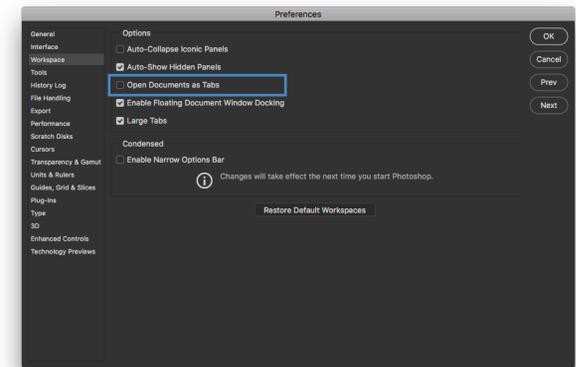
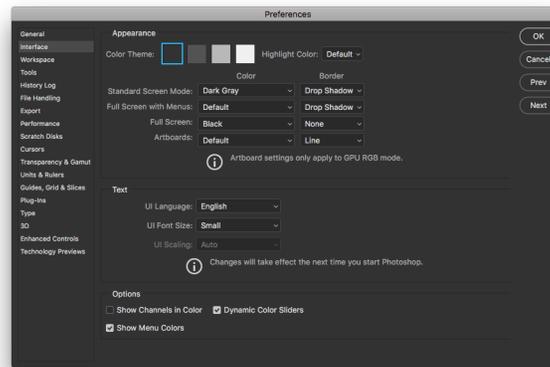
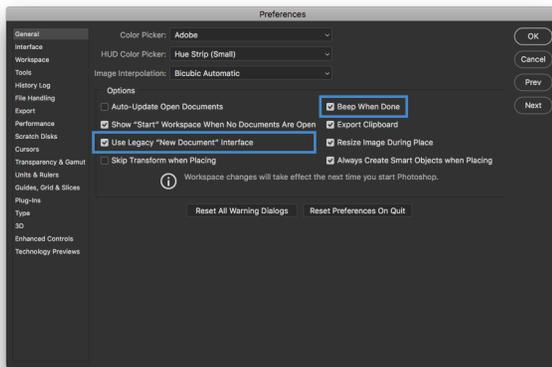




# Adobe Photoshop CC 2018 Preferences

Recommended custom settings to get the most for your creative workflow.

Use the application menu, Photoshop CC > Preferences... or ⌘K



## General (⌘ 1)

### Options:

**Use Legacy "New Document" Interface** – enable if you prefer to use a streamlined interface when creating new documents

**Beep When Done** – enable if you would like Photoshop to emit an audible beep when it has finished a task

★ Best Practice – it's *best practice* quitting Photoshop after setting preferences to *lock in* your custom settings. Launch Photoshop again and get busy with your creative workflow.

### Resetting Default Preferences:

Press and hold **Command + Option + Shift** while launching Photoshop. You'll get a prompt asking if you would like to reset the default preferences.

## Interface (⌘ 2)

### Appearance:

**Color Theme:** dark side or light side – the choice is yours



### Photoshop Easter Eggs

**Toast** – press Option + Shift when clicking color swatch to view swatches as dark to light toast

**Coffee Cups** – press Command + Option + Shift when clicking color swatch to view coffee cups with dark to light options – click multiple times to alternate between coffee cups, swatches & toast



## Workspace (⌘ 3)

### Options:

**Open Documents as Tabs** – disable if you do not want to use tabbed windows in Photoshop, especially when you are not using the *Application Frame*. Useful for positioning two or more windows, side by side on-screen.

