

Scrapbooking Made Easy!

SCRAPBOOKING MADE EASY!

SELECTED TIPS - 73 PAGES!

Scrapbooking Made Easy!



73 Pages!

Brought to you by Wings of Success

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How To Prepare For Your Scrapbook

Creating your first scrapbook can seem very overwhelming; however, with these helpful tips it can become a very rewarding experience. When you decide to start on your scrapbook you will have to ask yourself a few questions.

- What is the purpose of this album? For who or what am I creating this for?
- How will I choose the size and style of the album that is the easiest for me to create my scrapbook?
- What are the basic supplies I will need to complete my album?
- How many photos will I need to fill my album? Do I have copies available of the photos I am going to use?
- What is the easiest and least expensive way to design a theme for my album?
- How much time will I have to spend on my scrapbook? What shortcuts can I take to save time and money?

Deciding on the album that is right for you is the first step towards preserving your memories. Albums come in many sizes, themes, and styles. The most common size albums are 12x12 and 9x9. If you feel the larger albums would be time consuming you can choose an 8x10 scrapbook. This would be a good selection if you feel you will not have enough photos to display in a 12x12 album. Many people prefer the 12x12 album, due to the fact that many stores carry ready to make pages in this size. There is also a 6x6 album that is perfect for a brag book. This size is convenient to take with you to display outside of the home.

Once the album size is decided, you can choose the type of album that will best suit your individual needs. There are many styles to choose from. Popular albums for many first time scrapbookers are themed albums. They come in several different options. The albums could

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be portrait themed, baby books, ABC albums, or wedding albums. You can choose an album for any theme you are creating a scrapbook for.

You will also need to decide on the style of album you would like to work with. There are three main types.

Organizing Your Photos

The biggest challenge to starting your scrapbook is organizing your photos. This may seem overwhelming to many, but can be done in a minimal amount of time using these helpful tips.

- First, start in an open area of your home to allow space for several piles of photos. Preferably a part of your home that is not a common meeting area, such as a spare bedroom or office.
- Next, discard of any photos that are out of focus or damaged. You will also want to place Polaroid pictures in a separate pile. You do not want these pictures to leak onto your good photos. Polaroid pictures may contain a certain acid that will permanently damage your photos. Save any copies of photos you may want to use in your scrapbook. Copies will come in handy if you make a mistake and need to replace a photo. You may also want to use them in another scrapbook.
- Start putting photos into piles by chronological order. This task does not have to be exact. You may start with photos from certain decades, such as, 70's, 80's, etc. You can also organize them through the years, for example, early eighties, mid eighties, and late eighties. If you are making a scrapbook for your child, it would be best to start from birth to present. If you are creating a scrapbook with a holiday theme, then start with the holiday closest to the beginning of the year.
- Now you can organize the piles into different events or special moments. This could include; birthdays, graduations, sporting events, and vacations. Create a system that works well for you.
- For a wedding album you should organize the photos of each partner from childhood to adult. Adding pictures of the couple together in a separate pile. If the couple has children from a previous marriage you would place their photos in a separate pile as well.
- If you are creating a family tree scrapbook start with each side of the family members relatives. Sometimes it is easier to start with the most current members of the family. This would could be grandchildren or great-grand children and then work backwards from there.

Cropping Your Photos

Cropping is simply cutting away the distracting elements in your photos. There are several techniques to achieve this look. Listed below are some tips to do so.

- Some of your photos you may want to use can have distracting backgrounds. You will need to crop out the elements that take the attention away from your subject.
- Some pictures may contain backgrounds of personal meaning. Look over your photos carefully before you crop them. Perhaps the photo contained a home where you grew up or a landmark from your childhood. You may want to leave these in your photo for your memories.
- The quickest and easiest way to crop photo is to use a straight edge. You can accomplish this by using a ruler, pencil and scissors. After you are done tracing the line with your pencil, be sure to clear off any residue left behind. You do not want to harm your photos in any way. If your budget allows, you can purchase a small paper cutter. This technique is the safest crop to use. If you use different shapes to crop photos, you may regret it later. Too many shapes can often make a page look busy and cluttered.
- Another way to save time and money is to overlap your photos. This can also add different styles to your pages.
- To add a little creativeness to your scrapbook you can crop your pages with decorative sheers. Cropping your cardstock with the same sheers will give the photo a defined space on your page.
- To add a different touch to your page you can get color copies made of your photos. Then crop the photos in a variety of sizes and styles. It does not have to be perfectly cropped; you can do this free hand with ordinary scissors.
- If you have a photo and want to display several elements you can make copies of the photo and crop them different ways. This technique is good to use if there are several persons in the photo or to capture a landmark in the background.

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- To make a silhouette, crop close to your subject in your photo. Adding black or another dark color of cardstock will help with this design. You can use the dark color cardstock to accentuate a black and white photo.

