

make it mini

Create magical holiday memories with an amazing Christmas village mini album/shadowbox! BY ANDREA MARVILLA LAKE

Mini albums are the perfect homage to the kind of family traditions and memories created during this special time of year. Crate Paper's Hey Santa collection includes many Christmas village-style themes that allowed me to celebrate a family tradition—my mom's famous Christmas villages. These fantastic miniature scenes are always a highlight of my family's holiday every year. I love that in just one weekend, this mini album allowed me to light up memory lane for my family with my very own village.

MINI SIZE:

5 x 7



christmas village memories

supplies CARDSTOCK: Bazzill Basics; PATTERNED PAPER, BRANCHES, CHARMS, CLIPS, DIE CUT SHAPES, LETTER STICKERS, SPECIALTY PAPER, STICKERS, TASSEL, TRIM: Crate Paper; CHIPBOARD, ADHESIVE: Amazon; PEN: Sharpie; ELECTRONIC CUT FILE: Lori Whitlock; FONT: Courier New; OTHER: Fairy lights

GETTING STARTED

First, remember the only rule is there are no rules! My idea started by mixing a shadowbox card with a typical chipboard mini album. You can always tie in different concepts with a unifying theme as long as you give them some similarities.

- ✓ **MAKE IT TIP: Bring it together.** To combine a shadowbox style card with a mini album, I used the same patterned paper on both elements as well as the Velcro closure.
- ✓ **MAKE IT TIP: Let your light shine.** Using double-sided tape, I layered battery-powered fairy lighting within the shadowbox to simulate the street lighting of my village.
- ✓ **MAKE IT TIP: Show it off!** When you spend the time making a mini album like this one, use it as Christmas décor so that anyone who stops by can take a peek! It's fun to share mini albums with others.

Get more creative ideas from Andrea by following her on Instagram at [@andreamarvillalake](https://www.instagram.com/andreamarvillalake).



✓ **MAKE IT TIP: Be consistent.** The edges of every page are machine stitched with gold thread to match the gold embellishments from the Hey Santa Collection, and vellum is used throughout as a divider.



✓ **MAKE IT TIP: But don't be too consistent.** I mixed both typeface and handwritten styles throughout but focused on handwriting when journaling to take advantage of the collection's journaling cards and give the album a more personal feel.



✓ **MAKE IT TIP: The 3rd Dimension.** Give your mini album depth by clustering elements together at different dimensions.



✓ **MAKE IT TIP: Put it in your pocket.** Use double-sided tape on three edges of your photos or patterned papers to create a pocket for ephemera (or photos) to compliment the page.