



Hello!

Good news! Our message board is back up and running. HURRAY!!! It's still not "pretty," but it works ☺ Our next step is rebuilding our gallery, which is in the works. Again, thanks so much for your patience!

In the meantime (just incase you haven't seen it), I've had my Design Team put all of their work together for the past few months, and I've added it to the home page. You can see January-March's kits by just going to <http://www.backporchmemories.com>. Then click on whichever month's kits you'd like to see examples from.

Hopefully the gallery will be up soon and we'll be back to normal around here!

Paula



Welcome Back, Deb! {March Guest Designer}

With our message board and gallery going down, our March Guest Designer contest had to be put on hold as no one could access either links.

We asked Deb Harter to fill in for us, and fill in she did! Just wait until you see Deb's work with the Solo Kit this month ☺

Deb "retired" from our team awhile back as her life was getting busy. Can you believe these are some of the first layouts she has completed since her retirement?! She says "thank you" to us for getting her back into scrapping. It looks like she still has the knack for making great pages! We definitely miss seeing her work here every month!

Thanks for filling in, Deb!

Layouts in 15 Minutes {or Less}

by Margy Eastman

When can you easily add flowers to a “boy” page? When you combine them with bold colors and wood grain! This month’s solo kit has dots, plaids, and even a floral that have a rustic feel and are perfect for pages about little boys as well as girls. The trims and buttons are equally versatile.



10 Minutes

Ingredients:

- My Mind’s Eye Dilly Dally “Hello” Border Paper
- My Mind’s Eye Dilly Dally “Hello” Flannel Paper
- Yellow May Arts chevron ribbon
- Amy Tangerine Thickers – “Lovely”
- My Mind’s Eye “Miss Caroline” buttons and journaling card

I seldom use “border” patterned papers – I almost feel like I’m cheating! But I couldn’t resist this one. It was easy to use because the pattern stays at the edges making photo and journaling placement easy.

15 Minutes

Additional Ingredients:

- More “Miss Caroline” buttons and pins
- “Miss Caroline” layered stickers
- Sigma Micron 01 pen in black
- Color Box black ink

In the spirit of the quick layout, I resisted the urge to drag out the sewing machine and opted for the pen and ink instead. I added just a little doodling... wish I were better at it! I liked the red flower layered sticker and put it over the identical flower on the paper. I liked the green leaves on the paper more than the grey ones on the sticker, so I cut them off. Sticker surgery can be very rewarding. I added another button to “bullet” the title and plopped a couple of those cute pins under the other button, inked the edges and called it good.

So there you have it. Quick, easy and cute.



{March Sketch}

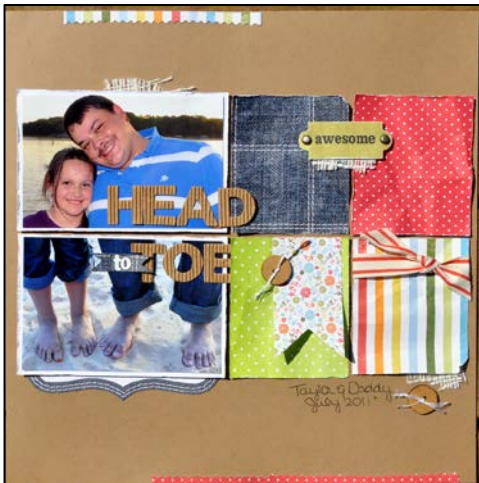
selected from www.pagemaps.com



March Sketch



Danielle Calhoun



Karry Weaver



Deb Harter {March Guest Designer}



March Design Team Projects

With our gallery going down, our Design Team couldn't upload their projects to our gallery as usual. We have added their layouts, cards and other projects to our home page on the website. Click [here](#) to see them!

Once our gallery is up and running again, our Design Team will add their layouts to our gallery as usual.

