



Momma always said, better late than never. Right now, I am so familiar with that statement! Thank you for your patience during my computer woes. The great news...I have so much great product coming your way over the next few months, I went a little overboard! This CHA was fantastic. If you have boys, get ready, there was more for boys than ever before (and I have lots of it coming).

Are you just itching for spring? Be sure you take a look at the sneak peek because spring is in the air at Back Porch Memories, even though it is still below zero here every day. There may be flowers on the front but all of this paper has back sides that will be great on the pages of those men and boys in your life.

And be on the lookout – it's almost time for the semi annual sale!



Meet Mary {February Guest Designer}



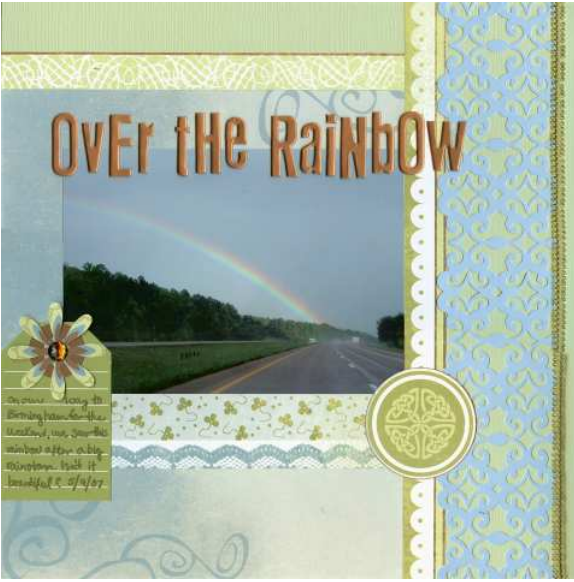
Hi, my name is Mary Shirley. I live in Sunny Florida with my husband of 8 years. I am a stay-at-home-mom to three beautiful children that are 7, 4 and 22 months. They keep me very busy between daily school runs, extracurricular activities, play dates and family events but I still manage to find time within my day to sit down and create something in my scrap room!

I was introduced to scrapbooking the summer of 2004. I remember meeting one of my closest friends and seeing her scrapbook room.... my eyes couldn't have gotten bigger! That was it for me. I love every aspect of scrapbooking; the creative outlet, creating albums for my children, capturing memories we often forget, shopping for all those pretty papers and embellishments (that I horde!), and last but not least the camaraderie and friendships that I have gained.

I'm very excited to be February's Guest Designer and to work with so many talented scrappers here!

Scrapbook Shortcuts {Paper as Embellishments}

by Alissa Trowbridge



During this month of love, humor me and let me profess my love for beautiful scrapbook paper. I'm sure you feel the same way! Sometimes I love it so much, it pains me to cut into it.

However, I've found that I can get more mileage out of pretty papers by cutting out some of my favorite graphics/prints and using them as embellishments on a page. You can either do this with a pair of scissors, or with a punch like I did with the flower embellishment on the left and the cutout circle on the right of my photo.

This month's solo kit papers work especially well with this technique. Try cutting out the Claddagh on one of the papers, or maybe a crown or two from another, and using them to accent your pages.

If you take a look through our design team gallery, you'll find many of our designers love to use this simple technique for creating unique, custom embellishments!



What to do with...{Glimmer Mist}

by Danielle Calhoun

Now that you have that fabulous glimmer mist in your kit, let's talk about a few of the many uses for it.

Paper Embellishments

Tags, flowers, and hand-cut patterned paper look great with a bit of glimmer. First, place a piece of scratch paper on your desk and put the embellishment on top. Holding your glimmer mist about 6-8 inches from your embellishment, spray the mist. You can take advantage of shaping your embellishment before it dries. In my layout, "So Lucky," I shaped the flower for a 3-dimensional look.

Chipboard

Naked chipboard and grungeboard are perfect for glimmer mist. Keep in mind the closer you spray the mist the thicker your coat will be. You can also use a heating tool to dry the chipboard faster. Or let it air dry.

Wood

Glimmer Mist is perfect for wood. Glimmer Mist dries very quickly on wood. You may want to hold the mist closer for a thicker coat of mist.

These are just a few of my favorite uses for glimmer mist, please share yours in the forum! Be sure to also check out the Tattered Angels website for more ideas: <http://www.mytatteredangels.com/>

Editor's note: check out February's design team gallery to see what our design team did with this product!

