

tips, tricks & techniques

3ts



PAIGE'S STARTING POINT:

Embellishments

New products are always so fun so why not use an entire package on one layout? Paige used all but two of the chipboard circles from her Blooming Wild collection to create a dramatically darling diagonal of patterned and icon spots along the left side of her layout. These embellishments became the main design element, and the photos on the right give the layout a pleasing sense of balance.

DESIGN TIP: Repeating elements on a layout or card gives the design a feeling of beautiful abundance.

cute cousins

BY PAIGE EVANS

supplies PATTERNED PAPER, CHIPBOARD, EPHEMERA, STICKERS: Paige Evans for American Crafts; ADHESIVE: American Crafts

starting points

When you sit down to make something, what drives your creativity? Perhaps it's a story you want to tell, a technique you want to try, or a product that has been calling your name. In this article, we have a crew of talented designers who will show you different starting points and how these starting points can steer the course of the final product! BY SUSAN R. OPEL

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layout 2



DESIGN TIP: Cut one 12 x 12 piece and make it flank the two ends of a double-page layout. The off-white cardstock between accentuates the soft and pretty plaid.

NATHALIE'S STARTING POINT: Patterned paper

Pull out your favourite patterned papers. All too often, papercrafters hoard their most beautiful patterned papers for fear that they won't do them justice. What if instead of saving that lovely paper, you created a layout or card based solely on the pattern? Nathalie found the perfect photos to complement this stunning plaid patterned paper. A double-page spread is a great place to really make one pattern shine.

vacation vibes!

BY NATHALIE DESOUSA

supplies CARDSTOCK: Simple Stories; PATTERNED PAPER, EPHEMERA, LETTER STICKERS, STICKERS: BoBunny; PEN: Muji; ADHESIVE: Scrapbook.com



Learn more about **ink blending** from Mindy in this video on the Scrapbook & Cards Today YouTube channel Watch here: bit.ly/3NxafuX



card 1

MINDY'S STARTING POINT: Ink blending

Creating the perfect blend of ink can be a terrific starting point. Mindy wanted to create an underwater scene, so she picked out a stencil and ink blended with colours that would work well together for that idea. Mindy quips, "For me, the blend decides the card so after ink blending, I changed my mind and instead of creating an underwater scene, I simplified it by adding a layering die cut flower, sentiment, and a panel to anchor it all to the center of the card."

DESIGN TIP: For the best results with ink blending, invest in good cardstock and blending brushes!

hello my friend

BY MINDY EGGEN

supplies CARDSTOCK, DIES, STAMPS, STENCILS: Honey Bee Stamps; INK, ENAMEL DOTS: Concord & 9th; ADHESIVE: Gina K. Designs, Therm O Web

layout 3

DESIGN TIP: We love the margin of **flowers** that surrounds the layout. It's the perfect way to further the garden theme.



VICTORIA'S STARTING POINT: Photos

Get inspired by your photos. For this project, Victoria wanted to showcase a few photos of her front garden from 2022. She spent a lot of time and effort that year to learn more about potted gardens and how to keep her flowers from dying. She was so proud of her success and made sure to take plenty of photos throughout the season. Victoria says she created this photo-driven layout to celebrate her new gardening skills. Well done, Mrs. Green Thumb!

DESIGN TIP: Make a layout that celebrates something that makes you proud! Whether it's an achievement or new obsession, our scrapbooks hold the stories of life.

a summer of growth

BY VICTORIA CALVIN

supplies PATTERNED PAPER, BRADS, CHIPBOARD, EPHEMERA, STICKERS: Carta Bella Paper; LETTER STICKERS: American Crafts; FONT: American Typewriter; ADHESIVE: Scrapbook Adhesives by 3L, Tombow



Don't miss Meghann's video to learn more about her process for creating this layout! Watch here: bit.ly/SU23Meghann

layout 4

MEGHANN'S STARTING POINT:

Stamps

Customize a layout with cool stamps!