Inspiration Jar

by Karry Weaver



Every time I see a fabulous new sketch or a new technique or any other inspiration that I know I don't want to forget, I either print it thumbnail sized or write it out on a strip of paper, fold it up and stuff it into my inspiration jar. Then whenever I find myself getting into an uninspired rut I dig into my jar and challenge myself to do whatever comes out! Sometimes I'll pull out a few slips at the same time...I love a great challenge! Some of my strips include:

- make floss puddles
- use papers from 3 different lines
- use bling
- distress all my papers
- use a scripture for my journaling
- use at least three pictures
- hand stitch
- doodle
- cut something with the Cricut
- use paint
- use a stamp
- plus lots of sketches



Scrapbook Shortcuts {Coil Rose}

by Alissa Trowbridge



The die cut coil pieces in this month's Medley Kit make great rose embellishments!

Here on this card, I started rolling the inside of the coil. The inside is rolled much tighter than the outside. As I got towards the end, I loosened my grip so it wasn't quite so tight. Then, I dabbed a quick-drying liquid glue in between the layers (while still keeping it coiled in my hands). I held it together until it dried, which just took about a minute. You could also tuck mini glue dots in between the layers to hold them together, too.

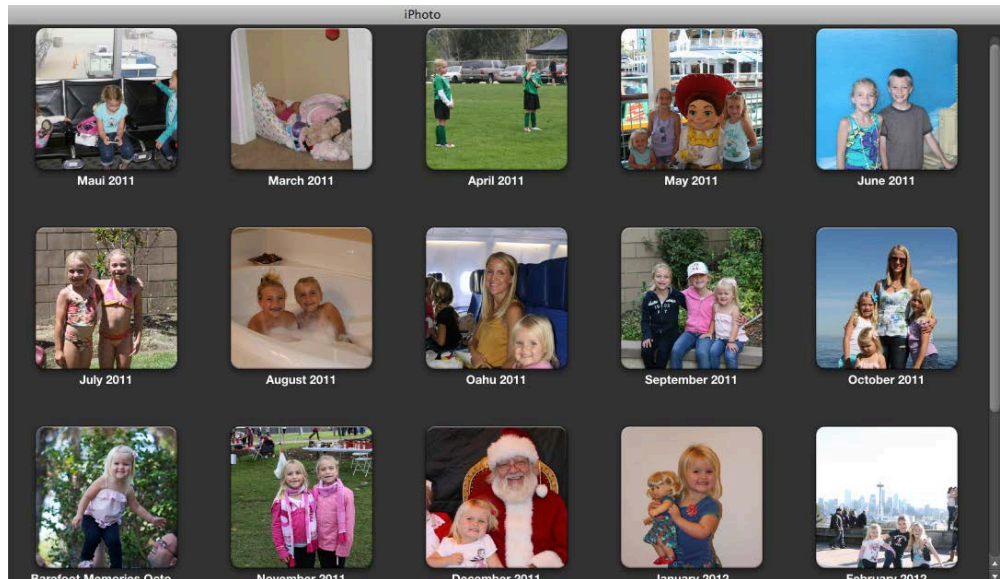
So easy, so fun! And now that you have the hang of how to make these roses with the pre-cut coils, try making your own from a spiral cut circle!

Photo Organization

by Danielle Calhoun

How do you organize your photos? How often do you upload your photos to your computer from your camera? Having organized photos makes it that much easier to scrapbook!

As far as digital photo organization goes, I use iPhoto. It is such a user-friendly program, and makes organization a breeze! When I upload photos, I organize them by months and years. If we go on a vacation, I make a separate folder for that. It makes it so easy to go back and find photos.



Don't forget to back up your digital photos with an external hard drive! Yikes, I just reminded myself I need to do that!!! :)

As far as organizing your actual printed photos, how do you do that? I use the same theme by organizing my photos by months. I use photo storage containers like these:



They are so nice. Each container has a month (or two) worth of photos, and I label each container for easy access to certain months. These containers are easy to store, and easy to stack. Makes photo storage so convenient!