'background-color' (and related properties) on table elements are applied as if the table is made up of multiple layers. From back to front, the 'layers' are derived from: <CSS:table>; <CSS:table-column> with a 'number-columns-spanned' value greater than 1; <CSS:table-column> with a 'number-columns-spanned' value greater than 1; <CSS:table-column>; <CSS:table-header>, <CSS:table-body>, and <CSS:table-footer> (which do not overlap); <CSS:table-row>; and <CSS:table-cell>. A layer is visible only when all of the layers above it have a transparent background.

'background-color' is specified on most of the elements in the following table. Each element type has a different value. The property is omitted on some elements to allow the color from underlying layers to be seen. The <CSS:table-body> background is transparent to allow the background colors from <CSS:table> and <CSS:table-column> to be seen.

The background layers in this example are simulated using PDF layers. If you are viewing this in a PDF viewer that supports layers, you can enable and disable individual layers to see the effect of each one.

header R1C1		header R1C2	head	der R1C3	header R1C4
header R2C1		header R2C2	head	der R2C3	header R2C4
body R1C1		body R1C2	boo	dy R1C3	body R1C4
body R2C1		body R2C2	body R2C3		body R2C4
body R3C1		body R3C2-R4C3		body R3C4	
body R4C1				body R4C4	
body R5C1		body R5C2		body R5C4	
body R6C1				body R6C4	
footer R1C1		footer R1C2	footer R1C3		footer R1C4
footer R2C1		footer R2C2	footer R2C3		footer R2C4
CSS	Style	Applied to	CSS	Style	Applied to
	#FFFF99	$ \begin{array}{c ccccccccccccccccccccccccccccccccccc$	<tfoot></tfoot>	#D6C2FF	
<col/>	#FFC2A3			#CCDDFF	
<thead></thead>	#FFADC9			#D4FFFF	
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