

Meaning of **layer** in English

layer

noun [C]

US  /'leɪ.ə/ UK  /'leɪ.əʃ/

layer **noun** [C] (MATERIAL)

Add to word list 

B2

a level of material, such as a type of rock or gas, that is different from the material above or below it, or a thin sheet of a substance:

- *the ozone layer*
- *A thick layer **of** clay lies over the sandstone.*
- *There was a **thin** layer **of** oil on the surface of the water.*
- *We stripped several layers **of** paint off the door.*

— Fewer examples

- *Cover the meat with a layer of cheese.*
- *Women have a layer of subcutaneous fat that provides them with better insulation than men.*
- *The eruption had covered the town with a fine layer of ash.*
- *A thick layer of dust had accumulated in the room.*
- *If the first layer isn't dry before you add the next one, the colors will run into each other .*



layer *noun* [C] (PEOPLE)

the group of people at a particular level in an organization:

- *We've cut the number of **management** layers from five to three.*

+ SMART Vocabulary: related words and phrases

layer *noun* [C] (HAIR)

▶ **layers**



[plural]

hair cut so that some top parts of the hair are shorter than the hair underneath, to give it a particular style:

- *I asked the hairdresser to put some layers in my hair.*

[See more](#)



layer

verb [T]





to arrange something in layers:

- *Layer the pasta **with** slices of tomato.*
- *potatoes layered with onions*



to cut hair so that some top parts of the hair are shorter than the hair underneath, to give it a particular style or shape:

- *Can you layer it a little at the front, please?*

+ SMART Vocabulary: related words and phrases

Related word

layered

(Definition of **layer** from the Cambridge Advanced Learner's Dictionary & Thesaurus © Cambridge University Press)

layer | INTERMEDIATE ENGLISH

layer

noun [C]

US  /'leɪ.ər/

Add to word list 

a **thin** sheet of a substance on top of a surface, or a level of material that is different from the material on either side:

- *We put on two layers of paint.*
- *The road was built up with layers of crushed stone and asphalt.*

layered

adjective US /'leɪ.ərd/



layer

verb [T]

US /'leɪ.ər/



to arrange something in layers:

- *Layer the pasta with slices of tomato.*

(Definition of **layer** from the Cambridge Academic Content Dictionary. © Cambridge University Press)

layer | BUSINESS ENGLISH

layer

noun [C]

UK /leɪə/ US

Add to word list

HR

the group of employees or managers at a particular level of responsibility in an organization:

- **layer of bureaucracy/management** *She argued that a joint governing board was a needless layer of bureaucracy.*
- *We've cut the number of **management layers** from five to three.*

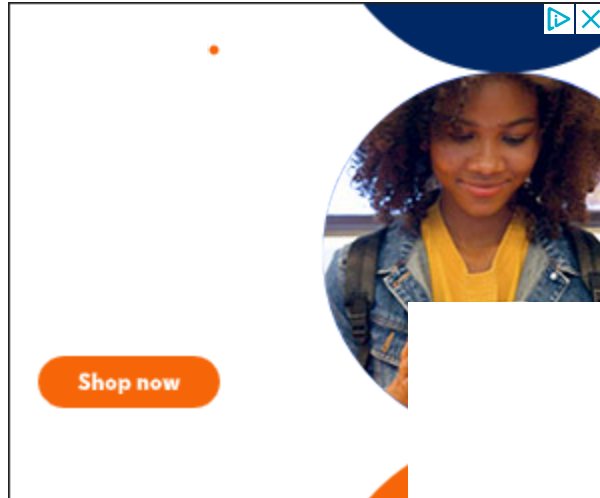


a thin sheet of a substance on top of a surface, or a level of material that is different from the material on either side:

- **layer of paint/soil/plastic, etc.** *The case was made of layers of plastic, paint, and titanium.*
- *a **protective/waterproof/insulating layer***



one of several related ways of thinking or doing something:



See also

[marzipan layer](#)

(Definition of **layer** from the [Cambridge Business English Dictionary](#) © Cambridge University Press)

EXAMPLES of **layer**

layer

Perhaps the most fascinating **thing** about the map is that there's no "base *layer*" tracing the outlines of countries or continents.

