



Happy New Year!

Did you survive the holidays? January is sometimes a letdown for some of us. The décor is put away, we're back in our routines and... the winter weather has gone from pretty to pretty annoying! But there's also a feeling of freshness and new beginnings at the start of a new year. And many of us are less busy and have a bit more time for ourselves and for our hobbies, too.

Another bonus to January as scrapbookers? It's CHA time (Craft and Hobby Association show where all the manufacturers release their new products)! I just finished doing some major ordering for the next few months and I can't wait for you to see what's coming in your kits very, very soon!

Former Design Team member Margy Eastman filled in for us as Guest Designer this month and I have asked our November Guest, Janice Daquila-Pardo, to join our team for the next few months ☺ I hope you enjoy seeing their work in the gallery and here in the newsletter as well.

Enjoy the rest of this cold winter month and make the best of being indoors. Pull out your January kit, make yourself a cup of something hot and have fun getting creative!

Until next month,
Paula



Scrapbook Shortcuts {Cropping at Home & Away}

By Alissa Trowbridge

For my article this month, I want to share a little time saver I discovered. It's probably no secret I have a toddler as he's the focus of pretty much all of my pages these days! But he's also the reason why I've started to leave the house to scrap more often than I ever have, too ☺ I seem to get more done when I have the dedicated time!

I used to pack up my tools each and every time I left for a crop. And I was usually in a hurry and I usually left something at home. One time it was my trimmer! Oops. My tools were in the perfect spots on my scrapping desk at home, but were a pain to collect & pack when I went to crops. So I finally decided to rework how I had them on my desk and combined my most used into one tool basket/tote. I even put a set of blade and tape runner refills in there. Then when it's time to pack my tools for a crop, all I have to do is grab that bag. Wow! It has saved me so much time and I haven't forgotten anything in months.

If you crop outside of your house often, I highly recommend trying this!

Layout in 10 or 30 Minutes

by Rochelle Spears

We're changing up this article by request! Each month, our designer will show you how to whip together a fabulous looking layout in just about 10 minutes. Have a bit more time? Try our 30-minute look.

10-Minute Layout



Supplies from the January Medley Kit – Bo Bunny “Souvenir”:

- 12 x 12” Souvenir paper
- 7 x 8 ½” Souvenir on Board paper, red side
- 7 x 10” Souvenir Navigation paper, yellow side
- 2 Kraft die cuts
- 3 layered chipboard pieces from Bo Bunny
- Black Thickers or equivalent for title (from my stash)
- Photos: (2) 4 x 6

Instructions:

1. Use 12 x 12 Souvenir paper as background.
2. Adhere yellow paper about 1” from top and ½” from right edge of background paper. Layer red paper on yellow paper about ¾” from top and 1” from right side of background paper.
3. Adhere photos onto red paper slightly overlapping each other.
4. Adhere Kraft “Here” arrow to left side of top photo.
5. Slide the other Kraft arrow die cut under the red paper letting arrow overlap yellow paper.
6. Add title and layered chipboard as shown.

30-Minute Layout



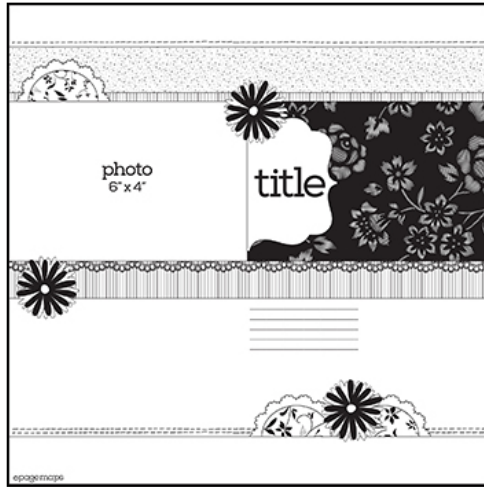
Additional Supplies:

- Cream cardstock
- Black ink
- Black mist
- Black pen
- Date Stamp
- Layered chipboard camera
- Word sticker (from my stash)
- Souvenir Navigation paper – circle cut out

Additional Instructions:

1. Mat both 4x6 photos with cream cardstock.
2. Ink the edges of all patterned paper and Kraft die cuts.
3. Tap a few drops of black mist onto 12x12 Souvenir paper, randomly (top left and bottom right).
4. Complete instructions #1-5 in 10 minute layout above.

