

pocket play

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

I first started documenting my life in pocket pages back in 2016. I loved it so much that I've since documented clear back to 2012! Although I tend to work on other projects like traveller's notebooks, mini books, and traditional layouts here and there, pocket pages have remained consistent for me since I first started documenting that way. It's the format that I always come back to, and it's the format that has the least amount of gaps in my memory keeping.



routine

supplies JOURNALING CARDS, STAMPS, INK, CHIPBOARD, STICKERS: Studio Calico; FONT: Typist's Pseudonym; ADHESIVE: Tombow

I love the simplicity of pocket pages. I feel like I'm never starting with a completely blank canvas since there are already designated spots for photos and journaling. On the other hand, there's still plenty of freedom to turn my pages into exactly what I want. It could be as simple as photos and journaling cards, or you can go all out with stamping and embellishing. I truly love how my style can change and evolve, and yet I never have to stop telling my story while I figure out what I want to do.

TIPS

POCKET TIP #1: Stamp in the open space of photos.

Stamping is a great way to embellish photos because it usually doesn't take away from the focus of the photo, especially if you use a neutral coloured ink. Some rules of thumb I follow when stamping on photos: allow breathing room by not stamping on every photo and make sure that the stamping is enhancing the photo rather than taking away from the focus.

POCKET TIP #2: Take photos from different perspectives.

I'm always looking for new ways to capture our routines in different ways. For example, if I want to capture what my daughter is reading, sometimes I'll take a photo from above to get her and the pages she's reading in the shot. Other times I'll capture her in the act of picking out a book at the library, and another option is to lay her books out on the floor and take a photo from above.



thoughts

supplies JOURNALING CARDS, INK, CHIPBOARD, STICKERS: Studio Calico; STAMPS: Elle's Studio, Studio Calico; FONT: Typist's Pseudonym; ADHESIVE: Tombow

Follow Sarah at sarahzayas.wordpress.com for more of her inspiring pocket pages.

Create whimsical doodles on photos.

This is a trend that I see popping up (especially on Instagram), and it's really fun to add to pocket page photos as well! If you're not confident to draw your own doodles (like little stars for a more whimsical look or hearts for a sentimental photo), you can always turn to stamps. On the 4 x 6 photo in this layout, I stamped a trio of droplets randomly to the right of the flowers to draw the eye across the photo and to frame my sentiment. This is just another way to get really crafty inside your pockets.

TIPS

POCKET TIP #1: Create photo clusters in pockets.

Photo clusters can be a great way to switch things up in your pockets. Instead of always thinking that each 3 x 4 or 4 x 6 pocket needs to be filled with that photo size, think of what other sizes you could include in those pockets. In my bottom 4 x 6 pocket I've layered a square photo over a 3 x 4 photo. Both photos are very similar, but each has a different perspective that I wanted to include. To jazz this photo cluster up I added a couple of chipboard embellishments as well.

POCKET TIP #2: Create your own journaling cards.

Sometimes it can be hard to find the perfect journaling card with a good header and plenty of blank space underneath for writing. This is where stamps can come in handy. For this layout I simply stamped out the word *Thoughts* on a relatively plain journaling card. The title isn't really necessary, but it can add a little something to draw the eye to that area.