From [Slate Magazine](#)



But you also try to *layer* horror with metaphor and social significance.

From [Hollywood Reporter](#)



Without somebody like him to help to get us beyond that first *layer* of management and into the people themselves, it would not have happened.

From [Billboard](#)



Pour half of the soup mixture over the top, and then repeat the layers.

From [NPR](#)



Only a *layer* of clouds mars the scene.



There are different *layers* of meaning in the story.

From [ABC News](#)



Consider working up to this kind of walk by slowly taking off *layers* of clothing.

From [ABC News](#)



The book had become a palimpsest, meaning one *layer* of writing in effect being placed atop another.

From [Baltimore Sun](#)



Layer after *layer* of tandems unstacking until there's *nothing* left of the stack, until it melts away into *nothing*.

From [Slate Magazine](#)



Impact from the rain can also help seal the top *layer* of sediment.

From [Los Angeles Times](#)



I hadn't noticed because the child was wearing so many *layers* of clothing.

From [The Seattle Times](#)



And, between you and me, building the game *layer* on top of the world just seemed easier.

From [Huffington Post](#)



By increasing awareness of the coming game *layer*, we can and will leverage it to achieve great things.

From [Huffington Post](#)



Because rather than trafficking in social connections, the game *layer* will directly influence human behavior.

From [Huffington Post](#)



This *layer* shouldn't be any surprise at all.

From [Phys.Org](#)



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COLLOCATIONS with **layer**





These are words often used in combination with layer.

Click on a collocation to see more examples of it.

additional layer

- Yet there is an additional layer of meaning to these petitions.

From the *Cambridge English Corpus*



alternating layers

- The fronds are borne in flushes, with fertile and sterile fronds often in alternating layers.

From *Wikipedia*



atmospheric layer

- If this occurs simultaneously with the presence of a stable atmospheric layer above the mountain, vertical movement of the air is restricted.

From the *Cambridge English Corpus*



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See all collocations with layer

What is the pronunciation of *layer*?



Translations of **layer**

in Chinese (Traditional)

層, 塗層, (機構) 層次...

See more

in Chinese (Simplified)

层, 涂层, (机构) 层次...

See more

in Spanish

capa, poner a capas, capa [feminine...

See more

in Portuguese

in more languages

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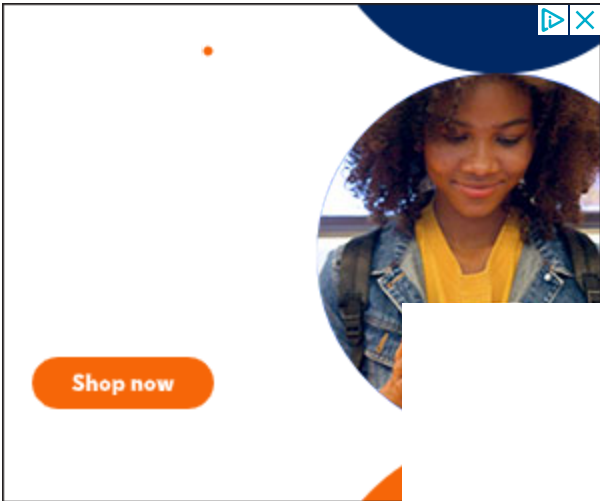
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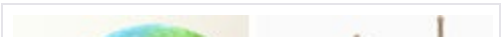
Translator tool

Browse

- lay yourself open to ridicule *idiom*
- lay-by
- layabout
- layaway
- layer**
- layer cake
- layered
- layering
- layers *phrase*



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More meanings of *layer*

— All

[ozone layer](#)

[base layer](#)

[layer cake](#)

[active layer](#)

[marzipan layer](#)

[palisade layer](#)

[Malpighian layer](#)

[See all meanings](#)



WORD OF THE DAY

imaginary

UK /ɪ'mædʒ.ɪ.nər.i/ US /ɪ'mædʒ.ə.nər.i/

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