Colour Management

It is important to remember that your camera and computer don't know which colours are in your images. They rely on numbers to accurately describe colour.

Colours are defined using numbers:

- CMYK (Cyan, Magenta, Yellow, Black) using %
- RGB (Red, Green, Blue) using numbers ranging from 0 (min.) to 255 (max.)

Remember: the colour that these numbers describe depends on the profile they relate to.

What is this colour?

= **R46 G240 B255** using the colour profile Adobe RGB (1998)

Colour Profile

Colour Profile = the full range or gamut relating to a particular device or standard.

Gamut = the full range or compass of something; a range from one extreme to the other.

Different colour profiles will give you different colours because they interpret them differently - this is because certain numbers/colours are out-of-gamut:
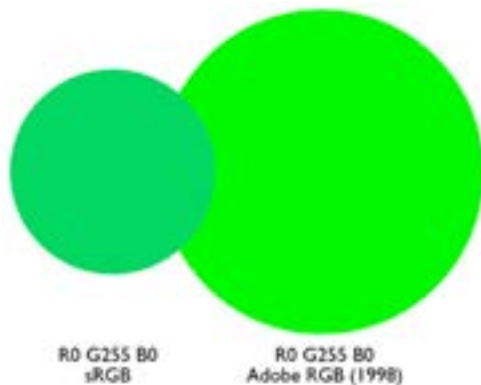
Colour profile:
Adobe RGB (1998)

Colour profile:
sRGB

Maintaining colour

As you can see, different colour profiles will interpret colour in different ways.

R0 G255 B0
sRGB

R0 G255 B0
Adobe RGB (1998)

What colour profile should you use?

On your camera: you should have the colour space on your camera set to Adobe RGB (1998)

On your computer: you should have the colour space on your computer set to Adobe RGB (1998)

Do this by going to **Edit > Colour Settings** and make sure that the RGB colour space is set to Adobe RGB (1998).

Displaying images online?

While it would seem that you should use the colour space Adobe RGB (1998) for everything, unfortunately this isn't the case:

- For print files you should use Adobe RGB (1998)
- But internet browsers do not recognise this colour profile, so if you're displaying images online you should use the colour profile sRGB.