



Visibility

The `visibility` property is used to make an entire element invisible.

visibility

Values: `visible` | `hidden` | `collapse` | `inherit`

Initial value: `visible`

Applies to: All elements

Inherited: Yes

Obviously, if the value of `visibility` is `visible` (the default), the element will be visible. When it is set to `hidden`, the element is invisible, but it maintains its spot in the document flow; you just can't see it. This makes it distinctly different from `display: none`, which removes the element from of the document flow completely and closes up the space it once occupied.

In this example, an inline text element is hidden (Figure 21-13). It is easy to see that the space for its element box is preserved. Notice also that all aspects of the element (including its content, background, and border) are invisible as well.

```
span.a {background-color:#CCCCC; border: 1px solid #000; visibility:  
visible;}  
span.b {background-color:#CCCCC; border: 1px solid #000; visibility:  
hidden;}
```