*not shown...*

## Units & Rulers

**Rulers** – pixels & inches are the common units in the USA

**Type** – points is the default setting

## Guides, Grids & Slices

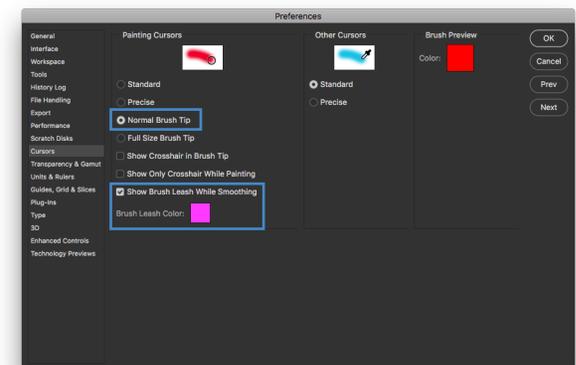
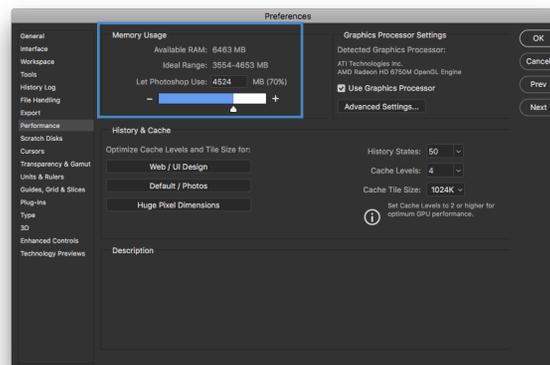
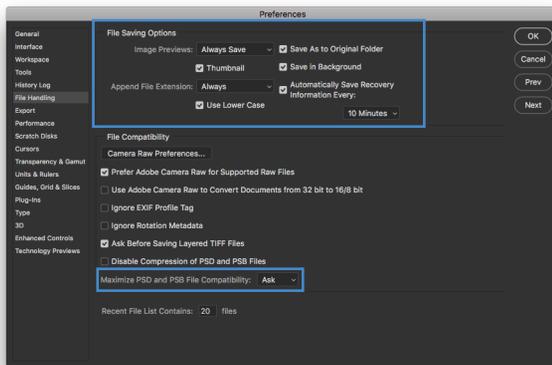
**Canvas & Artboard** – click the swatch on the right to select your favorite colors :) *These items are non-printing elements designed to assist you in laying out your files.*



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## File Handling (⌘ 6)

**File Saving Options:** default settings are great

**Save in Background** – enabled, allows you to continue working as Photoshop saves files to disk

**Automatically Save Recovery Information Every:** menu options of 5, 10 (default), 15, 30 minutes or 1 hour

**File Compatibility:**  
**Maximize PSD and PSB File Compatibility** – menu options for Ask (default), Always & Never

★ Ask evokes a window when you save a layered Photoshop file with a prompt to maximize or not. Maximizing saves an *invisible, flattened version* of layered files for compatibility (previews) with Adobe Photoshop Lightroom, Illustrator, InDesign & others. *Always* will save the invisible, flattened version and *Never* will not save the additional version when you save files. Lightroom users must maximize, Illustrator & InDesign will build previews if necessary.

## Performance (⌘ 8)

**Memory Usage:** 70% (default)

★ Adobe Photoshop is one of very few applications that allow you to change how much RAM (random access memory) it may use to process imagery. The default value of 70% is perfect for artists, designers, photographers and other creatives. Videographers and 3D artists using a dedicated workstation solely for Photoshop (and not for anything else, such as email, web browsing, iTunes and other apps) may want to consider increasing the memory usage up to 85% for increased performance in processing and rendering files. Anything beyond 85% memory usage may cause decreased performance issues with your computer.

## Scratch Disks (⌘ 9) not shown

**Internal Hard Drive:** selected by default

★ Adobe Photoshop and other applications use available hard disk space in addition to RAM to process data. Professionals try to use up to 50% of their computer's internal hard drive storage capacity to avoid a variety of issues, such as slowing down computing operations and errors performing routine and specialized tasks due to not enough available hard disk space.

## Cursors (⌘ 0)

**Painting Cursors:** (for tools that use brushes)

**Standard** – uses tool icon from Tools panel

**Precise** – cross hair cursor – Caps Lock key will activate/deactivate precise cursors anytime you need them

**Normal Brush Tip** (default) – displays contour of selected brush – a great choice when starting with Photoshop

**Full Size Brush Tip** – brush contour is larger than painted stroke and includes soft or feathered edges

**Other Cursors: Standard** (default) – start recognizing hot spot of cursors, i.e. glass tip of Eyedropper, rope end of Lasso, sparkle end of Magic Wand Tool, etc.

**New for 2018: Show Brush Leash While Smoothing** – on and violet by default, click swatch to specify a custom color