

One of the fun things about your membership to Back Porch Memories Kit Club is all of the “extra” stuff we do online. Did you know that our designers put together a great selection of challenges to get you motivated every month? We also have a contest for our next month’s Guest Designer! I used to send out a small prize drawn from all the entries for each of these contests. But now, I’m going to merge the two drawings and send out one BIG prize drawing ☺ I’m very generous with my prizes, so I hope this change motivates you to play along! You can read more about our month challenges, Guest Designer contest and prizes on our message board.

We also love to talk about scrapbooking on our message board. Our designers rotate posting a scrappy question of the day, will teach you something new with our Techniques on Tuesday, and push your photography skills in our Photo Mojo section. Plus, we just like to chat about life on the board.

I hope you’ll come join us on our message board! It’s a fun place to be and everyone is very welcoming. If you have any questions or problems gaining access to the board, please don’t hesitate to contact me at paula@backporchmemories.com

See you online!
Paula



Meet Tracy {March Guest Designer}



I have been a scrapbooker for about 15 years now. My love and obsession for it began when I was working at a pro photographic shop and they began to bring in scrapbooking product. I gravitated towards it as I have always been crafty and enjoyed the arts. Shortly after that I began teaching classes at the store and I have been teaching ever since. I would say I am a scrapbooker and altered home décor creative artist. I do the occasional card, but my passion is for scrapbooking. I also have a background in photography, calligraphy and graphic design.

I worked in the photographic/scrapbook store for 7 years. I then accepted a position as part of the EK Success/K&Company/Martha Stewart Crafts creative artist design team for 5 years. I also did digital graphic design for Whitech USA, creating digital scrapbook layouts for their photo kiosks.

I have been published in scrapbooking books and magazines including: Memory Makers, Creating Keepsakes, Canadian Scrapbooker as well as doing ad work for the design team that appears in publications and stores all across North America.

I am currently a design team member of a challenge blog called Use It Tuesday. Term ending in June 2013. <http://useittuesday.blogspot.ca/> and Buttons Galore and More <http://www.buttonsgaloreandmore.com>

Layouts in 15 Minutes {or Less}

by Danielle Price

The bright colors are so amazing in the March Medley Kit it made me refer to my collection of black and white photos. I love to use them whenever I can. The Bazzill paper I used really make the photo pop. And I also used the new Color Craze kit that you can now order. It was the perfect add-on for the kit. I also tackled one of my fears, masking! But I thought it turned out great.



15 Minute Layout Ingredients

Cardstock-Bazzill Basics

Patterned Paper-Bazzill Basics, Groom's Tie, Ambrosia, Printed Stripe

Die cut-0-9 number line

Journaling card-Bazzill Basics

Heart Punch-Fiskars

For the Record Glitter Alphabet Chipboard Stickers

Additional Supplies for 30 Minute Layout

WRMK Vintage Chic fabric buttons

The Twinery Twine

The Color Craze kit

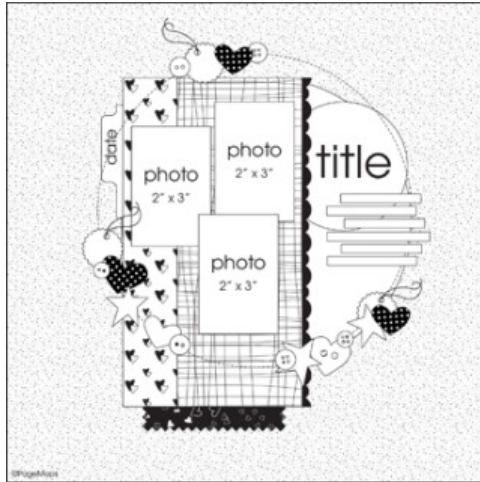
Kaisercraft Rhinestones, Split Pea

Additional paper from Bazzill



{March Sketch}

selected from www.pagemaps.com



March Sketch



Danielle Calhoun



Rochelle Spears



Tracy {Guest Designer}



May Guest Designer Contest

Have you ever wanted to be a guest designer for us? We hold a sketch contest every month and the prize is a one-month spot on our team! Your kit is complimentary for the month and you get to design some great projects and layouts for us ☺

Check out all the details on our message board!

