

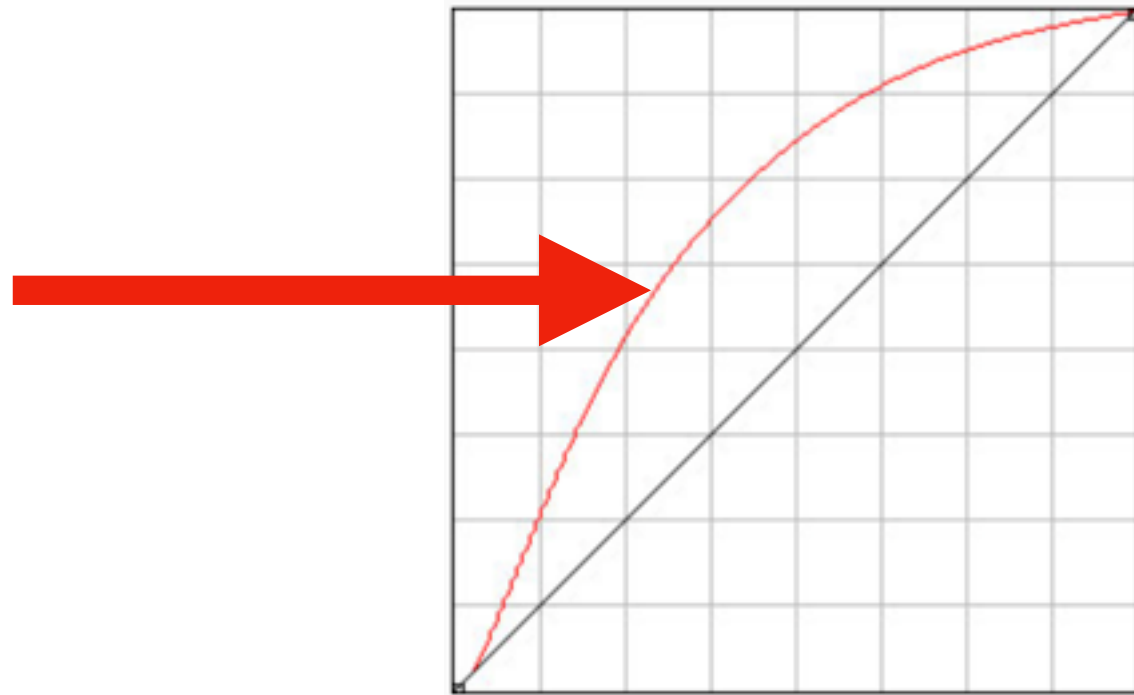
Linear Profiles in Lightroom and Photoshop



DISCOVER THE LIGHT
PHOTOGRAPHY

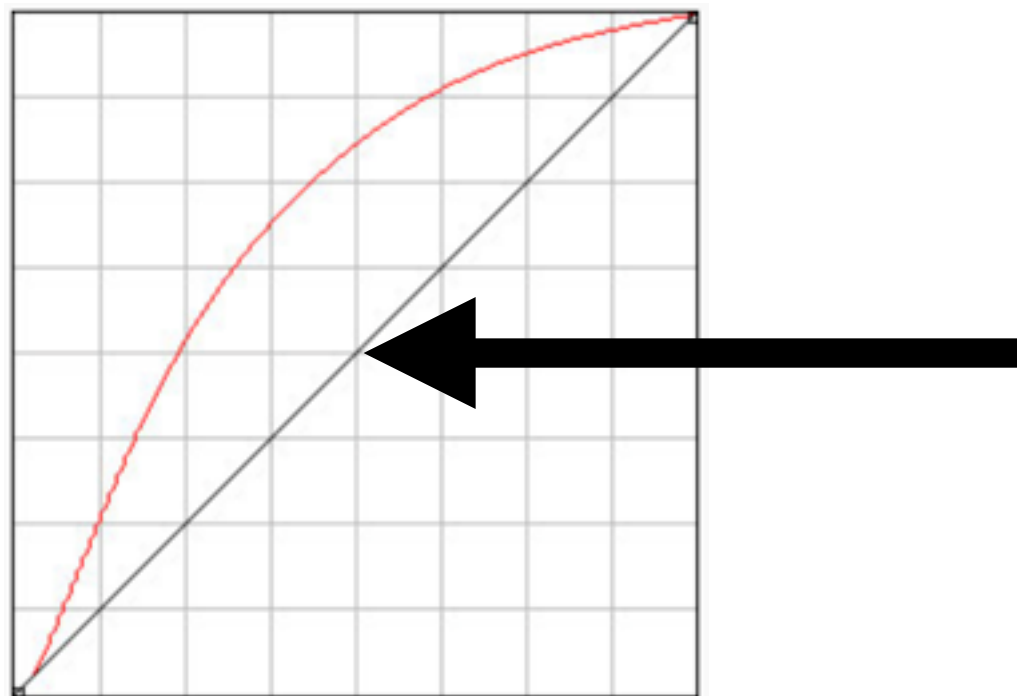
What are Adobe Profiles?