Creating Your First Page

Your first page will also be known as your introduction page. It is the beginning of your story. This is the page where your title should be placed. You can also display a large photo of the subject here. In this chapter you will learn how to place your photos onto the cardstock, as well as some other tips.

- To start, you will need to think of a title. It could be as simple as, Our Wedding Day. You can also think of a personal title, such as, The Day I Married My Best Friend. This page should contain the subject or subjects and some information about them. The journaling around the page can tell a story about the scrapbook if it is an all occasion's album. If the scrapbook is about one person this page should tell us the name, birthday, and other important facts.
- The title should be stenciled in pencil first, and aligned with a ruler. Remember, after you are done stenciling, clear away any residue left from your pencil.
- You may want to choose different styles to write the title. It depends on what technique would go with the page. The title can be in sticker lettering or handwritten without the use of the ruler. Don't stress on trying to get it perfect every time. Add your own style and design to achieve a personal touch.
- You can use left over background scraps for title letters. Trace the letters onto the scraps from a stencil and cut with scissors or decorative shears. This will eliminate spending money on extra paper.
- Next, you will place the pictures in the order you want them to be viewed. This will be the layout you want the eye to follow. Try to be creative and give each page a different type of layout. You can construct several designs for the layouts.
- For a basic layout, many scrapbookers use a "Z" format. This means the flow of the page follows the letter Z.

Adding Your Embellishments

The next step to put your personal touch in your scrapbook is adding embellishments. These do not have to be expensive time consuming tasks. Here are a few ideas to help get you started.

- Embellishments can be as simple or as creative as you desire. You can be creative without taking a lot of time doing so. There are several types of embellishments you can use in your scrapbook. You can use store bought embellishments or personal items from home. Which ever you decide remember to keep them simple and easy to attach to your pages. You don't want to spend hours applying small enhancements to each of your scrapbook pages.

The most common accessories are metal embellishments. These are the least expensive to purchase and come in a variety of sizes and styles.

- Safety pins can be used to pin a ribbon to your page or used as a baby theme accessory. To add your own touch you can paint the safety pin baby blue for a boy or pale pink for a girl. They can also be used on a page for crafts.
- You can achieve a distressed look to your safety pins without little effort. To achieve this look you can use steel wool or sandpaper. Merely scap your safety pin or other embellishments you are using back and forth with the steel wool until you achieve the desired look you are creating.
- Eyelets are another popular embellishment to use in your scrapbook. You will need to purchase an eyelet setter to place these on your pages. They are relatively inexpensive and can be purchased at a craft store or any local retailer. Eyelets can be used for a variety of things from holding photos together, to adding a decorative touch to any scrapbook page.

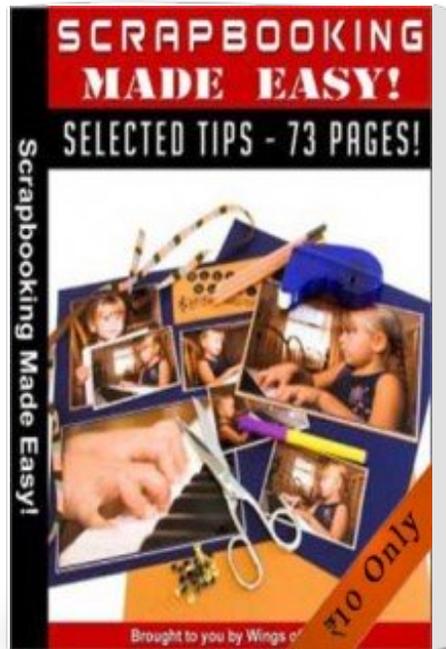
Making Scrapbooking A Part Of Your Life

There are many rewards to scrapbooking. Not only do you get to provide your loved one with a way to remember the important people and events in their life, but you also get to allow them to remember the love that you took to do this for them. Scrapbooking is also a way to let out your creative energies and to create something that will last a lifetime. You can make scrapbooking a part of your life. In fact, you may find it to be one of the most rewarding things that you do.

Scrapbooking can be difficult to get started with, if you feel that you will need to put out some huge project right off the bat. Don't overwhelm yourself. Start with a small project, maybe just a few pages, and then build from there. You'll find many of the products that you need to get started available right here on the web. You can easily afford a few kits to get you started too. Yet, you can use the products that are within your home to get you started. For example, you can easily find things within your home such as pieces of your child's past to help you to create their scrapbook.

Making scrapbooking part of your life will help you to create some of the best things for you to remember your loved ones by. Luckily for you, you will find a wide range of helpful tips to get you through the first hard project and well on your way to making some very unique and perfectly designed scrapbooks. All you need to do, of course, is to come up with a few ideas to get you started. Then, you can work through the project, meeting all of your goals and creating for yourself or your loved one a book that they will cherish forever.

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