Scrapbook Shortcuts {Adding Texture with the B-Side}

by Alissa Trowbridge



Have you heard the term “b-side” when it comes to scrapbook paper? What does it mean? The “b-side” refers to what is usually the less busy side of a piece of patterned paper. In the case of my layout, it is the small yellow floral paper I used in the middle of my page.

What I love about b-sides is that they are usually patterned, but in a much smaller scale. I find them super easy to use! This piece is yellow tone-on-tone, which adds a bit of texture to the middle of my page. And I didn’t have to do any sort of technique to make it look like that! It’s the ultimate short-cut.

The next time you’re puzzled with how to add a little texture or interest to your page without introducing another busy pattern, turn your papers over and go for the b-side!



Designer Details {Rounded Corners & Matted Photos}

By Danielle Calhoun



When you create a layout or a card, how much attention do you pay to the small details? There are times after I create a layout I will look at my completed page and wonder what is missing. So often, it can be the smallest of details that make me say, that's it! My page is now complete.

Each month I will focus on a small detail that can make the difference in your pages. Sometimes the smallest of details will catch my eye on a layout and make me say, "Wow!"

As I was creating my layouts this month, there were a few details that really stood out to me. Details that just make that small difference on my pages & add that finishing touch that I need.

Rounded Corners: I always feel like the added touch of rounded corners makes a big difference in the final product. My rule of thumb, I always round the corners of the largest piece of patterned paper on my page.

Matted photos: Sometimes my photos just need the added pop on my page. No better way to add that pop than to mat my photos with a bright white cardstock. As you can see, the 2 photos that I chose to mat on this page stand out, as the non-matted photo fades a little more into the background.

Altered Peace Sign

by Misty Willis



I did an altered chipboard peace sign using the March Solo kit and I LOVE how it turned out! I bought the peace sign at Hobby Lobby and thought the colors in this kit would make a super fun altered wall hanging for my daughter's room. Now...My daughter is a little weirdo. SERIOUSLY! She was ecstatic when I gave her this sign! LOL! Her Motto is Peace~Love~& Tacos, by the way!

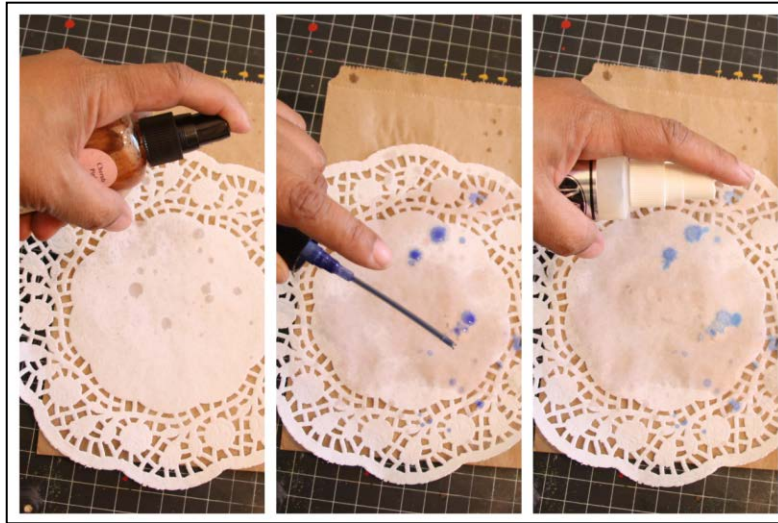
All you will need in addition to your March Solo kit will be the wall hanging, mod podge, X-acto knife, and a sponge brush. I used hot glue to keep the letters on...and I also added a few flowers from my stash to the final product. I have included step by step instructions on each photo for you to view.



Doily Tutorial by Rochelle Spears

Here's a little "how to" on how I distressed the doily I used for the sketch layout in this newsletter.

First, take the doily and spray, shake or brush on your mist.



Then use the heat gun to dry your layout. To get the more vintage distressed look, hold your heat gun close up to the doily and keep in place until you see it start to burn. Be **very** careful NOT to burn it too much!!

Once it's dry, just crumble it up in your hands a bit. It's ok if it tears (I actually prefer it that way).



That's it! It's ready to go on your layout!