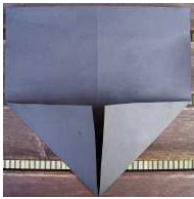
Stamping Corner {Calendar Planner}

by Audrey Tan

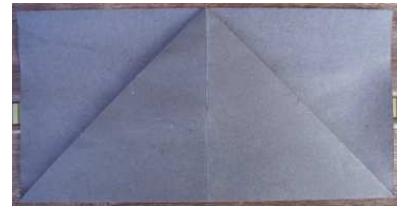
Not being one who is good at remembering important dates, especially birthdays, I decided to create a planner to my specification. As there would be only certain dates in a month that I needed to know, I didn't want a diary style planner. Hence, I opted for simplicity and went with luggage tags instead, where I could write down the important dates. Next, I had to decide how to house the tags and while flipping through a Stampington magazine, I came across an origami style folder that would be perfect for housing my tags. Hence, the idea of my planner was born!

Here's how to create the inner pages of the planner.

- 1) First cut the paper down to 8x8" size.
- 2) Then fold the paper in half, both in length and then in width, as seen in photos to the right.

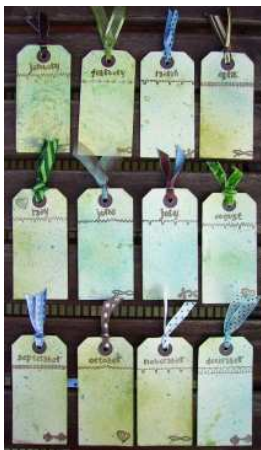


- 3) Next, from the bottom, fold one half of the paper into a triangle, as seen in the photo, left. Do the same of the other side.



- 4) After that, bring the bottom to meet the top, as seen here, right.

- 5) Finally, fold it width wise so that you end up with a 4x4" size with a pocket.
- 6) Do that 6 times so that it will contain tags for the 12 months.
- 7) Now decorate accordingly.



For the tags, I sprayed it with glimmer mists and then stamped the months on each tag. Finish it up by writing down the important dates.

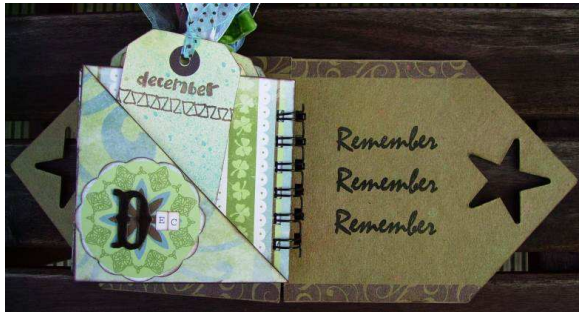
Create a front and back cover for the pages and decorate accordingly. (I used two Jenni Bowlin chipboards here). I bound the entire planner using the Bind It All tool. (Use book rings if you don't possess a BIA.)

Here's the final outlook of my planner

Within the planner, you can include additional tags for different events i.e. anniversaries, appointments etc. and it can be used year after year.

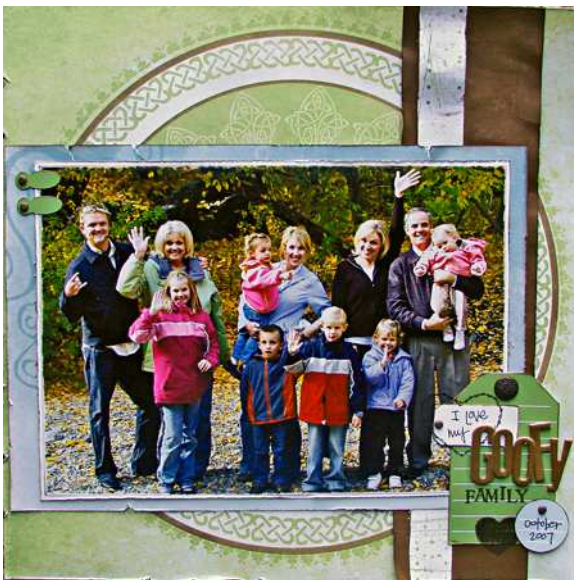


A couple more photos of the inner pages and tags follow below!



