

# Layouts - JPanel and Layouts

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A JPanel can be split into sections using a Layout model, Java provides several Layout Managers and the next slides will introduce some of them, later sections examine others.

The following are Layout Managers ...

Flow

Border

Box

Card

Grid

GridBag

Spring

Group

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Throughout this course the Developer will be encouraged to use JPanels to organise Components, this is because JPanels are regarded as the most suitable mid-level Container to use with Layouts, however other Containers can use Layouts but there is no harm in having a JPanel within another different or indeed the same mid-level Container.

In the following examples the Developer uses primarily JLabels but all Components can be use within Layouts.

## Layouts – FlowLayout

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Essentially a Flow Layout merely 'flows' the components from left to right rather like a textual document, the flow depends on the number of lines (and their width) available for the Flow Layout to display on, one line and all components will appear on that line only, several lines and the width will start dictating the layout.

The Developer will need to import the following ...

```
import java.awt.FlowLayout;
```

As a default, FlowLayout will 'center' components in the screen and place a gap of 3 pixels between each component.

A panel must set its layout to the Layout method required ...