- Adobe profiles are the set of instructions that tells Lightroom (LR) and Adobe Camera Raw (ACR) how to display the data from a RAW file captured by a digital camera.
- Adobe profiles in LR and ACR (color, standard, vivid, portrait, monochrome, etc) are curved much like a tone curve (see red curve below).
- These profiles generally brighten all pixels and increase shadow contrast and decrease highlight contrast.
- They look more pleasing.
- But...



What are Linear Profiles?

- Linear profiles are a straight line (see black line below).
- They provide true RAW data.
- They will appear more flat, darker and with less contrast.
- **Camera specific.**



Linear Profile vs Adobe Color



Adobe Color Profile



Linear Profile

Why Use Linear Profiles?

- They provide the best starting point for photo editing (true RAW data).
- They allow complete control in the editing process (not a starting point determined by a software engineer).
- Better highlight and shadow recovery with more detail.
- Richer colors (after edits).
- Start with the Auto option and apply edits from there.
- Many Basic panel sliders will be more responsive (may be a learning curve).
- HSL sliders are better calibrated.
- Most other sliders are more responsive and predictable.
- Better suited for “expose to the right”.

Create a Camera-Specific Linear Profile - Adobe DNG Profile Editor

Easiest Method

1. Download Adobe DNG Profile Editor (<https://helpx.adobe.com/camera-raw/digital-negative.html>).
2. Open Lightroom.
3. Find a photo from the camera you want a linear profile for.
4. In the Develop module - Basic panel, set the profile to “Standard”.
5. Export the photo as a DNG file to your desktop (or other location).
6. Open the DNG Profile Editor.
7. Choose “File > Open DNG File...”
8. Navigate to the DNG exported in step 5 and open it.
9. Go to the Tone Curve tab and select “Linear” for the “Base Tone Curve”.
10. Choose “File > Export *camera make/model* profile...”
11. Keep the default name or type in your own.
12. Close DNG Profile Editor.
13. Delete the DNG file from step 5 (optional).

Create a Camera-Specific Linear Profile - Tony Kuyper Download

1. Go to Tony Kuyper's website (<https://goodlight.us/linear-profiles.html>).
2. Scroll down to "Downloading linear profiles".
3. Find the profile for your camera.
4. Follow the download steps.
5. Follow the instructions in Tony Kuyper's PDF (https://goodlight.us/Installing_and_Using_Linear_Profiles.pdf)

How to Use Linear Profiles?

1. You must close and re-open Lightroom after creating a linear profile (one-time action).
2. Select a photo.
3. Go to the Basic panel.
4. Under Profile click Browse.
5. **Tip:** Make your linear profile a favorite by clicking the star to the right of the profile.
6. **OPTIONAL:** Click Auto.
7. Continue editing.