Layouts in 15 Minutes {or less}

by Jana Eubank



{10 minutes}

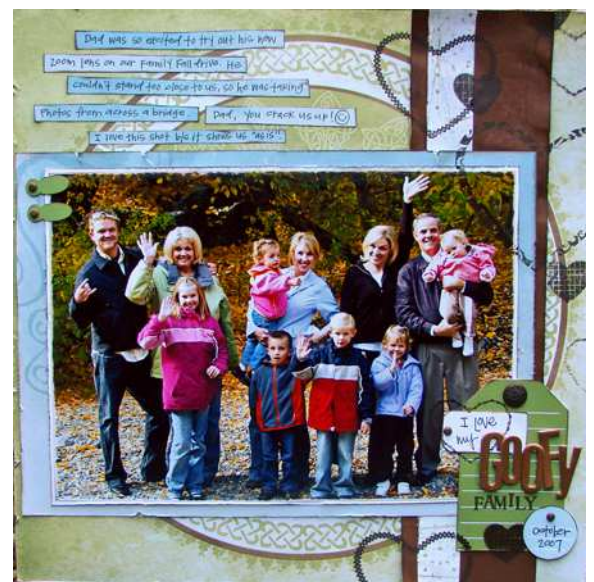
A big circle is the perfect element for framing a single photo or a group of photos. I used a single photo on this example, but you could also group together a couple of 4 x 6 photos or a row of smaller photos.

This patterned paper by Rusty Pickle already has a big circle printed on it, but you could also cut out one yourself using a bowl or plate as a template. Next use punch-out tags for a quick title block. Just for fun, I layered several together, writing different portions of my title on them to add interest. To balance the tag, use a few photo corners in the opposite corner of the photo. I then added a strip of paper tucked underneath the right-hand side to visually connect the circle, photo, and title tag.

{15 minutes}

Write your journaling on strips of paper and add above the photo.

Add a bit of playfulness to the layout by stamping several heart images along the right side of the layout. Don't be afraid to stamp some of the hearts so they are bleeding off the edge of your paper. Also, let some of the images overlap each other or overlap onto other elements like the photo or title block.



Mad for Mini Books

{All About Acrylics}

by Jacquie Veach

I'm not just talking paint here. I played around this month with the Back Porch Memories February "Love" acrylic stamps, acrylic paint, acrylic mini album and the February Medley kit. You know my love for mini albums! This time I had fun experimenting with using paints and acrylic stamps. A little unconventional but I was excited to try it out. It's a gift for my parents to remember their golden wedding anniversary party we had for them just last month! Here are the details on how I created it.

Materials

BPM February Medley Kit

- Rusty Pickle, French Market papers
- French Market die cut tags
- Maya Road chipboard scroll frames
- Winter Garden ribbon
- Glimmer Mist, barn red
- CI Eclectica rub ons
- Black Velvet Floral Brads

Additional Materials

- BPM February stamps...LOVE them!
- embellishments leftover from a prior kit
- Scenic Route letter stickers
- Mini Tabbed Acrylic Album (available as an add-on)
- Acrylic paint
- Heart punch
- Wallet size photos



Step by Step

First, to provide texture and background to each page, I stamped on the acrylic pages with acrylic paint using various stamps. For 2 pages, I stamped the chain links. For another page, I stamped the "LOVE" word at various angles all over the page. On another page, with a brush, I painted a rectangle frame.

TIP: Conservatively apply paint to stamps. I repeated my stamps before applying more paint. Keep in mind the acrylic paint dries rather quickly so clean your stamps right after you stamp with them.

I incorporated the rubons and stamping (TREASURE) on the last page of my album. I applied the rubon in the left corner, then I stamped "Treasure." I let that dry, and then applied the flo. Lastly, adhere photos and embellishments to all pages.

Assemble book and tie ribbon to rings. Enjoy ☺



Home Décor Project

{Welcome Spring Canvases}

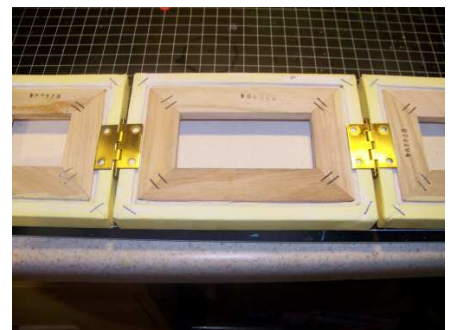
by Tami Floyd

Supplies

- (2) 5x5 canvases
- (1) 5x7 canvas
- (5) scrapbook papers (I used Dream Street Baylee's Garden)
- Paint – yellow & white
- Colorbox Cat's Eye Ink – Yellow Cadmium
- (2) Hinges
- Light blue cardstock
- Buttons
- Prima flowers
- Stickles
- Pop dots
- Rick Rack
- Font die cut or alphabet stickers

