

pocket play

Short on time? Here you'll find creative ideas to make the most of your pocket pages. BY PAM BALDWIN

I have been using pocket pages to document my family's story for almost nine years, and the thing that keeps me coming back is simply this—I love our stories. I love our everyday moments, the conversations, the snippets of life, the good, the bad, the ugly, and especially the funny. I love how each pocket becomes a home for a piece of our story. And I love how this simple combination of photos and words comes together to tell a more complete story than either one could possibly tell on its own.



TIPS

POCKET TIP #1: Achieve balance with contrast. When the photos have lots of bright colours, select neutral products so that they don't compete with the photos.

POCKET TIP #2: Place photos mindfully. When you're working with photos that have bold/bright colours, spread them across the layout rather than clustering them all together.

POCKET TIP #3: Look for repeating shapes. I love all the circles that naturally appear in this spread: the pumpkins, the sink, and even some of our Halloween decorations. I took a cue from that and found that circular embellishments were an excellent fit to complement the photos in this spread.

Show a variety of perspectives.

Our brains are wired to look at faces in photos, so it's actually helpful to pick a variety of photos, including the ones that DON'T show off those big beautiful smiles. This way, the viewer can focus on the details of what you want to communicate with your photos.

october stories

supplies JOURNALING CARDS: Project Life; INK, CORK SHAPES: Studio Calico; HALF CIRCLE PAPER PAD, RUBBER SHAPES, WOOD VENEER: Ali Edwards Design; FONT: Remington Noiseless; ADHESIVE: Tombow; OTHER: Date stamp

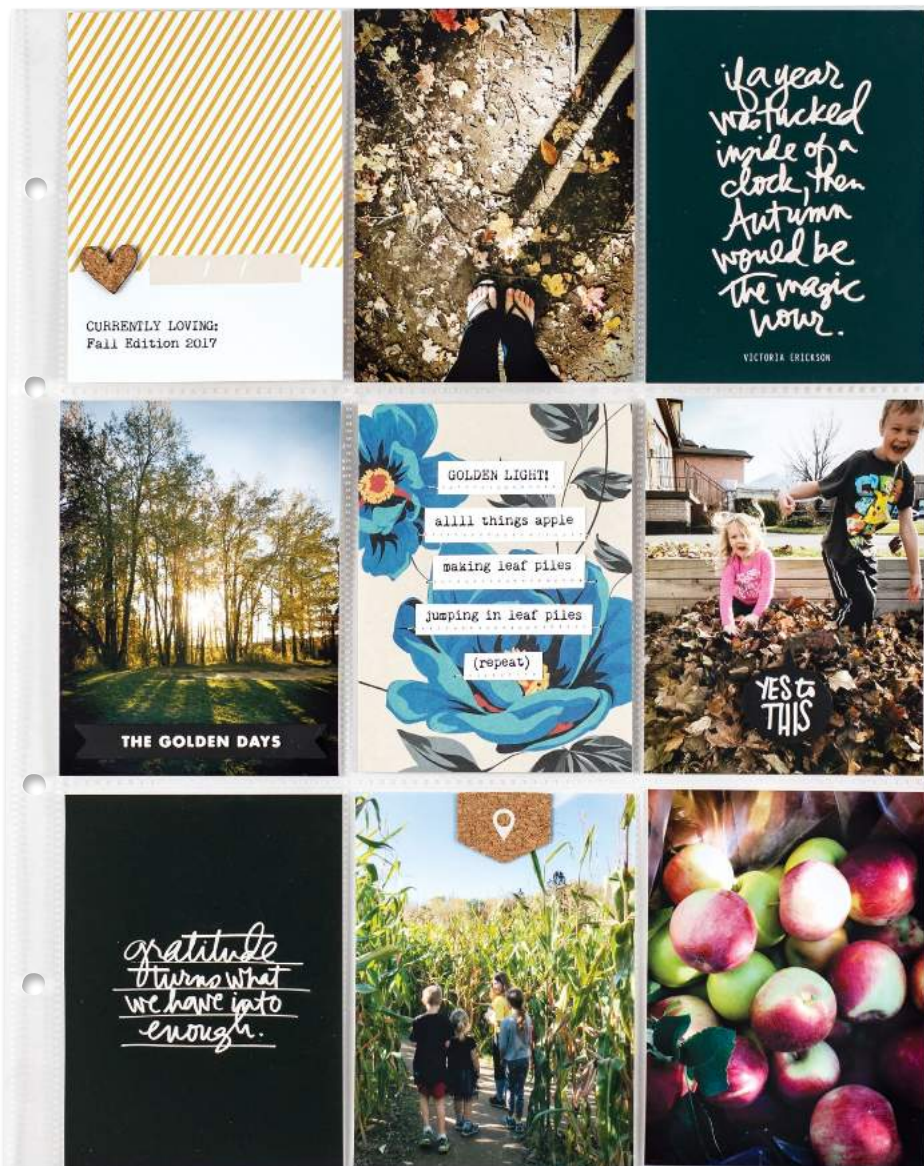


PHOTO TIP: Make sure you get YOURSELF in the photos, too (even if it's just your feet). In the years to come, our kids will like seeing pictures of themselves in our albums, but they'll LOVE seeing us there even more.

PHOTO TIP: Get low. In the photo of my kids playing in the leaves, I took the photo from below for a playful perspective.

DESIGN TIP: Use filler cards that feature a similar design. The two quote cards create simple repetition on this page, unifying the design.

Summarize the season. It's a fantastic opportunity to express gratitude! And BONUS—doing this type of page may prompt you to get some pictures of the things you wouldn't normally think of. Consider it a challenge to capture images in new and creative ways like the golden quality of light and long shadows that seem especially spectacular in the fall.

currently loving: fall edition

supplies JOURNALING CARDS: Ali Edwards Design, Project Life; CORK SHAPES: Pretty Little Studio, Studio Calico; RUBBER SHAPES: Ali Edwards Design, Studio Calico; FONT: Remington Noiseless; ADHESIVE: Tombow

TIPS

POCKET TIP #1: Type your journaling. Because typed text is smaller than my handwriting, I can fit more of the story into that little 3 x 4 space, plus it creates a very clean look.

POCKET TIP #2: Add stitching. I love the texture and dimension of adding a bit of sewing/stitching in my pages. It keeps things flat while creating more visual texture and an appealing handcrafted look.

POCKET TIP #3: Avoid bulky pages. Adding digital word art and journaling to photos before printing them is a nice way to embellish your pictures without the bulk.

Find more creative inspiration from Pam on Instagram at [instagram.com/pambaldwin](https://www.instagram.com/pambaldwin)