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# z-index

The **z-index** CSS property sets the z-order of a positioned element and its descendants or flex items. Overlapping elements with a larger z-index cover those with a smaller one.

## CSS Demo: z-index

Reset

`z-index: auto;``z-index: 1;``z-index: 3;``z-index: 5;``z-index: 7;``z-index: 6``z-index: 4``z-index: 2`

Change my z-index

`z-index: auto``z-index: auto``z-index: auto`

For a positioned box (that is, one with any position other than static), the `z-index` property specifies:

1. The stack level of the box in the current stacking context.
2. Whether the box establishes a local stacking context.

## Syntax [↗](#)

```
/* Keyword value */
```

```
z-index: auto;
```

```
/* <integer> values */
```

```
z-index: 0;
```

```
z-index: 3;  
z-index: 289;  
z-index: -1; /* Negative values to lower the priority */  
  
/* Global values */  
z-index: inherit;  
z-index: initial;  
z-index: unset;
```

The `z-index` property is specified as either the keyword `auto` or an `<integer>`.

## Values [↗](#)

### **auto**

The box does not establish a new local stacking context. The stack level of the generated box in the current stacking context is the same as its parent's box.

### **<integer>**

This `<integer>` is the stack level of the generated box in the current stacking context. The box also establishes a local stacking context in which its stack level is `0`. This means that the `z-indexes` of descendants are not compared to the `z-indexes` of elements outside this element.

## Formal syntax [↗](#)

`auto` | `<integer>`

## Examples [↗](#)

### HTML [↗](#)

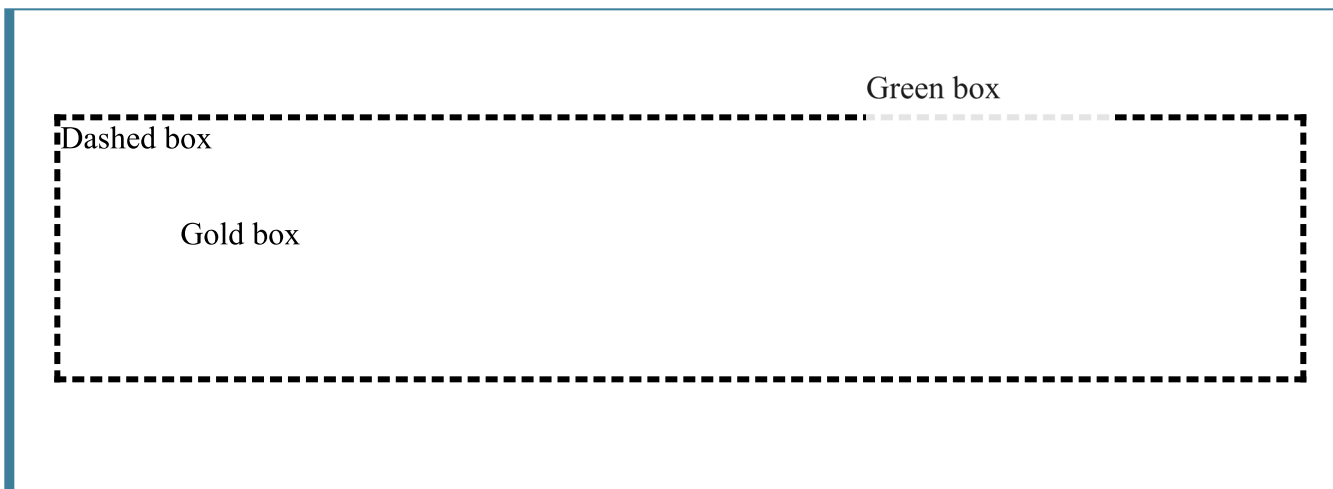
```
1 <div class="dashed-box">Dashed box  
2   <span class="gold-box">Gold box</span>  
3
```

```
4 | <span class="green-box">Green box</span>
   | </div>
```

## CSS

```
1 | .dashed-box {
2 |     position: relative;
3 |
4 |     border: dashed;
5 |
6 |     height: 8em;
7 |     margin-bottom: 1em;
8 |     margin-top: 2em;
9 | }
10 |
11 | .gold-box {
12 |     z-index: 3; /* put .gold-box above .green-box and .dashed-box */
13 |     background: gold;
14 |     width: 80%;
15 |     left: 60px;
16 |     top: 3em;
17 | }
18 |
19 | .green-box {
20 |     z-index: 2; /* put .green-box above .dashed-box */
21 |     background: lightgreen;
22 |     width: 20%;
23 |     left: 65%;
24 |     top: -25px;
25 |     height: 7em;
26 |     opacity: 0.9;
27 | }
```

## Result



## Specifications [↗](#)

Specification	Status	Comment
<b>CSS Transitions</b> The definition of 'animation behavior for z-index' in that specification.	<b>WD</b> Working Draft	Defines z-index as animatable.
<b>CSS Level 2 (Revision 1)</b> The definition of 'z-index' in that specification.	<b>REC</b> Recommendation	Initial definition

<b>Initial value</b>	auto
<b>Applies to</b>	positioned elements
<b>Inherited</b>	no
<b>Media</b>	visual
<b>Computed value</b>	as specified
<b>Animation type</b>	an integer
<b>Canonical order</b>	the unique non-ambiguous order defined by the formal grammar
<b>Creates stacking</b>	yes

# Browser compatibility

[Update compatibility data on GitHub](#)

## Basic support

Chrome	1
Edge	12
Firefox	1
IE	4
Opera	4
Safari	1
WebView Android	Yes
Chrome Android	Yes
Edge Mobile	Yes
Firefox Android	4
Opera Android	Yes
Safari iOS	Yes
Samsung Internet Android	Yes

## Negative values

Chrome	1
Edge	12
Firefox	3
IE	4
Opera	4

Safari	1
WebView Android	Yes
Chrome Android	Yes
Edge Mobile	Yes
Firefox Android	Yes
Opera Android	Yes
Safari iOS	Yes
Samsung Internet Android	Yes

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Full support

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## See also

- [CSS position property](#)
- [Understanding CSS z-indexes](#)