Troubleshooting Q & A

My input and output pictures look the same. Smoothie didn't seem to smooth my picture at all.

Check to see if your picture is made up of only bitmaps. If so, Smoothie can't smooth it unless you reduce it in size. Smoothie requires your picture to be made up of objects such as lines, curves, ovals, text, and so on.

Parts of my picture were smoothed, but other parts of it are still jagged.

Check for bitmapped objects in your original picture. Unless you are reducing the size of your picture, bitmapped objects are not smoothed.

Check for gradient fills of nonrectangular objects and rotated text. These are often exported by drawing applications at 72 dpi resolution. You need to use the Oversized Picture technique described in "Advanced Techniques" on page38 of this user's guide for these to smooth properly.

Smoothie is taking forever to process my pictures.

Check to make sure Smoothie has a much memory as you can spare for it. Smoothie will operate significantly faster the more memory you give it. To find out how much memory is available on your system and how much memory Smoothie has allocated to it, choose About This Macintosh… from the ⛰ menu in the Finder while Smoothie is running.

You increase the memory used by Smoothie by selecting the Smoothie icon in the Finder, selecting Get Info from the File menu, and changing the current size in the memory area of the Smoothie Info dialog box.

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If you have a particularly complex drawing, one that takes a measurable amount of time to draw on the screen, Smoothie will take a long time to process it since Smoothie has to repeatedly draw it many times to process the entire picture. Try giving Smoothie more memory as just described.

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Make sure that you only have one Smoothie document open at a time. Each document consumes valuable memory and you can make best use of memory by closing any other document windows you may have open.

My text looks different in Smoothie than it does in my original picture.

Make sure that the application you used to create the picture is using Fractional Fonts. This is

often a preference that can be selectively enabled or disabled. Smoothie always has Fractional Fonts enabled.

My text is positioned slightly differently in the input picture than in the output picture.

Smoothie draws your picture four times larger than the original while processing it. Some fonts do not scale exactly four times when they are drawn four times larger. This leads to slight changes in positioning of certain characters.

If precise placement of your text is important to you, you can use the Oversized Picture technique described in the "Advanced Techniques" section of this user's guide. View your original picture at 100%, not reduced 25%, to see exactly where your text will be in the output picture in Smoothie.

My colors turned out differently than in the original picture when using 256 colors.

Check the palette used to create the original picture. Smoothie uses the system palette when processing pictures using 256 or 16 colors and if you used a color that is not available in the system palette, Smoothie will map your color to the closest one it can find in the system palette.

A related effect can be seen when you have dithering enabled. A solid color will sometimes come out dithered because the original color is not available in the system palette and Smoothie approximates it using dithering.

The pictures I produce in Smoothie seem to draw slowly when I use it.

Check to see if you created the picture with When Displayed selected in the Dithering area of the Settings dialog box. Pictures produced with this setting will often draw more slowly than the same picture created without it.

I ran my presentation through Smoothie and it is much larger now than the original.

Smoothie produces bitmapped pictures as its output. Your original presentation undoubtedly used object-based pictures, rather than bitmaps for each slide. Bitmapped pictures can take considerably more space than object-based pictures.

An excellent way to reduce the size of Smoothie SlideShows is to use QuickTime to compress each picture. See "Smoothie and QuickTime" and "Smoothie SlideShows" for details on how to do this.