

pocket play

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

When it comes to pocket pages, I love that there are multiple ways to use them!

From incorporating divided page protectors into different creative projects to selecting various layout sizes, I feel as though the opportunities to document my memories are endless.



TIPS

POCKET TIP #1: Tell more than one story per page.

Here I grouped similar stories together on the same page—one highlighting the tradition of my daughter decorating a tree at my parents' house and the second recording how long my parents take to decorate the inside and outside of their house.

POCKET TIP #2: Group photos of a similar colour together.

I often look for similar colours and elements when snapping photos. My group of six 2 x 2 photos include a green wreath, stacks of wood, and table—all have green, white, and grey. Grouping them together in such a way provides visual consistency to the viewer.

During the month of December, I participate in the December Daily project created by Ali Edwards. The project, which documents 25 days leading up to Christmas, was created to highlight the spirit of December via one story per day. In an effort to keep things simple, I often document 25 stories from the entire season which I find is the easiest approach for getting my stories told. In this 6 x 8 double-pocket page layout, I tell two smaller stories about holiday décor and traditions at my parents' house.

holiday traditions

supplies CARDSTOCK: American Crafts; PATTERNED PAPER, ENAMEL DOTS, STICKERS: One Little Bird; WOOD STARS: Studio Calico; DIGITAL STAMP, PAGE PROTECTOR: Ali Edwards Design; FONT: Remington Noiseless; ADHESIVE: Tombow

Document daily life. When I'm not participating in a specific themed project, I like to document daily life with my kids. Instead of capturing the basis of what we accomplished in our day, like the who, what, when, where, or why, I like to reflect on the growth of my kids and their relationships with each other.

TIPS

POCKET TIP #1: Write a letter for your journaling. When I am not sure what to write, I always turn to letter writing. I love jotting down my thoughts and feelings in this manner as it helps to focus what I want to say.

POCKET TIP #2: Make your pages work for you. I don't always feel the need to print or scrapbook every photo I take. When I take that pressure off of myself, it's easier to pick the best photo of my kids. Hint: I don't always choose a photo where both kids are looking at the camera. Sometimes it shows off their quirky personalities.

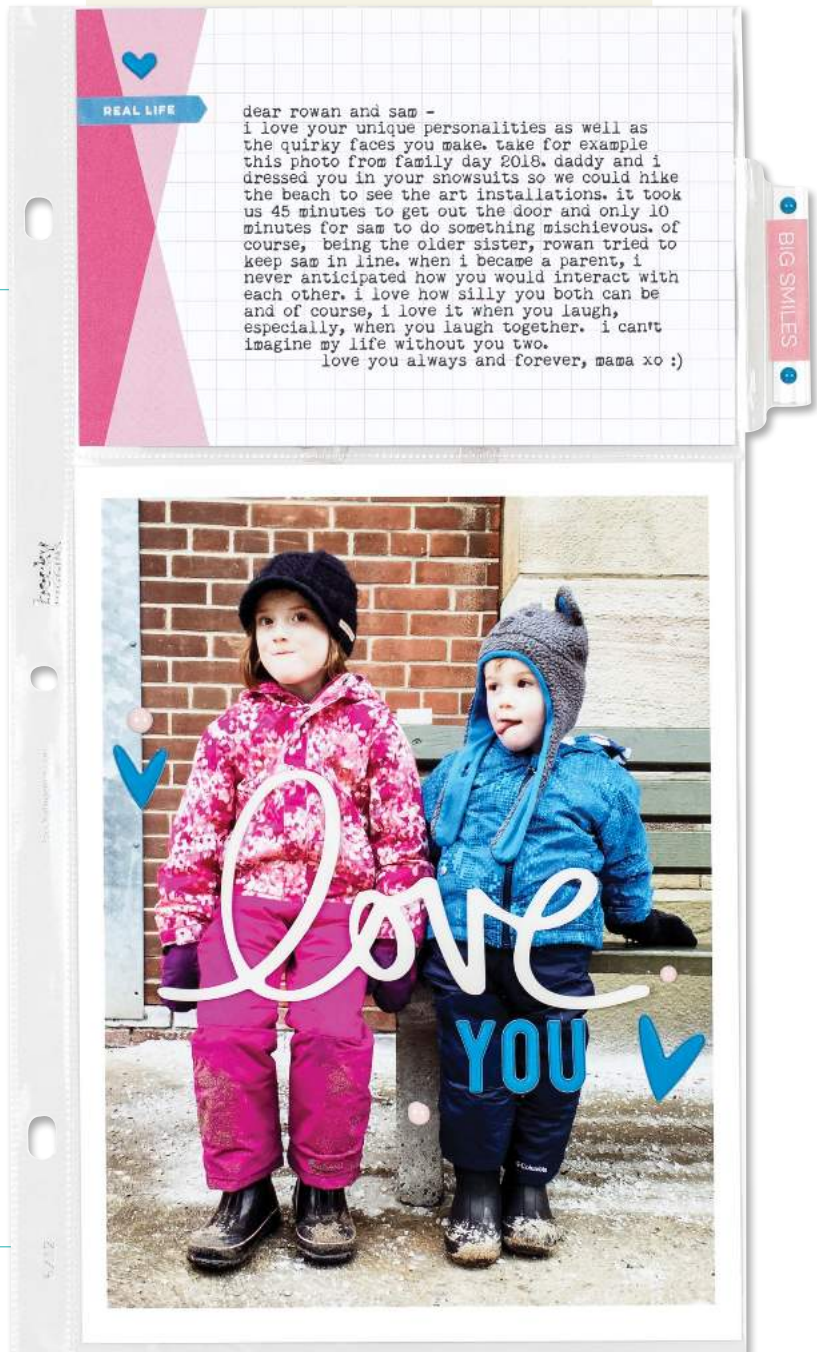
POCKET TIP #3: Embellish your photos. Don't forget to add lumps and bumps to your pages! Here I centered the acrylic word love to add dimension to my pocket page. Although this is a winter page with my kids in their snowsuits, the acrylic word reflects the feeling for the page and alludes to the broader story that is being told.

love you

supplies JOURNALING CARD, PAGE PROTECTOR: Becky Higgins; LETTER STICKERS, STICKERS: Elle's Studio; ENAMEL DOTS: Echo Park Paper; ACRYLIC WORD: Ali Edwards Design; FONT: Remington Noiseless; ADHESIVE: Tombow

Find more creative inspiration from Jess at cheersjess.com

DESIGN TIP: Type directly onto your journal cards. Type up your journaling and print it out onto a sheet of plain paper. Adhere your card over the text with removable adhesive and run it through your printer a second time.



DESIGN TIP: Let your photos dictate your colour scheme. Look for embellishments that echo the colours of your photos. I found a few pink and blue elements to create a soothing visual harmony to my page.