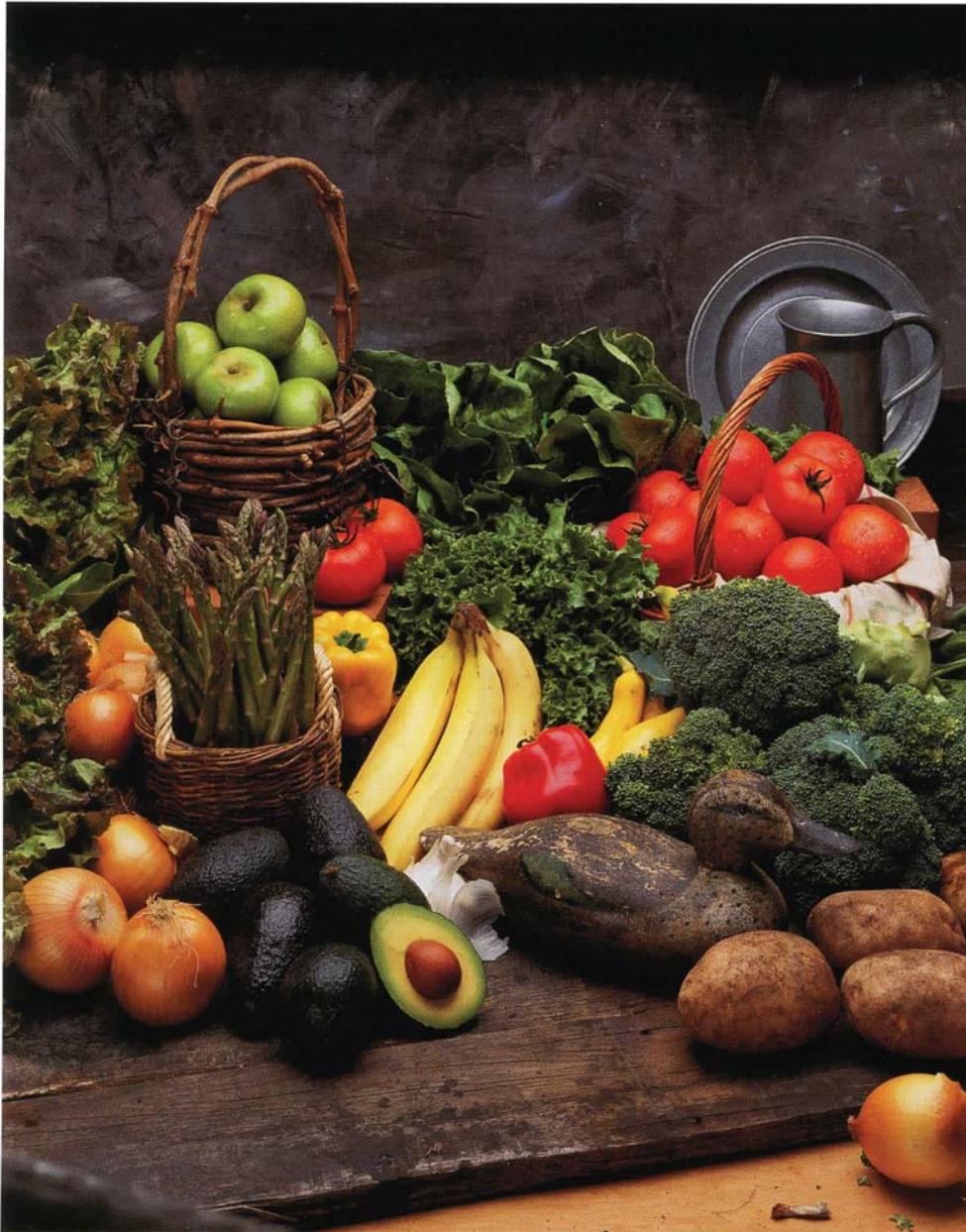


















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