

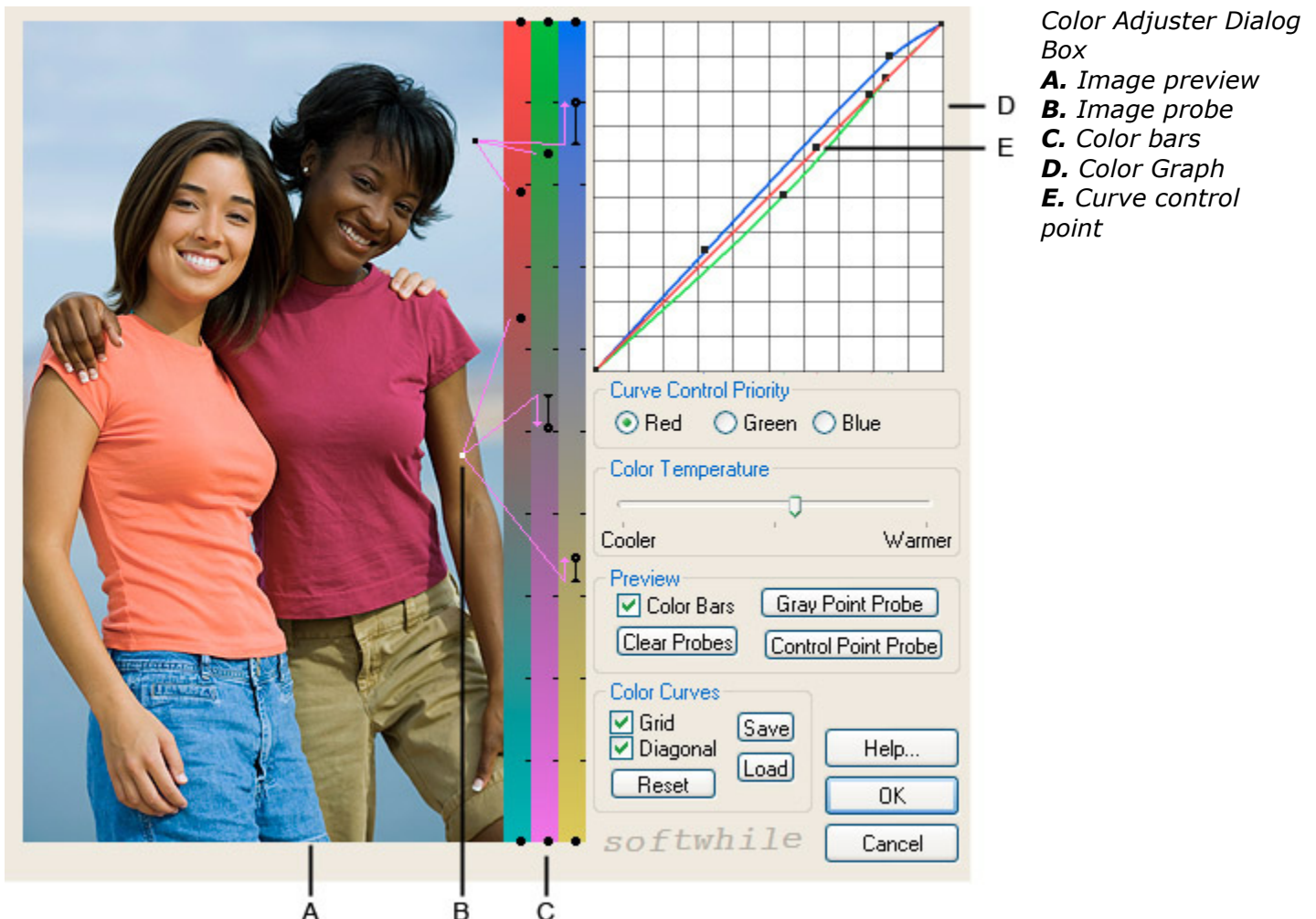
Controlling Image Color with the Color Adjuster Plug-in

Before making color adjustments

Here are a few to consider before making color adjustments using the Color Adjuster plug-in in Photoshop.

- Work with calibrated and profiled monitor. For critical image editing, this is absolutely essential to keep what's seen on the monitor and what's printed the same.
- It's best if the image is 16 bits per channel (16-bit image) rather than 8 bits per channel (8-bit image). The loss of image information when making color changes is more critical in an 8-bit image than a 16-bit image.
- Remove any flaws such as dust spots, blemishes, noise, and scratches from the image before making color adjustments.
- Using the dodging tool on dark area, and the burning tool on light areas is often best done before adjusting the color to reduce the loss of detail in those areas.
- You can make a selection or use a mask to confine your color adjustments to part of an image.

The Dialog Box



When the plug-in is invoked, the color channel range is represented as a straight diagonal line. The

horizontal axis of the graph represents the original channel intensity of the pixels and the vertical axis represents the new intensity value.

Moving a control point above the diagonal will cause pixels with the corresponding color channel value to become more intense, and moving it below the diagonal will make them less intense.

If the Color Bars are visible, a control point can be dragged left or right (down or up for a portrait image) to change the color channel intensity.

How to...

How to add a control point in a color curve.

- Click directly on the color curve in the curve graph, or
- Click the Control Point Probe button, then click on the preview image, or
- Shift-click on the preview image.

How to add a control point in a color curve that is hidden behind another color curve.

- Use the Curve Control Priority setting to put the color you want 'on top'.

How to color correct using a gray point in the image.

- Click the Gray Probe Button, then click on the gray spot in the preview image, or
- Ctrl-click on the gray spot in the preview image.

How to remove a control point

- Right-click on the control point in the curve graph, or
- Right-click on the control point in the color bar, or
- Clicking the *Reset* button will remove all control points.

How to remove image probes

- Right-click on the probe point in the image preview, or
- Click on the *Clear Probes* button to remove all probes.

How to maintain the color of one area of the image while changing others

Before adding any control points to the curve, add a control probe at spot you want to maintain. Keep these control points on the diagonal while adding and moving other control points.