# All about Layers

What are Layers?
A layer in a document can be considered as a sheet of film that is transparent and clear. Layers are also among the very integral parts of Photoshop. A Photoshop file can be made up of various independent layers that lie on top of each other. A layer can be simply understood as one image stacked on top of another. The layers can be independently edited. One can easily view the transparent areas of a layer to the layers below.
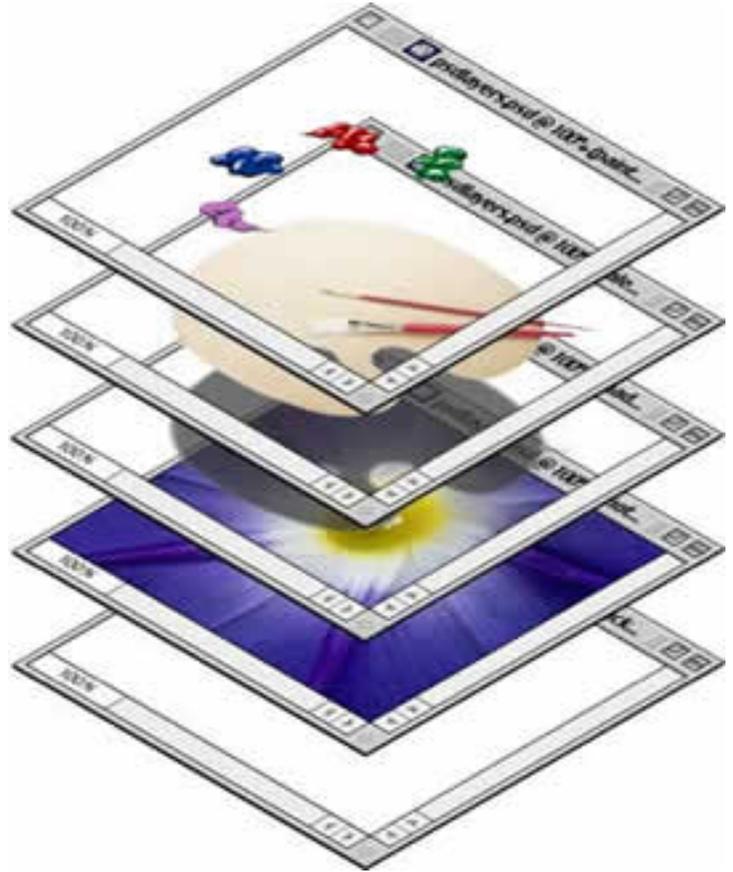
Types of Layers:
There are many types of layers, some are pieces of a final image, and some are shapes, text or lines. Some layers are automatically created when using a specific tool. It is important that you are always aware what layer you are working in.

❖ **Background layer** is the default layer containing the original image; it is a protected layer where many filters and effects cannot be applied. Additionally the background layer is locked in its position as the "background."

❖ **Image Layers** are layers that contain image information; all layers contain a preview of the content in that specific layer.

❖ **Adjustment Layers** are recommended when making color and tone adjustments to your images because they will not destroy the original image.

❖ **Text Layer** contain live type, the text can be edited and create in this layer using the "Type Tool."

❖ **Fill Layers** can contain solid colors, gradients or patterns.

❖ **Shape Layers** contain shapes drawn using the shape tool.