

Table layout

mPDF will attempt to layout tables using the same algorithm recommended by the HTML specifications (see Auto-layout algorithm). However, the constraints of fitting content to the page size means that the recommended algorithm has to be altered.

In general, mPDF places more priority on producing a pleasing, efficiently laid out table than it does on respecting defined values e.g. `<table width="300px">` or `<td width="30%">`

If the result is not what you want, consider using some of the following to control the layout:

- change the maximum shrinkage factor allowed for an individual table e.g. `<table autosize="1.6">`
- prevent an individual table from resizing e.g. `<table autosize="1">`
- prevent all tables from resizing: `$mpdf->shrink_tables_to_fit=1;`
- non-breaking spaces ` `;
- `<td nowrap="nowrap">`
- `<td style="white-space:nowrap">`
- `<td style="width: 33%">`
- `<td style="width: 5cm">`
- `<table style="page-break-inside:avoid">` to force the table onto one page.
- `<table style="overflow: visible|hidden|wrap">` to control wide tables or tables with specific widths specified

Overriding the Auto- Layout

Other methods to override the default layout algorithm.

\$keep_table_proportions

If the table width is set greater than the page width allows, mPDF will by default ignore any defined sizes and attempt to auto-layout the table to the page width. This will result in relative column widths etc. being lost.

If you wish to maintain the relative proportions of the table, set *\$keep_table_proportions* = **TRUE**; this forces the table to be resized, but keep relative proportions. NB It also forces respect of cell widths set by %

\$ignore_table_percents

Table and cell widths set as a percent value are respected when possible by mPDF - as long as the table layout meets the other constraints. This can lead to an ugly or inefficiently laid out table for a printed document. Setting *\$ignore_table_percents* = **TRUE**; will force mPDF to ignore any table or cell widths set as percent values.

\$ignore_table_width

Table widths set as absolute length values are respected when possible by mPDF - as long as the table layout meets the other constraints. This can lead to an ugly or inefficiently laid out table for a printed document. Setting *\$ignore_table_width* = **TRUE**; will force mPDF to ignore any table widths set as absolute length values.

\$tableMinSizePriority

If there is a conflict between respecting *page-break-inside:avoid* and respecting the maximum value allowed for *autosize*, the configurable variable *tableMinSizePriority* will determine which factor takes priority. (mPDF v>=4.6)