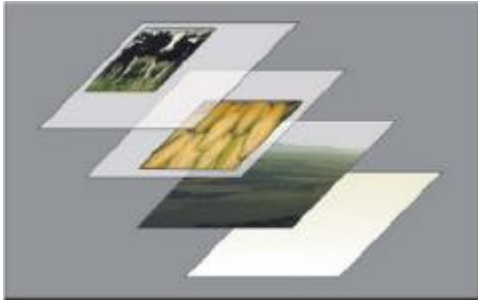


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## About Photoshop layers

1. Photoshop layers are like sheets of stacked acetate. You can see through transparent areas of a layer to the layers below. You move a layer to position the content on the layer, like sliding a sheet of acetate in a stack. You can also change the opacity of a layer to make content partially transparent.



Transparent areas on a layer let you see layers below.

2. You use layers to perform tasks such as compositing multiple images, adding text to an image, or adding vector graphic shapes. You can apply a layer style to add a special effect such as a drop shadow or a glow.

See [Use layers to build images](#) for an overview on working with Layers.

## Organizing Photoshop layers

1. A new image has a single layer ('Background' layer – restrictions on what you can do with 'Background' layer). The number of additional layers, layer effects, and layer sets you can add to an image is limited only by your computer's memory.
2. You work with layers in the Layers panel.
3. *Layer groups* help you organize and manage layers. You can use groups to arrange your layers in a logical order and to reduce clutter in the Layers panel.
4. You can nest groups within other groups.
5. You can also use groups to apply attributes and masks to multiple layers simultaneously.

Learn some great tips for working with layers, see [Organize with layers and layer groups](#).

## Photoshop layers for non-destructive editing

1. Sometimes layers don't contain any apparent content. For example, an *adjustment* layer holds color or tonal adjustments

that affect the layers below it. Rather than edit image pixels directly, you can edit an adjustment layer and leave the underlying pixels unchanged.

2. A special type of layer, called a *Smart Object*, contains one or more layers of content. You can transform (scale, skew, or reshape) a Smart Object without directly editing image pixels. Or, you can edit the Smart Object as a separate image even after placing it in a Photoshop image. Smart Objects can also contain smart filter effects, which allow you to apply filters non-destructively to images so that you can later tweak or remove the filter effect. See [Nondestructive editing](#) and [Work with Smart Objects](#).