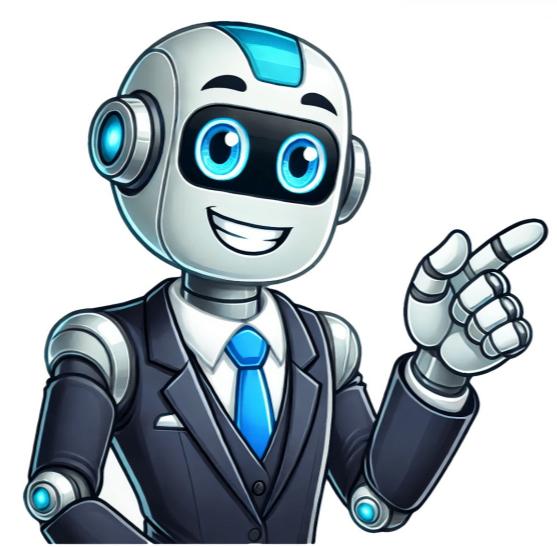


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Music: In this episode of Design Domination, I am talking about the color chaos in the graphic design industry specifically the Adobe-Pantone breakup. Stay tuned to find out what you need to know, how this will affect you and what you can do about it. I had heard about this earlier but wanted to wait and see how this would play out. I also decided to do some more research on it as well. For decades since the 1980s graphic designers have relied on Pantone for consistent color output in printing, using their spot or CMYK swatchbooks and selecting the colors from within the Adobe programs. Being able to select Pantone colors in Adobe's software has always been important, especially for print designers. So graphic designers everywhere are in an uproar over this divorce, because were the ones left footing the bill from two companies with a monopoly on the industry. Pantone Colors Being Phased Out of Adobe Software As of August 2022, Pantone colors started being phased out from future updates to Adobe Creative Cloud software. After November 2022, the only Pantone color books that will be available within Adobe programs are: Pantone+ CMYK Coated, Pantone+ CMYK Uncoated and Pantone+ Metallic Coated (That one is one of my faves). If you want to have access to all of the Pantone color books after that date, you will have to purchase a premium Pantone Connect license and install a plugin from Adobe Exchange. So Pantone has jumped on the subscription bandwagon, like everyone else, much to our dismay. Creative Cloud already costs a lot, and now this. What Is Pantone Connect? Pantone Connect is available as an Adobe Creative Cloud extension, website or mobile app. It gives graphic designers access to more than 15,000 Pantone colors. As of right now, the cost for an individual subscription is \$14.99 per month or \$89.99 per year USD, which is a 50% discount when you pay for the year up front. The price of Pantone Connect went up 150% between August and November. There is a free trial available, but it's only a measly seven days. The Pantone Connect download page has been inundated with angry graphic designers, giving it a one-star rating and sharing their thoughts on this situation. I must have had to hit the Load more reviews 10 times to get to any that didn't have a one-star review. Many say the extension doesn't even work, it keeps crashing or refuses to load, and that the UX is horrible. Some have commented that it doesn't work on Macs with the M1/M2 processors. Others say that the free plugin doesn't allow you to do what it says it should. Many designers question how Adobe can continue to charge what they do for their Creative Cloud subscription since they've removed an important feature from it. Why Are Pantone Colors Being Removed From Adobe Software? Graphic designers everywhere are saying this is all about greed. Adobe refers to the Pantone licensing as simply adjusted and that Pantone decided to change its business model. Pantone told CreativePro: Pantone was unable to actively update the library to correct any changes to the color data or to update it with new colors. But what I can't understand is that being able to choose Pantone colors is like free advertising for them. I mean, Pantone makes money off of designers specifying their colors for a print job. Already, Pantone gets money from the sale of their color swatch books too. But how is it any different than going into Home Depot or Lowes or a paint store to pick up some of those printed paint swatches that you take home until you are ready to buy one of them? What Designers Can Expect With the Pantone Changes? Adobe's website says that: All app versions before August 2022 will continue to have all previous Pantone Color books pre-loaded and available. However, Illustrator, InDesign, and Photoshop applications will be affected differently. Specific to InDesign and Illustrator, Adobe says that InDesign and Illustrator files that have Pantone color swatches will function the same as they have when opened or placed in InDesign. But about Photoshop files with any spot channels that have been placed within InDesign and Illustrator files, those will show as gray/black in InDesign. Photoshop files with swatches from Pantone color books will function as before when opened or placed in Photoshop (inclusive of past or future software releases). Photoshop files that have spot channels for unavailable color books will display a color rendering error. That's evident by what Jeff Potter of CreativePro said in an article on this topic: "[U]users opening an existing document in the new release of Photoshop found themselves shocked by a dialog box that reads, This file has Pantone colors that have been removed and replaced with black due to changes in Pantone's licensing with Adobe. You can find out more in Adobe's FAQs. Pantone Alternatives If you find yourself needing to specify a spot color in an Adobe program, you don't have to shell out the cost of a Pantone Connect subscription. Manually Create a Spot Color You could potentially create a spot color in the program, make sure its set to Spot and give it a name. I did this many times in the past in InDesign, when I didn't have the latest software with all the available Pantone colors to choose from. It may not show as accurately on screen, but then again, there is a difference in color between the Pantone swatch books and how colors look on screen anyway, even between individual monitors. Add Swatches FreeMei Rankin of CreativePro did a great write-up