

I hope this summer season brings you lots of fun, memories and photos to scrap. This month's kits (and next month... hint, hint!) are FULL of great summer papers and goodies to scrap your memories. Whether you're scrapping photos from yesterday or years ago, I know you'll have fun using them!

Speaking of scrapping older photos, I'm often asked how to stay inspired and get them in albums. One thing I like to do is scrap a few current pages with my kit and then dig through my older photos and scrap another with the same kit. I love to "kill the kit" this way because it helps me play catch up with my older photos. Plus, I find it way more fun and inspiring to scrap those photos with brand new product!

Whatever your plans are this summer, I hope you have a safe, happy and fun one!

Paula



## **Welcome Back, Jayne {June Guest Designer}**

Hi everyone! I am so excited and honored to be a guest designer again! Back Porch Memories is a great place to hangout and be inspired. I have loved working with Paula's Kits and this one is no exception. I absolutely loved every single bit of the June Medley Kit. It is beautiful! Since my bio has been in the Newsletter before Alissa suggested that I share something different with you all so, I thought that I would share my Bucket List, or at least part of it:

1. See a Broadway Musical in New York City
2. Travel to Arizona, Alaska, Colorado, Yellowstone, the New England States, and Hawaii
3. Be a part of a scrapbook design team
4. Own a red Mustang.. someday!
5. Take photography classes
6. Learn how to use a photo-editing program really, really well!
7. Be a part of a short-term mission team to a foreign country or even here in the states
8. Vacation at the beach
9. Take more piano lessons
11. Learn to play a penny whistle
12. Audition and get a part in a musical at local community theater
13. Own a reception/banquet hall-- that has "character" such as a barn
14. The time to do all of the things that I have pinned on Pinterest.
15. Volunteer to work at a camp for a summer

I know that this list is filled with mostly material things and when I get to the end of my life it isn't going to matter if I did all or none of these things. The most important things in my life are my God, my family, my church family, my friends and acquaintances. It is about how I lived my life in service to God and let His love and grace shine through me in my everyday life, as I live and work among my family and my friends.

## Layouts in 15 Minutes {or Less}

by Margy Eastman

This month has found me in the midst of home improvements. For a week I didn't have access to my photo printer so had to have my photos processed at the store – the result is a design for you that uses the handy-dandy 4x6! And I thought I couldn't live without the white border – turns out I can! The papers complimented the colors in my photos that they fit right in. And two alphas? I'm in titling heaven!

I love these photos of my husband and our younger cat. I wasn't in love with all the clutter, but it does reflect the “stuff” of our lives. And if I'd tried to move it, Sheldon might have split.

I used the Cosmo Cricket papers in the June Medley kit as well as the add-ons for this layout. I found a cute font “Little Miss Cursive” (<http://www.dafont.com/little-miss-cursive.font>) and cut part of the title with my Silhouette. The journaling font is “Cerbetica” (<http://www.dafont.com/cerbetica.font>).



### 15 Minute Layout

Cardstock – Bazzill Basics “Red Rock,” “Beach” and “Raven”  
Patterned Paper – Cosmo Cricket “Honky Tonk” Country Sunshine and Square Dance  
Stickers – Cosmo Cricket “Honky Tonk” cardstock stickers  
Brads – “Honky Tonk” brads  
Burlap trim  
Chipboard – “Honky Tonk” chipboard alphabet  
Punches – Fiskars “Threading Water” and “Apron Strings”

### 30 Minute Layout

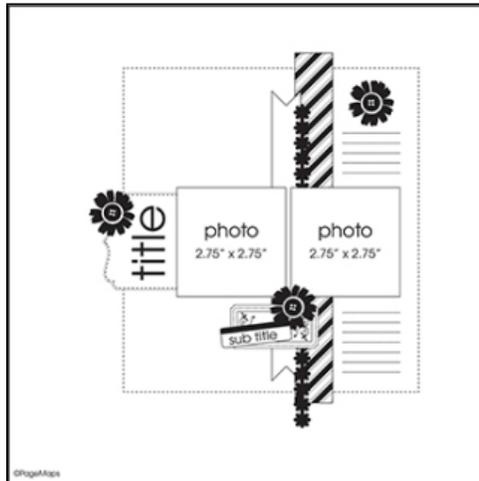
I added a strip of the “Rose Garden” paper from the same kit to the background and unpacked the sewing machine. I goofed up the tension on the zigzag under “are you” and I kind of like it! I used a Martha Stewart punch and switched the brad to embellish the homemade tag. I pinned down the twine with Tim Holtz staples and added the Studio Calico kitty veneers. And that cute close-up of my naughty kitty deserved some pop-dots.



So grab some border punches and have fun with all those alphabet options!

