



year 4  
2013  
project

# Minimal Visual Elements Library

# Description

**Minimal Visual Elements Library (MVEL)** is a very generic interactive structures and information displaying library released under the MIT license.

This means it aims to satisfy simple needs related to construct and show structured information (such as really simple diagramming) in an interactive manner. For this, it provides area containers and elements that are extendable and customizable.

Basing on top of JQuery UI and smart custom-made specific functionality, all of the provided elements are persistable, draggable and resizable HTML4 DOM elements.

Also, it allows you to lock any of the elements in it's current size and position and/or remove them just by accesing the menu that appears when mouse is over (you can add custom options to the menu in your extensions).

As an example of it's extensible nature, it is provided the Label element (which btw it's draggable but not resizable).

In the demo included you can check the basic functionality including some customizations to create special containers (Box, Frame, Section, Zone, etc).

Check the demo, it's easier to get the idea just by seeing mvel in action.

And to get a full list of routines provided by **MVEL**, just check the [API](#) section of this documentation.

The project page is: <http://coderesearchlabs.com/mvel>

## NOTES:

- JQuery and JQuery UI must be present to get it working.
- All of it's source code is in strict-mode.
- It includes 1 demo.
- It has been tested in all major browsers (Internet Explorer, Chrome, Firefox, Opera and Safari) with expected results.

Enjoy,  
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**MVEL** offers the following public members to work with:

### *General*

```
newArea(parent, id)
newAreaContainer(area, top, left, height, width, id)
newAreaElement(area, kind, id)

changeContainerContent(element, content)
changeElementParent(element, newParent)

runArea(area)
runAreaElement(area, element)
```

### *Z-Order*

```
bringElementToFront(element)
sendElementToBack(element)
```

### *Internationalization*

```
setStrings(customStrings)
```

### *Serialization*

```
serializeArea(area)
deserializeArea(parent, serializedArea)
```

# License

Minimal Visual Elements Library

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# Tools

In the development of **Minimal Visual Elements Library** the following tools were specifically involved:

for source code minifying  
**Douglas Crockford's JSMIn**  
<https://github.com/douglascrockford/JSMin>

When working at **Code Research Laboratories** the following tools are used:

in the test management field  
**Gurock Software's TestRail**  
<http://www.gurock.com/testrail/>

in the version control field  
**VisualSVN Ltd's VisualSVN**  
<http://www.visualsvn.com/>

in the similarity analysing field  
**RedHill Consulting's Simian**  
<http://www.redhillconsulting.com.au/products/simian/>

in the application lifecycle management field  
**Inedo's BuildMaster**  
<http://www.inedo.com/buildmaster/>

in the documentation field  
**EC Software's Help & Manual**  
[http://www.ec-software.com/products\\_hm\\_overview.html](http://www.ec-software.com/products_hm_overview.html)

in the Java source code edition field  
**JetBrains's IntelliJ IDEA**  
<http://www.jetbrains.com/idea/>

in the bug tracking field  
**JetBrains's YouTrack**  
<http://www.jetbrains.com/youtrack/>

# History

DATE	DESCRIPTION
2013.03.28	initial development
2013.05.25	first public release
2013.06.01	implemented onEnter and onLeave events added explicit z-order management support (bringElementToFront and sendElementToBack methods, and "to front" and "to back" menu items) added basic internationalization support (now menu strings are customizable) improved documentation