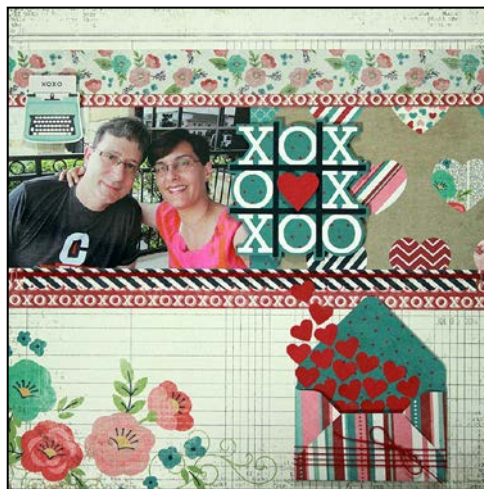
{January Sketch}
selected from www.pagemaps.com



January Sketch



Rochelle Spears



Janice Daquila-Pardo



Margy Eastman{Guest}



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Back in the Saddle

by Margy Eastman {January Guest Designer}



I was so tickled when Paula asked me to fill in as a guest designer for January. I was also a little apprehensive. Some of you may remember me from the design team in years past. I went on "hiatus" in 2014 because my family and I moved from North Pole, Alaska to the Green Bay area. (And I'm writing this on a deadline - kickoff is at noon.) We started prepping the house for sale in February which meant packing away all the non-essentials. Trust me, the scrapping stuff was the last to make it into the storage unit. Thankfully our house sold in a week, so I watched my stuff get loaded into a semi not to be seen again until mid-June when the people and dogs flew back to the homeland. For now we're staying with my dad in his ample home, and my stuff is still in boxes in the basement. Needless to say, I don't have a craft room. And I've only located my paper trimmer, a box of punches, and my Silhouette. And to top it off, my laptop died in April and I didn't replace

it until June.

However, this move has provided me lots of photo opportunities. We now live near my sister and her family. The nieces and nephew that were part of the foster care system when I was on DT are now adopted and eligible for gallery viewing. And are they adorable!

So when Paula asked me to design for you this month, I was excited, then overwhelmed. How could I possibly pull this off without my "tools?" And there were so many photos. And my photo printer is packed away. And I'm so far behind. And I can't find the scrapbooks to look at for ideas. (Please note, the things I can't find are not lost. They're just buried under other boxes and will only be accessed when we move. So I'm inconvenienced, but not stressed.) Then the kit came in the mail, and it is perfect. I had forgotten how helpful the kits can be, especially when you're short on time, supplies, and ideas.

So here's the short list of what I did differently in making these layouts than I have in the past. And I think the results are just as good.

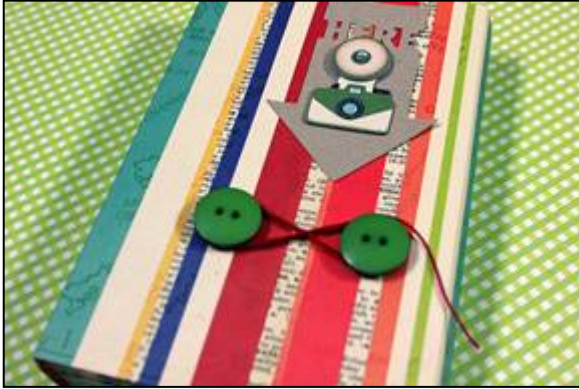
1. I used Facebook to look back at my photos and help with the journaling. There are a wealth of layout ideas sitting on my timeline. And as soon as a kit contains the perfect shades of green and yellow, you'll be seeing my Patriots-Packers game photos.
2. I had my photos printed at Wal-Mart. I edited them on my fancy new laptop, and designing layouts for 4x6 photos made my life so much easier.
3. I did my journaling by hand instead of on the computer. I miss my wide-format Epson, but I think these turned out fine without.
4. I didn't ink any edges. But I did find my sewing machine. So I stitched the edges instead.
5. In the words of my favorite quarterback, I just had to R-E-L-A-X. Scrapbooking is just about photos and stories. In the end it doesn't matter how many techniques you used or tools you utilized (though those things are way fun). It just matters that the memories are preserved.

So thanks for inviting me to design, Paula! And for getting me back in the saddle. I don't know how prolific my layout production will be, at least until I have a space of my own. But I can say there will be an occasional layout from me, now that the first layout is done and my little stash of tools is once again at my fingertips.

Happy Scrapping and GO PACK!

Organize with a Mini Album

by Janice Daquila-Pardo



If the raw potential of a new year makes you feel like planning, then you might want to make this mini album to use as a way of organizing yourself. I think I'm going to use my album to plan layouts and blog posts.

Following is what you'll need and the steps for making it:

3 pieces of 12x12 cardstock

1 piece

1. Score the three pieces of cardstock at 4 inches and 8 inches. Then cut each down into two 12x6 pieces.
2. Accordion fold the scored pieces and glue them together by overlapping the end flap of each. This will create a 12-pocket album.
3. Put a thin line of glue around three sides of each 4x3 pocket and adhere them to every other panel, including the back side of the accordion.



4. Make the cover by scoring the 12x6 piece of patterned paper at 3.5 inches, 4.5 inches, 8.5 inches and 9.5 inches. Adhere one end of your accordion to the center of the cover.
5. Now decorate your cover and either tie a length of ribbon around the whole thing to close it or attach two buttons and wrap with twine, as I did.

