



Happy summer!

As I sit here writing this, the weather is warm and there's a lovely summer breeze coming in my office window. Oh how I love Alaska's long summer days after our seemingly endless winters!

People here in Fairbanks play hard in the summer here. I suppose we just want to pack in all of our warm weather fun while we can. What about you? Do you tend to play outdoors more during the summer? Or are you in a hot and humid climate and tend to retreat into the air-conditioning during the warmest days? Either way, I hope you document what summer means to you and your family with lots of picture taking.

Speaking of taking pictures, I think you'll find our kits this month lend themselves to scrapping all sorts of different activities and events. The Solo features the most darling (and popular!) Simple Stories line called "Homespun." The classic primary palette is very useable and the patterns are just charming! Our Medley this month includes Basic Grey's "Herbs & Honey," Echo Park's "We Are Family," and October Afternoon's "Girl Talk." The great thing with our Medley Kit is how great a lot of these papers mix and match among one another. And the embellishments, too!

Pour yourself a glass of lemonade, flip through your photos and have fun planning what you want to create with your June kits. And enjoy the start of your summer!

Paula



Welcome, Tami {June Guest Designer}

Tami Floyd designed for us way back in the early days of our kit club. She has graciously stepped up to fill in for us as our June Guest Designer this month! We know many of you are big fans of her work and we hope you enjoy seeing her creations with our Medley Kit this month! You can check out Tami's Gallery [here](#).

Welcome back for the month of June, Tami! We're excited to have you with us ☺

Layouts in 15 Minutes {or Less}

by Rochelle Spears

This layout is a quick one that doesn't look like it at all, thanks to using the adorable pre-designed floral sheet of patterned paper in the kit.



Prep:

1. Use a 4x4 photo.
2. Use “Grateful” paper for the background of your layout.
3. Cut in half the “yellow polka dot” cut from Simple Stories the Snap Cuts package.
4. Fussy cut one doily from “Stitched Together” paper (only need a portion of the doily)
5. Cut 2 pennant strips from “Homemade” & “Beautiful Life” papers.
6. Cut a 5 x 4 3/4” from “Heart and Home” paper.

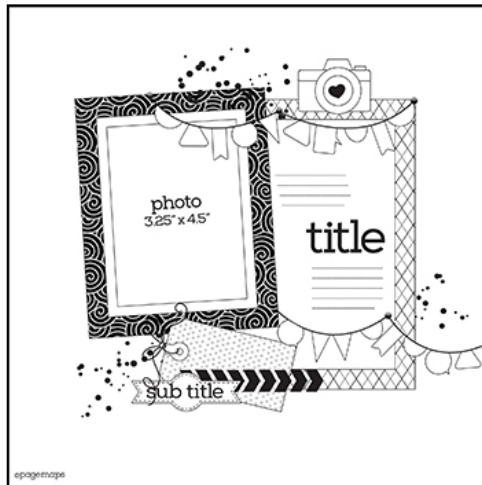
Assemble:

1. Adhere photo onto “Heart and Home” paper.
2. Tuck both pennant pieces under the right of “Heart and Home” paper.
3. Tuck a piece of the doily under the “Beautiful Life” pennant.
4. Take both pieces of the “yellow snap cuts” and tuck one under “Heart and Home” paper on left and the other under doily on right.
5. Add title, bling flowers, layered sticker and a couple of word stickers and done!



{June Sketch}

selected from www.pagemaps.com



June Sketch



Rochelle Spears



Danielle Calhoun



Tami Floyd {Guest Designer}



Back Porch Memories and Social Media

If you haven't already, be sure to follow us on our [blog](#) and like us on [our Facebook page](#). On both, you'll find kit updates, links to our monthly Guest Designer contest, kit sneaks, etc.

See you online!

Designer Details {Using White Space}

by Danielle Calhoun



When you are creating a layout are you afraid of leaving "white space?" I've talked to so many scrapbookers over the years that have a dislike of white space! I've learned to love white space over the years, and I will give you a few of my white space favorites.

First of all, white space does not have to be literally "white." White space is often referred to as negative space. Simply put, it is the portion of the page that is left unmarked. White space is an important element of design which enables a balance between positive and negative space and is the key to aesthetic composition.

While creating with the June Medley this month, I came across this photo of my daughter's accomplishment at her latest swim meet. I simply had one Instagram photo of the event, but it was a very important event in her life to document. I did not want to crowd a page with something that would take away from the meaning of this moment for her.

A few things I keep in mind when creating a layout with white space:

1. Create soft lines. I find with white space it is nice to create soft lines into your focal point (I created the wave edge here to go with the swim theme).
2. Create a design triangle for the eyes to follow. Using principles such as using odd numbers of embellishments can help you to create a design with a strong focal point. In my layout, I used three main embellishments to create my design, and with the right angle in the lower right corner, it created a triangular focal point.

Just remember to have fun and try something that may be out of your comfort zone! There is never a right or wrong answer when it comes to scrapbooking!



Scrapbook Shortcuts {One Page Vs. Two}

by Alissa Trowbridge



Sometimes I have so many photos I want to scrap, a two-page spread would be the most obvious choice to get them all to fit. However, two pagers often take me twice as long to complete!

My solution, especially when you can crop close into the pictures, is to print them small and make a sort of collage on your page. My photos are about 2x2" and I was able to fit 12 of them on this single page layout.

Plus, all of these mini photos of my son eating are just precious grouped all together. I love how this page turned out!

Create Your Own Project Life Cards

by Tami Floyd

Last month, Holly wrote on how to use scraps to create 3x4 cards for the ever-so popular pocket-page style of scrapbooking. This month I thought I'd expand on that a bit and show you how to use up more of those beloved sticker sheets to create your own customized pocket page.

If you just so happened to get the lovely June Medley kit, you will see that the Echo Park "We Are Family" line is part of the trio of lines included. I just love anything that Lori Whitlock creates and probably own everything she has produced. I especially love the sticker sheets that are usually created for embellishing your pages. The only problem is that once I create a layout or two with a particular line and use the sticker sheet for embellishing the page, I have lots of stickers left that I know I'll never use completely. I had an "a-ha" moment and decided to create some 3x4 and 4x6 cards for future use while trying to use up some of the sticker sheet that was still available after creating one layout.



Here are just a few that I came up with using the numerous pretty stickers that were left. Enjoy!

