

design your story

One product can inspire many different stories. Stretch your supplies with different focuses. BY CATHY ZIELSKE

Design is as much about inspiration as it is about the products we use. When the new decade rolled in, I thought about stories I could tell in terms of my family, as well as myself. I designed a cut file and set out to use it in two different ways. Here are my results!

layout 1

THEN AND NOW

My favourite stories are ones that document the passing of time. Using a repeating structure for my journaling, I simply reported the facts ending with our ages in 2010 and where we are today. I added one little line to sum up each person's journey. True, there is so much more I could have written, but I like this simple approach.

STORY TIP: Short is sweet. You don't have to write a lot to capture the essence of a story. I know journaling can seem hard at times, especially when you want to get it just right! Let go of the pressure to be perfect, and just write out a few sentences that report the facts. Done and done!

DESIGN TIP: Use a black and white photo. The original photo didn't match the colours of my papers, so I converted it to black and white in Photoshop.



2020

THE ZIELSKE FAMILY IS HEADED INTO A NEW DECADE



DANIEL

Started the decade running Espresso Royale and ended it in his 4th year as an elementary school teacher. Was 44 then. Is 54 now. Still looks essentially the same.

AIDAN

Started the decade in middle school at Great River, ended it in law school at the University of Minnesota. Was 13 then. Is now 23. So much change and growth for this one.

COLEMAN

Started the decade in elementary school, ended it in his sophomore year at St. Olaf college. Was 10 then, is now 20. Literally went from a child to an adult in one span of time.

CATHY

Started the decade as a self-employed freelancer in the craft industry and what do you know? She still is going strong. Was 43 then. Is 53 now. Her hair is quite a bit longer.

2020 family

supplies CARDSTOCK: Close To My Heart, Gina K. Designs; PATTERNED PAPER, STICKERS: Close To My Heart; ELECTRONIC CUT FILE: Cathy Zielske; FONT: Avenir; ADHESIVE: Gina K. Designs, Scrapbook Adhesives by 3L



Get a free download of Cathy's 2020 cut file and create your own layout with a unique look back or ahead! Find it on our website here:

scrapbookandcards.com/bonus-content

2020

STORY TIP: What do you hope to achieve in the new year or even the new decade? Take a selfie and make a list!



layout 2

GOAL SETTING

Do you ever use scrapbooking to set intentions? I love to scrapbook the things I'm working on in my own life. Here I created a very simple set of intentions for 2020. This is more personal than the first layout, but it also serves as a touchstone for my goals this year.

DESIGN TIP: Use your colourful papers with a white cut file. I really love the look of bold patterns framed in white cardstock. This is completely inspired by SCT Creative Editor Paige Evans who creates wonderful cut files in this style.

DESIGN TIP: Keep your line lengths short. For my journaling, I centered the text but kept the line lengths on the shorter side. Longer lines are harder to read, especially when you center them. Much like keeping your journaling short and sweet, do the same for your actual line lengths, and they will be easier to read!

2020 intentions

supplies CARDSTOCK: Gina K. Designs; PATTERNED PAPER, STICKERS: Close To My Heart, Heidi Swapp; PHOTO CORNERS: Heidi Swapp; ELECTRONIC CUT FILE: Cathy Zielske; FONT: Avenir; ADHESIVE: Gina K. Designs, Scrapbook Adhesives by 3L; OTHER: Enamel dots

See more of Cathy's pages, cards, and stories at cathyzielske.com

DESIGN TIP: 6 x 6 pads aren't just for cards and smaller projects! I love using 6 x 6 papers on my layouts. It's a great way to get a good collection of patterns, and usually the patterns are smaller versions of their 12 x 12 counterparts.