Meghann loves creating custom backgrounds for her layouts using stamps, and these fun sunglasses from Taylored Expressions were perfect. She was able to mix and match the sunglass designs and stamp them with colours pulled straight from her photo. This column of colourful shades perfectly balances the photo and embellishments on the right side of the layout.

DESIGN TIP: This cute layout and technique would translate well to a card design!

sending love from dr

BY MEGHANN ANDREW

supplies CARDSTOCK: Bazzill Basics, Close To My Heart; Patterned paper, LETTER STICKERS: Crate Paper; STAMPS: Elle's Studio, Taylored Expressions; INK: Close To My Heart, Concord & 9th; CHIPBOARD: Vicki Boutin for American Crafts; ENAMEL DOTS: My Mind's Eye; TRIM: American Crafts; FOIL, FOIL PEN: Therm O Web; FONT: American Typewriter; ADHESIVE: Scrapbook Adhesives by 3L



Love the look of embossing? Don't miss our *Product Play* column on page 17 where you'll find even more ideas for embossed looks.



card 2

DILAY'S STARTING POINT: Embossing folders

Make embossing the star of the show. Before embossing this card panel, Dilay stamped circles in various sizes and colours on a plain white A2-sized piece of cardstock. The impression of the leaves popped up the white panel as well as the circles for a continuous design.

DESIGN TIP: Misting the back of your cardstock with a small amount of water helps soften the fibers to prevent cracking. In addition, the softened fibers can provide an even deeper design.

hello friend

BY DILAY NACAR

supplies CARDSTOCK: Concord & 9th, Gina K. Designs; STAMPS, EMBOSSING FOLDER: Altenew; INK, EMBOSSING POWDER: Hero Arts; SEQUINS: Gina K. Designs; DIES: Altenew, Hero Arts; ADHESIVE: Gina K. Designs, Scrapbook Adhesives by 3L, Scrapbook.com

layout 5



DESIGN TIP: The rule of thirds RULES! Check out how this layout by Jess takes your eye through the design with three pockets that include words.

DESIGN TIP: Format your text to be centered and play with the design of your journaling. Notice how the words themselves create a very definite design.

DESIGN TIP: Take inspiration from graphic design in ads, commercials, and magazines. *The Story* followed by *details • thoughts • observations* looks like a chic and modern editorial design.

JESS'S STARTING POINT: A story

Sometimes your photos will only tell part of the story

you want to remember. Jess really wanted to talk about her family's last day of vacation in Quebec. In this instance, she wanted to share some fun details in her journaling, including the amazing story behind her son's hole in one at the mini golf course. This story was a great starting point for creating a travel layout.

mont tremblant

BY JESS FORSTER

supplies DIGITAL KIT, EMBELLISHMENTS, PAGE PROTECTOR: Ali Edwards; FONT: Open Sans; ADHESIVE: Therm O Web

layout 6



Get a free download of the *Delicate Wreath* cut file to help you create your own version of this scrapbook page. You can find it on our website here:

scrapbookandcards.com/bonus-content



LISA'S STARTING POINT: A cut file

Get started with a cut file. Cut files are often designed to be the focus or title of a layout, so they can be a great way to get your mojo going. Lisa's GORGEOUS cut file really suits the pretty Simple Stories patterned papers and is oh-so-fitting for a feminine Mother's Day layout.

DESIGN TIP: Use a wreath-shaped cut file to anchor the title, journaling, and photos in your layout.

DESIGN TIP: Give your photos more heft with a patterned paper "frame."

mother's day

BY LISA DICKINSON

supplies CARDSTOCK: Bazzill Basics; PATTERNED PAPER, BRADS, EPHEMERA, STICKERS: Simple Stories; LETTER STICKERS: American Crafts; CUT FILE: Blue Star Design; FONT: American Typewriter; ADHESIVE: Scrapbook Adhesives by 3L