

Adobe® Customer Support

Cannot Move Palettes or Select Tools Using Mouse in Photoshop

Issue

Unable to move palettes, select tools (e.g., marquee, gradient, smudge, brush, line), make selections with the marquee or lasso tool, or paint a stroked line (a dotted line is painted instead) in Adobe Photoshop 3.0 or later.

Solutions

Try one or more of the following:

- A. Unswap the left and right mouse buttons:
 1. Open the Windows Control Panel, located in the Main group of Program Manager.
 2. Double-click on the Mouse icon.
 3. Deselect “Swap Left/Right buttons,” then click “OK.”

- B. When using a third-party mouse driver that uses its own switches for swapping the mouse buttons, unswap the left and right mouse button in their mouse driver rather than in the Windows Control Panel.

- C. Hold down both right and left mouse buttons at the same time while moving palettes, selecting tools, making selections, or painting stroked lines.

Additional Information

Swapping the left and right mouse buttons may cause a conflict between the video driver and mouse driver that prevents you from being able to move palettes, select tools, or make selections with the mouse, or paint stroked lines correctly in Photoshop 3.0.x when the mouse buttons are swapped. Resetting the mouse buttons to the defaults allows you to use your mouse as expected.

