

# Layers

(mPDF >= 5.7)

CSS "z-index" can be used to utilise layers in the PDF document.

CSS can set the z-index for any block element or image (default = 0). This does not work on block elements with fixed or absolute position.

## Set the Initial state for each layer

You can set initial state="hidden" for a specific z-index (z), and/or specify a display name for the Layer e.g.

```
$mpdf->layerDetails[z]['state']='hidden';    // Set initial state of layer - "hidden" or nothing
```

```
$mpdf->layerDetails[z]['name']='Correct Answers';
```

- where z= the z-index (set by CSS)

Note:

- Using layers automatically changes the resulting PDF document to PDF 1.5 version (which is incompatible with PDF/A and PDF/X in mPDF).
- You cannot nest layers - inner values will be ignored

## Display the Layers pane in PDF document viewer

`$mpdf->open_layer_pane` (set by default as `$this->open_layer_pane=false` in `config.php`) can be set to open the layers pane in the browser when the document is opened.

```
$mpdf->open_layer_pane = true;
```

## Set Programmatically

If you are writing the PDF document using functions other than `WriteHTML()`, you can set the layers as follows:

```
$mpdf->BeginLayer($z-index);  
...  
$mpdf->EndLayer();
```

## Reserved Layer Names

mPDF automatically adds layer names for visibility: "Print only", "Screen only", and "Hidden"; these only show when utilised.

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