

STACKING ELEMENTS

The multiple elements can occupy the same space in the document, one is considered to be on top and is displayed. The top element hides the parts of the lower elements on which it is imposed. When multiple elements occupy the same space on the document, then comes the question of which element is to be placed on the top of other elements. So for this we have to consider the third dimension of the document. Although the display is restricted to two dimensions, the effect of the third dimension is possible through the concept of stacked element. The placement of element in this third dimension is controlled by the z-index attribute of element. An element whose z-index is greater than that of element in the same space will be displayed over the other element, effectively hiding the element with smaller z-index value. The JavaScript property associated with the z-index attribute is `zIndex`.

In the following example, three images are placed on the display so that they overlap. In XHTML description of this, each image tag includes an `onclick` attribute, which is used to trigger the execution of JavaScript handler function. First the function defines DOM addresses the last top element and the new top element. Then the function sets the `zIndex` value of the two elements so that the old top element has the value of 0 and the new top element has the value 10, effectively putting it at the top. The script keeps track of which image is currently on top with the global variable `top`, which is changed every time a new element is moved to the top with the `toTop` function.

This example displays all 3 overlapping images. Whenever user clicks on the particular image, that image will be displayed on top of other two images.

```
<?xml version = "1.0" encoding = "utf-8"?>
<!DOCTYPE html PUBLIC "-//w3c//DTD XHTML 1.1//EN"
  "http://www.w3.org/TR/xhtml11/DTD/xhtml11.dtd">
  <html xmlns = "http://www.w3.org/1999/xhtml">
<!-- satck.html -->
```

```

<head>
<title> Dynamic stacking of images </title>
<script type = "text/javascript">
  var top = "i1";
  function toTop(newTop) {
    domTop = document.getElementById(top).style;
    domNew = document.getElementById(newTop).style;
    domTop.zIndex = "0";
    domNew.zIndex = "10";
    top = newTop;
  }
</script>

<style type = "text/css">
  .img1 {position: absolute; top: 0; left: 0; z-index: 0;}
  .img2 {position: absolute; top: 50px; left: 110px; z-index: 0;}
  .img3 {position: absolute; top: 100px; left: 220px; z-index: 0;} </style>
</head>
<body>
<p> <img class = "img1" id = "i1" src = "image1.jpg" onclick =
"toTop('i1')" />
  <img class = "img2" id = "i2" src = "image2.jpg" onclick =
"toTop('i2')" />
  <img class = "img3" id = "i3" src = "image3.jpg" onclick =
"toTop('i3')" />
</p>
</body>
</html>

```

Source : <http://elearningatria.files.wordpress.com/2013/10/cse-vii-programming-the-web-10cs73-notes.pdf>