

Layer

A layer is a special container that always fills its parent, usually the page. Use layers to organize a page into stacked planes, such as a background, zones, and widgets, that you can show, hide, lock, or scale separately.

Layers differ from [groups](#) in these ways:

- A layer is always 100% of the width and height of its parent, and uses absolute layout. You can't move, resize, rotate, or style it, so the Position and Size, Transform, Fill and Stroke, Corners, Effects, Callout, Layout, Scaling, and Repeater sections are not shown in the Property Inspector.
- A new layer has its **clickThrough** property (in the [Advanced Properties panel](#)) enabled, so empty areas of the layer don't block mouse events for the layers below it.
- A layer can't be inserted into another layer. If a layer is selected when you insert a layer, the new layer is added to the layer's parent.
- When you insert a component while a layer, or a component inside a layer, is selected, the component is added to that layer.
- Components can't be dragged from one layer to a sibling layer.
- In the [Outline](#), layers are shown with a layers icon instead of a preview.

The **File > New File from Template > Floor Plan** and **Equipment View** templates create pages that are made of layers.

For a detailed reference of properties that affect layers, see [Layer Properties](#).

Create a Layer

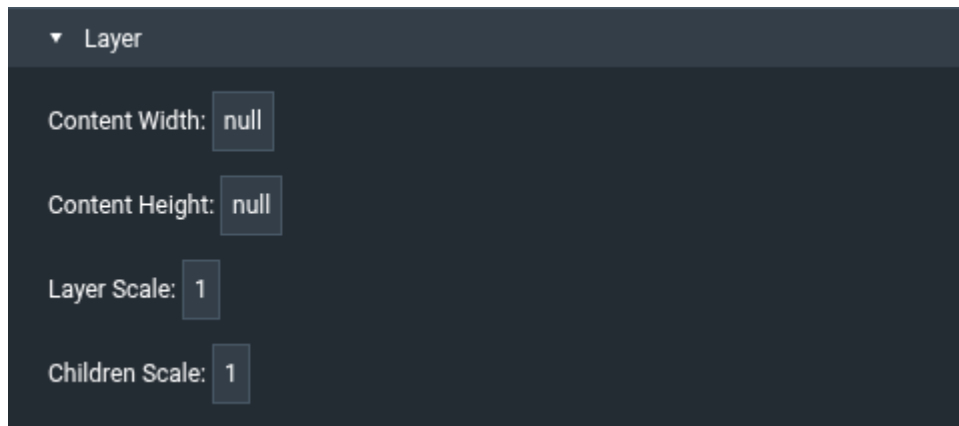
To create a layer:

1. In the [Outline](#) or [Document window](#), right-click the Stage and select **Insert > Components > Layer**.
2. Optionally, rename the layer in the Outline, for example Background or Widgets.
3. Select the layer, and insert or paste components. They are added to the selected layer.

The order of layers in the Outline determines which layer is drawn on top.

Layer Properties

These properties affect the layer component.



For a guide to using layers, see [Layer](#).

A layer always fills its parent, so the Position and Size, Transform, Fill and Stroke, Corners, Effects, Callout, Layout, Scaling, and Repeater sections are not shown for layers. The general properties, such as visibility, still apply. See [Common Properties](#).

Click to display/hide all elements

Content Width

The content width of the layer's parent (usually the page). Editing this value changes the **Content Width** [scaling property](#) of the parent, which is shared by all layers in that parent.

Content Height

The content height of the layer's parent (usually the page). Editing this value changes the **Content Height** [scaling property](#) of the parent, which is shared by all layers in that parent.

Layer Scale

Scales the whole layer and its content by setting the layer's **Scale X** and **Scale Y**. The default is 1. The minimum is 0.1. The layer size is adjusted so that the scaled layer still covers its parent. For example, at a scale of 2 the layer is 50% of the parent's size before scaling.

Children Scale

Sets the scale of every component in the layer. The default is 1. Changing this value in the Property Inspector sets **Scale X** and **Scale Y** of all components currently in the layer.

If the layer's **childrenScale** property is set (for example in the [Advanced Properties panel](#)), components that you insert into the layer also get that scale.

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