

PROBLEM:

Scanned Images Display with Moire, Screen, Plaid Pattern, or blotches in Photoshop

This occurs because previously printed material (i.e., a picture from a magazine, book, brochure, newsletter, poster) has already been broken up into a halftone pattern for reproduction. Because scanners convert light and dark areas into a dot pattern, or halftone, creating a dot pattern of areas that are already dot patterns produces a moiré pattern.

Adobe's website (about Photoshop v. 3) posted this assortment of options. Experiment and see which works best for you.

Solution 1 Rescan the image from original artwork or photographs rather than a reproduction (e.g., a halftone).

Solution 2 To minimize the moiré pattern, try rescanning the image, using a scanner that has a descreening option. Try variations on the descreen settings. *NOTE: Minimizing the moiré pattern may decrease the image's detail.*

Note: Solutions 3 and 4 are very similar. The difference is in the order you perform the steps. Sometimes this can result in a better finished image. It depends entirely on the image.

Experiment with which one is best for your particular purposes.

Solution 3

Rescan the image at twice the resolution, use Photoshop's Gaussian Blur filter to reduce the moiré pattern, resample the image, then use the Unsharp Mask filter:

1. Scan the image at twice the recommended resolution.
2. With the image open in Photoshop, select Filter > Blur > Gaussian Blur.
3. Select Preview in the Gaussian Blur dialog box, then move the slider under Radius until the moiré pattern disappears or is acceptably decreased.
4. Select Image > Image Size and resample the image to your preferred resolution.
5. Select Filter > Sharpen > Unsharp Mask.
6. Select Preview in the Unsharp Mask dialog box and move the Amount, Radius, and Threshold sliders to regain sharpness in the image.

Solution 4

Rescan the image at twice the resolution, resample the image, use Photoshop's Gaussian Blur filter to reduce the moiré pattern, then use the Unsharp Mask filter:

1. Scan the image at twice the recommended resolution.
2. Select Image > Image Size and resample the image to your preferred resolution.
3. With the image open in Photoshop, select Filter > Blur > Gaussian Blur.
4. Select Preview in the Gaussian Blur dialog box then move the slider under Radius until the moiré pattern disappears or is acceptably decreased.
5. Select Filter > Sharpen > Unsharp Mask.
6. Select Preview in the Unsharp Mask dialog box and move the Amount, Radius, and Threshold sliders to regain sharpness in the image.