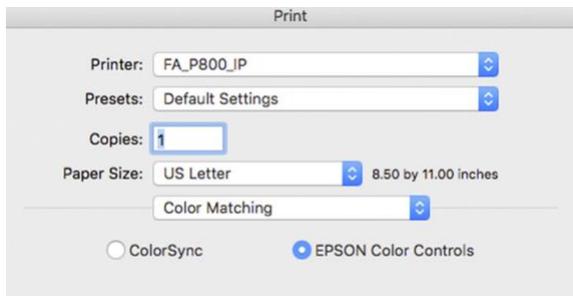


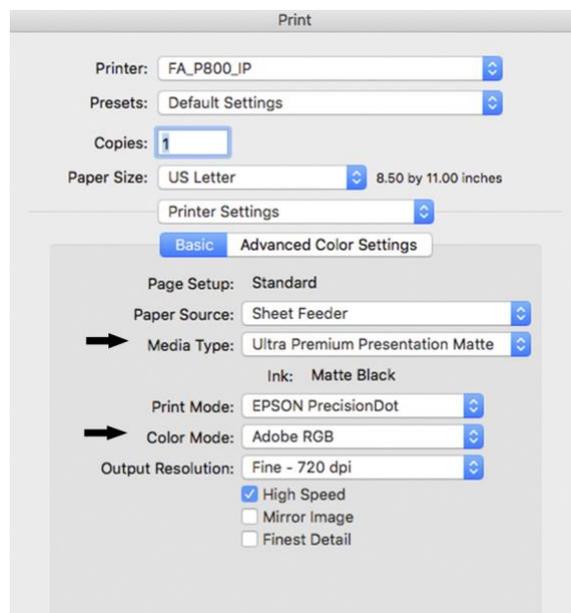
Printing Fine Art Papers in an Inkjet Printer

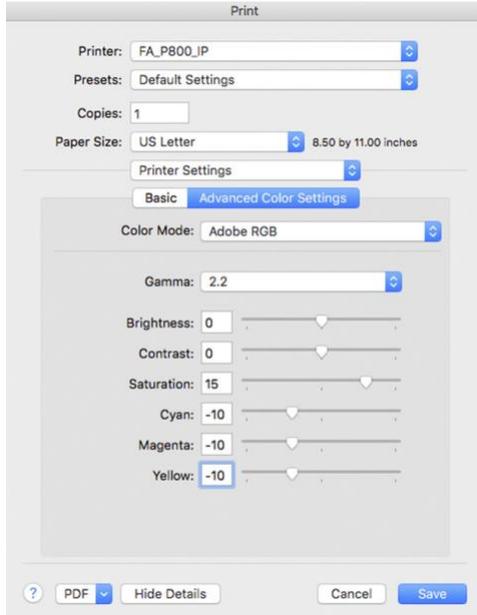
Fine Art and watercolor papers have been specially treated or "sized" (usually with starch or gelatin) to help reduce dot gain (wicking of the ink through the cellulose cotton fibers). The sizing greatly reduces dot gain, but it will not totally eliminate it, as a coated paper will -- but then a coating would also take away the texture and beauty of a watercolor paper. Without a coating, you'll have trouble getting the rich blacks you would on a glossy coated inkjet paper. And even with the sizing, you'll still experience about a 15% dot gain with most watercolor papers. This dot gain will cause your prints to look a little dark, muddy and flat in contrast. Your shadows or dark areas of an image will often get even darker. You can greatly minimize the affects of dot gain by following these steps (the following steps are customized for Somerset Velvet but should work as a starting point with all of our watercolor papers):

1. Choose "Print" in the "File" menu. The print window will appear. Under "Color Management" set to Printer Manages Colors.
2. Select "Print Settings" and go down one line to "Color Matching". Select Epson Color Controls in this window then Click on Color Matching to go down to the Print Settings line.



3. Select "Matte Paper" from the "Media Type". This setting produces the best separation of tones for most watercolor papers. Next to "Color Mode", choose "Adobe RGB" Check 720 or 1440 resolution. High Speed is fine to be on. Next select Advanced Color Settings tab which is right below and to the right of Printer Settings.





4. Do not adjust the "Brightness (leave at "0"). Do not adjust the "Contrast" slider (leave at "0"). Contrast can be adjusted later if desired. Move the "Saturation" slider anywhere from a +5 to a +25 (I suggest starting at a +15). Increasing the saturation reduces the volume of ink going to the "Black" ink nozzles. Move the "Cyan" slider anywhere from a -5 to a -20 (I suggest starting with a -10). Move the "Magenta" and "Yellow" sliders to the same value as you have given the "Cyan". You have now reduced the volume of cyan, magenta and yellow ink going to those nozzles. This reduction in ink volume will help to reduce the effects of dot gain.

Click on the "Save" button; the window will close, and you will be back to the main print window; and you can now click the "Print" button.

You also have the option of saving the settings from the previous window (once you find a combination that works for your watercolor or printmaking paper).

From the Presets menu select "Save Preset". I've named mine Fine Art Paper but you might want to name it with the brand name and surface of your paper if you've made fine adjustments from my general suggestions.

