

Adjusting the Z-Index of a DropShadow

Christian Wenz

Overview

The DropShadow control in the AJAX Control Toolkit extends a panel with a drop shadow. However this shadow sometimes conflicts with other controls, for instance the ASP.NET Menu control. When a menu entry pops up, it appears behind the drop shadow.

Steps

The code commences with the Panel itself, containing enough text so that the panel contains enough text for the effect to be visible:

```
<asp:Panel ID="panelShadow" runat="server" CssClass="panel"
  Width="300px">
  ASP.NET AJAX is a free framework for quickly creating a new
  generation of more efficient,
  more interactive and highly-personalized Web experiences that
  work across all the
  most popular browsers.<br />
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  work across all the
  most popular browsers.<br />
</asp:Panel>
```

Another panel is placed directly before the **panelShadow** panel. It contains a menu with horizontal orientation so that menu entries appear over (or rather: under) the **dropShadow** panel):

```
<asp:Panel ID="panelMenu" runat="server"
  CssClass="ForegroundStyle">
  <asp:Menu ID="menu1" runat="server" ForeColor="Red"
    Orientation="Horizontal">
    <Items>
      <asp:MenuItem Text="One">
        <asp:MenuItem Text="1.1" />
        <asp:MenuItem Text="1.2" />
      </asp:MenuItem>
      <asp:MenuItem Text="Two" />
      <asp:MenuItem Text="Three" />
    </Items>
```

```
</asp:Menu><br />
</asp:Panel>
```

Then, the **DropShadowExtender** is added to extend the **panelShadow** panel with a drop shadow effect:

```
<ajaxToolkit:DropShadowExtender ID="dse1" runat="server"
    TargetControlID="panelShadow"
    Opacity="0.5" Rounded="true" />
```

Finally, the ASP.NET AJAX **ScriptManager** control enables the Control Toolkit to work:

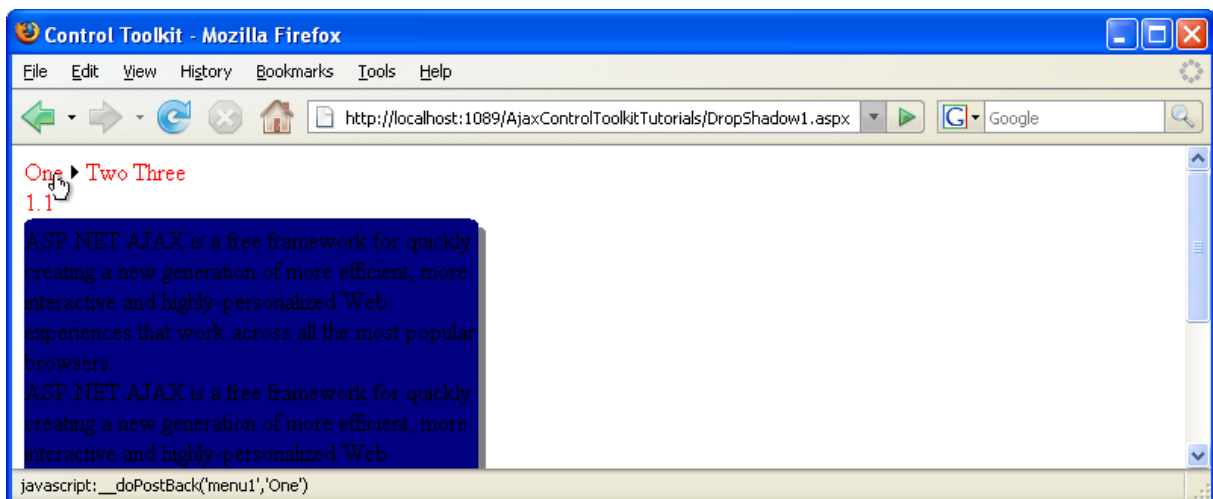
```
<asp:ScriptManager ID="asm" runat="server" />
```

When you run this script, the menu entries appear underneath the panel. However the menu uses the CSS class **panel** where you just have to define two things to make elements appear in front of the other panel:

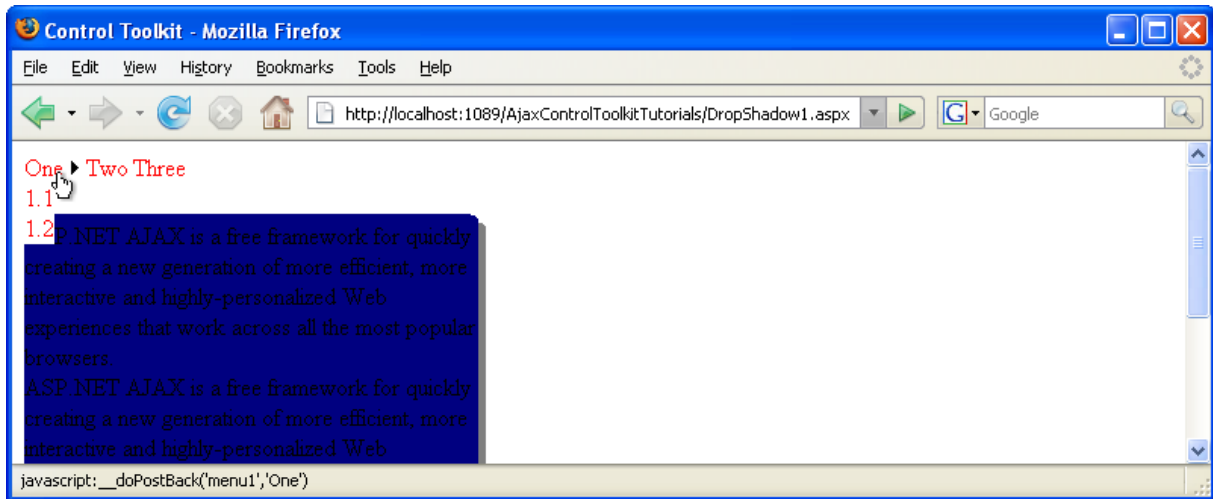
- Relative positioning
- A positive z-index

```
<style type="text/css">
    .ForegroundStyle {z-index: 123; position: relative;}
    .panel {background-color: navy;}
</style>
```

Then, the **DropShadowExtender** control does not conflict any longer with the Menu control.



Before: The menu entry is not visible



After: The menu entry appears