on a hack for How to Add Swatches With the Free Version of Pantone Connect. Backups Color consultant Paul Sheffield suggests backing up the Pantone color library files, which have the extension ACB, re-importing them into the programs after Adobe completely removes them. But at some point, Adobe might be able to detect these as Pantone colors and not allow them. PDF Andrew Baille-Collins, who used to work at Enfocus, suggests that you may be able to add new Pantone colors to an older PDF file with Enfocus PitStop. FreeToneA designer named Stuart Semple created a Pantone-ish color palette called FreeTone. It includes 1,280 colors. Stuart has a video on his website about how to load the colors in Illustrator and Photoshop. Swatches You could also check out Swatches. Swatches is a box that contains 129 cards that are swatches. Each color has one color on the front. The flip side has six colors, with a lighter and a darker color showing larger to the left and to the right. So there are a total of 903 colors. Each color has a CMYK value, hexadecimal code and a Swatches number. There are also downloadable swatch files that you can use in Adobe Creative Cloud. Spot Matching System There is also the Spot Matching System, which contains 869 colors. Project BBCGC Check our Project BBCG Better Brand Color Guide. It is a free framework that you can use to create unambiguous brand color guides without any licensing fees. They have a tutorial online. What Do You Think? What do you think of all this? Does this news affect you a lot or not so much? Will you switch to another color book such as TruMatch? Will this give Affinity or Quark the lead in the industry? Affinity charges a one-time fee, no subscription. Right now, they are offering all three of their apps for \$99.99. Again, that's a one-time fee! And for Quark XPress? That was my go-to before InDesign. I hated Adobe PageMaker, so I wasn't looking forward to switching to it if it was going to be anything like PageMaker. They said InDesign would be the Quark killer, and it was. So I wonder if all this will be the nail in the coffin for Adobe. I also wonder how printers will be affected by this. Let me know your thoughts. Be sure to check out the show notes for links to the tools and articles I mentioned. Please share it if this was helpful to you. American company known for its color system This article is about the corporation and its color space. For other uses, see Pantone (disambiguation). Pantone LLC Founder Lawrence Herbert Headquarters Carlsbad, New Jersey Pantone X-Rite Website www.pantone.com Pantone LLC (stylized as PANTONE) is an American limited liability company headquartered in Carlsbad, New Jersey. [1] and best known for its Pantone Matching System (PMS), a proprietary color order system used in a variety of industries, notably graphic design, fashion design, product design, printing, and manufacturing and supporting the management of color from design to production, in physical and digital formats, among coated and uncoated materials: cotton, polyester, nylon and plastics, X-Rite, a supplier of color measurement instruments and software, purchased Pantone for US\$180 million in October 2007. [2] and was itself acquired by Danaher Corporation in 2012. [3] At the end of September 2023, Danaher spun-off its Environmental and Applied Solutions segment as Veritato Corporation. [4] Pantone began in New Jersey in the 1950s as the commercial printing company of brothers Mervin and Jesse Levine, M & J Levine Advertising. [5] [6] In 1956, its founders, both advertising executives, hired recent Hofstra University graduate Lawrence Herbert as a part-time employee. Herbert used his chemistry knowledge to systematize and simplify the company's stock of pigments and production of colored inks; by 1962, Herbert was running the ink and printing division at a profit, while the commercial division was US\$50,000 in debt; he subsequently purchased the company's technological assets from the Levine Brothers' US\$50,000 (equivalent to \$520,000 in 2024) and renamed them "Pantone." [7] The company's primary products include the Pantone Guide, which consists of a large number of small (approximately 62 inches/155cm) that cardboard or plastic sheet, printed on one side with a series of related color swatches and then bound into a small fan deck. [8] For instance, a particular "page" may contain several yellows of varying tints. [8] The idea behind the PMS is to allow designers to "color match" specific colors when a design enters production stage, regardless of the equipment used to produce the color. This system has been widely adopted by graphic designers and reproducers and is used in almost all of their color books. [9] Pantone's color matching system is based on the CMYK color model, while their color books use the RGB color model. [10] Pantone's color matching system is based on the CMYK color model, while their color books use the RGB color model. [11] Pantone's color matching system is based on the CMYK color model, while their color books use the RGB color model. [12] Pantone's color matching system is based on the CMYK color model, while their color books use the RGB color model. [13] Pantone's color matching system is based on the CMYK color model, while their color books use the RGB color model. [14] Pantone's color matching system is based on the CMYK color model, while their color books use the RGB color model. [15] Pantone's color matching system is based on the CMYK color model, while their color books use the RGB color model. 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