## {June Sketch}

selected from [www.pagemaps.com](http://www.pagemaps.com)



June Sketch



Misty Willis



Alissa Trowbridge



Jayne {Guest Designer}



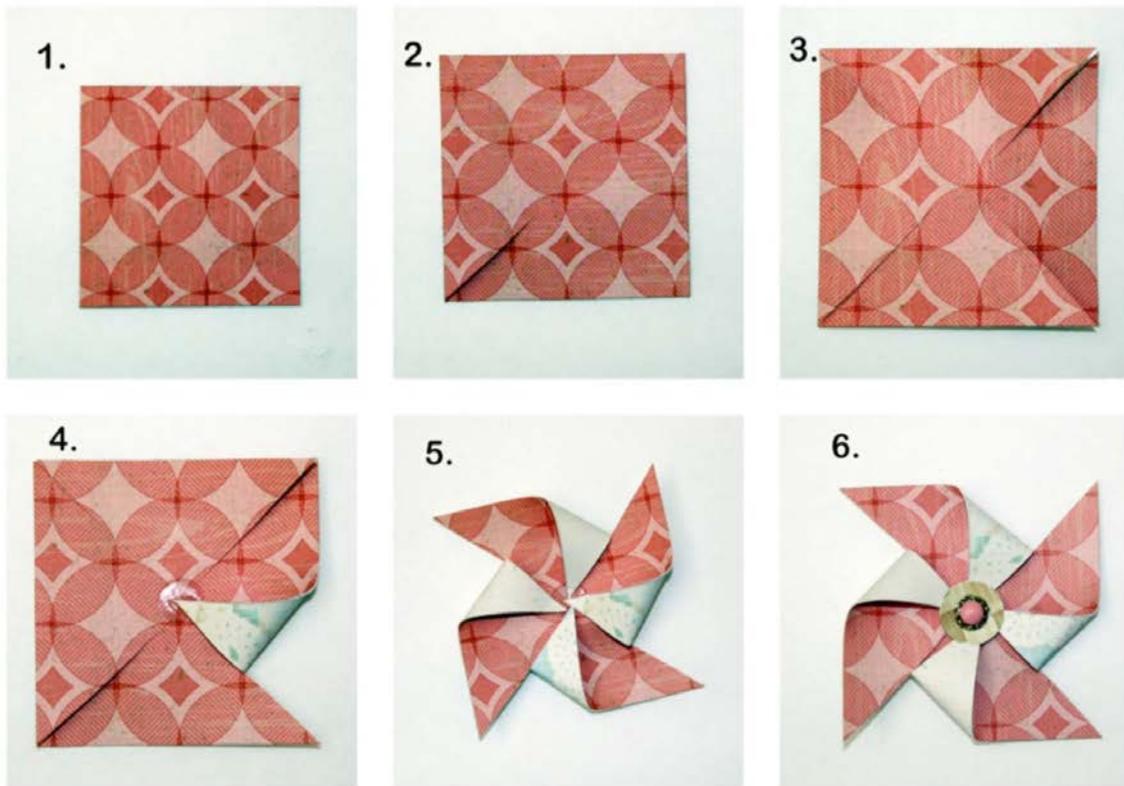
## Creative Lettering

by Misty Willis

Have you ever gotten to the last little bits of a letter sheet and the one letter you need it GONE? Well, I am going to tell you a bit about Creative Lettering. Even if you have all the letters you need on your alpha sheet, this technique can be fun to use. On my layout "Golden Boyz" (my sketch layout above) I had a little mishap with my O-Z sheet of the thicker package...soooooo....I had to get creative. Rather than a Y I used an upside down h. And in place of my z I used an upper case N that I snipped the tips off of and twisted. Next time you get into a bind and think you can't use the title that your heart is set on...Think again! Just get creative and start looking at those letters in a new way!

## How-To {Pinwheels}

by Rochelle Spears



The Solo Kit features super fun pinwheels from Crate Paper “The Pier” Collection. Here’s a tutorial on how to make your own pinwheels so that you can incorporate them with the other pinwheels on a project.

### Steps:

1. Cut a square piece of paper to the size you desire.
2. Cut each corner towards the middle stopping about  $\frac{1}{4}$ - $\frac{1}{2}$ ” from center.
3. This is what it will look like after completing step 2.
4. Add a glue dot in the center of the square. Then fold the left corner of each side of the square to the center adhering to the glue dot.
5. This is what it will look like after completing step 4.
6. The last step is to decorate the center. For this pinwheel, the center is a  $\frac{5}{8}$ ” circle with Stickers and an enamel dot (included in kit) adhered with a glue dot.

## Scrapbook Shortcuts {Standing Out Among Bold Patterns}

by Alissa Trowbridge



I love the My Mind's Eye paper in this month's Medley kit! It's so pretty and summery. I loved the patterns so much, but I had a tough time deciding which ones not to use. So I tried mixing and matching *all* the patterns, turning each piece of paper over to make sure I got a little bit of each of the patterns on my page.

The one drawback to using lots of fabulous patterns is that things can tend to blend together on the background sheet. When I adhered the blue herringbone pattern to the floral, it faded a bit more into the background than I liked, especially because my photos are really close to the edge of it on the left and bottom sides.

To remedy this situation, I matted the whole thing with the green cardstock in the kit. Once I did that, the photo element seemed to perk back up and became the focus of my page again.

The lesson? If something doesn't "pop" off the page the way you had intended, try matting that area in a solid color. Bright, vibrant colors that coordinate with the papers you've chosen work well. Black or white can also work, depending on your patterned paper selections. In this case, white would have faded into the floral as well, since that is the predominant background color of that sheet. Black may have worked, but I didn't want to introduce such a strong color that was absent elsewhere on my page. The green color was the perfect solution.

