

# make it mini

Celebrate the beauty of fall with a sweet tag mini album.

BY JENNIFER S. GALLACHER

One of my favorite things about designing a mini album is the ability to tell a story or record a memory all in one sitting. With this approach, I can share my feelings on a certain subject with my kids. For this album, I really wanted my son to remember the special blessing of family, so I approached my journaling and selected my photos based on this theme. This goes a little bit deeper than just telling what we did. It's more about making the connection to how I hope he feels about these family activities.

**MINI SIZE:**

4½ x 8



## GETTING STARTED

The pages of my mini album were created from a large tag die from [Scrapbook.com](http://Scrapbook.com). This particular die set includes several different sizes of tags, so you could make different sizes of albums as well as add smaller tag elements to your album. Look for basic shape dies to create a unique sized album.

✓ **MAKE IT TIP: Create a custom "binding."** Hold your tag album together with a binder ring and tie it with a pretty bow that coordinates. Mini albums are the perfect way to use up those bits and bobs you've been saving.

✓ **MAKE IT TIP: Make your title stand out.** To give the title more presence, I added both a fussy cut title from a journaling card and a layered die cut word. I distressed the word *blessed* with brown stamping ink.

✓ **MAKE IT TIP: Get your kids involved.** Have them list 5–7 things they are grateful for and then print photos and journaling to fit their choices. They can even help assemble the album for Thanksgiving as part of a new family tradition.

## happy harvest

**supplies** CARDSTOCK: The Paper Studio; PATTERNED PAPER, DIE CUT SHAPES, EMBOSSING FOLDER, ENAMEL DOTS: Echo Park Paper; INK: Michaels; DIES: Echo Park Paper, Scrapbook.com; PUNCH: Fiskars; PHOTO CORNERS: Therm O Web; PAPER CLIPS: Office Depot; BINDER RING: Karen Foster Design; FONT: 2Peas Tasklist; ADHESIVE: Scrapbook.com; OTHER: Twine

Get more creative ideas from Jennifer at [jengallacher.blogspot.com](http://jengallacher.blogspot.com)



✓ **MAKE IT TIP: Add depth and details.** Add depth and interest to your journaling strips by distressing the edges and add layers and texture with die cuts leaves and bits of twine to give your mini album a homey feel.

✓ **MAKE IT TIP: Stretch your supplies.** While this collection from Echo Park has lots of coordinating embellishments you can purchase and add to the album, I also used fussy cut images from the patterned paper to create my own unique embellishments.



✓ **MAKE IT TIP: Add interactive elements.** I created an accordion fold out for one page of my album. I did this by cutting out an entire strip of journaling cards from patterned paper. I folded the strip as an accordion and then added photos, stickers, and embellishments to the fold out.

✓ **MAKE IT TIP: Share your voice.** Heartfelt journaling might not come naturally, and you might not think you're an incredible writer, but your audience (in this case my son) will appreciate hearing YOU in the words that you share.