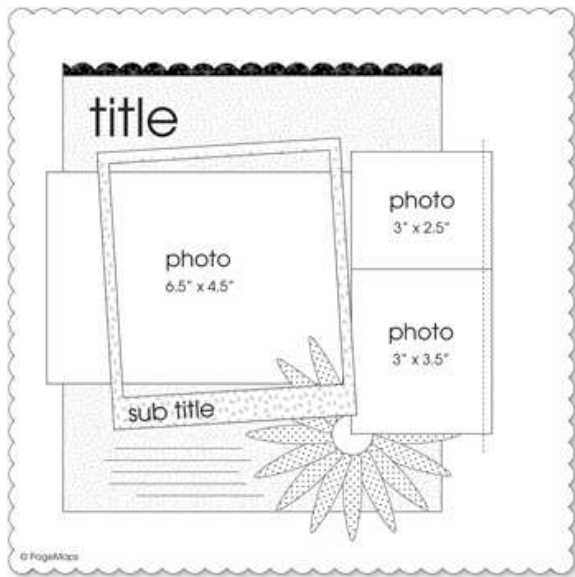


1. Paint canvases with light yellow paint. Cut (2) 4 7/8x 4 7/8 and (1) 6 7/8 x 4 7/8 sheets of DS Golden Glow. Ink edges of all papers and canvases. Glue sheets of paper to the canvases.
2. Hand draw and cut out (7) clouds of various shapes. Lightly brush white paint on clouds for effect. Outline each in black pen. Adhere largest cloud to center canvas with pop dots slight above top edge. Glue two smaller clouds beside largest cloud. Adhere the remaining clouds to the other two canvases making sure to pop-dot one for a 3-D effect.
3. Hand draw and cut a small bird and butterfly from DS Awning Stripe. Outline with black pen. Glue to canvases as shown. Cut small wings for bird and adhere. Draw antennae for the butterfly and place buttons as shown. Outline bird and butterfly with Stickles.
4. Cut little strips from DS Garden Grass paper and cut into them giving the appearance of grass. Glue those strips along the bottom of each of the canvases.
5. Cut flowers from DS Blue Skies. Take little varying sized pieces of rick rack and glue along the two 5x5 canvases. Atop those pieces of rick rack, glue flowers with pop dots. In between the flowers glue small pink flowers. On the corners of the 7x5 canvas, glue a few flowers. Place the remainders of buttons on canvases as shown in the picture, if desired.
6. Cut "Spring" from DS Raindots or any other light pink paper. Cut "Welcome" from a light lavender cardstock. In place of this you could use any other alphabet desired.
7. When everything has dried, you then flip the canvases over, top edge toward you and in line to be hinged. Apply the hinges to the canvases making sure that the hinge is placed so the 5x5 canvases can be pulled inward as shown.



Viola! You have yourself a nice little decoration for the house to Welcome in Spring!

{February Sketch}
selected from www.pagemaps.com



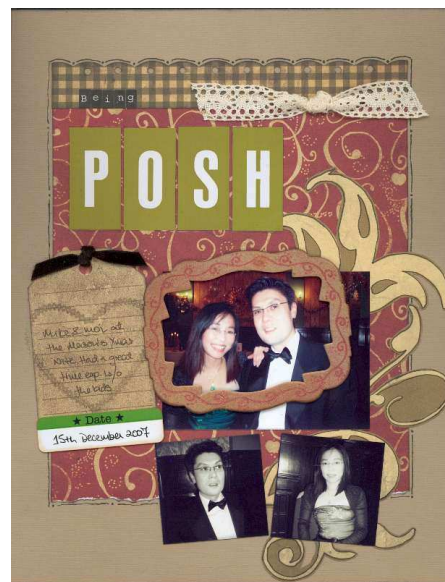
February Sketch



Tami Floyd



Jana Eubank



Audrey Tan



Coming in March, be the first to have paper from this brand new, must have company **GCD Studios!**

Scenic Route
Making Memories
Scribble Scrabble
Jenni Bowlin
Daisy D's
And much more.....

[Take a look at the sneak peek, here.](#)