



Well, I get to be the doting, proud grandmother for a moment... I know you were all wondering when that would come, lol.

I just recently had the pleasure of visiting my daughter and her family, then traveling on to Dallas to visit more family with her and the baby. (If you didn't know already, I was born and raised in Dallas and my children were born in Dallas. Most of my family is still there, and all of hubby's family is there.) We had a great time and it was so much fun to love on this little girl every day! Where does the time go? It seems like just yesterday my little girls were this small. Until I remember the High School years, that is...

I hope this summer is a great one for you, we have lots of fun kits coming your way to help you remember those moments forever. And, NEVER leave home without your camera!



Meet Robin {June Guest Designer}



My name is Robin. I am so very honored to have been chosen by the BPM DT as the guest designer.

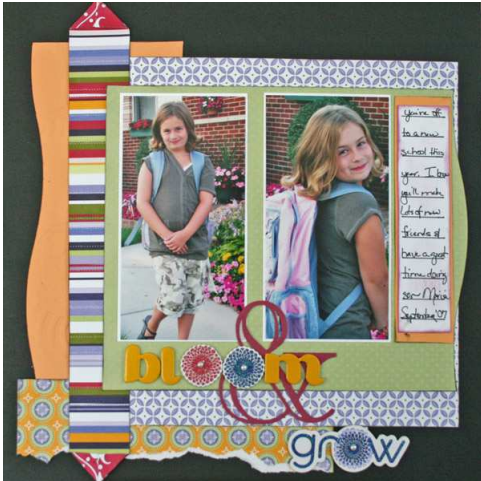
A bit about me ... I live in the San Francisco Bay Area. Much of my life nowadays revolves around the love of my life, my husband, Ralph and our 14-year-old daughter, Erin. Our family loves to travel, enjoys nature and photography. I have been actively involved with Girl Scouts for 10 years (leading my daughter's troop, directing a local summer camp and volunteering at a resident camp in the Sierras). I spend a lot of time at the stables with my daughter riding and otherwise chauffeuring her around. In what free time I manage to find, I love to read, cook, sew, show/train dogs and *surprise* scrap!

Outside my home, I manage a legal department for an international software company. It keeps me hopping and traveling, but I'm lucky as they are very family oriented so my hours away from home tend to match nicely with my daughter's school hours.

My love affair with scrapping started innocently enough about 10 years ago when my sister became a consultant ... she dragged me kicking and screaming to her first home show. By the end of that hour I was hooked! Bought it all! My DH still blames my sister for the fact that scrapping turned into an obsession that is unlikely to fade ... ever! I quickly discovered different manufacturers, enjoy experimenting with techniques, and delight playing with the various embellishments available. About 4 years ago, I discovered kit clubs. Now, I stalk mail carriers for packages and can be found in my scraproom until the late hours of the night.

Layouts in 15 Minutes {or Less}

by Tami Floyd



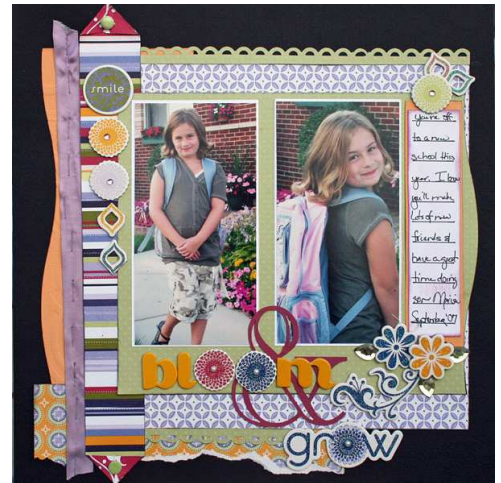
10 Minutes

Use black cardstock as your base. Next add a 3¾ x 9¾” piece of wavy-edged orange cardstock. Glue a 7½ x 2½” piece of Orange Dots with a bottom torn edge along the bottom of the orange cardstock. Adhere a 9 x 9” piece of Purple Leaf Dot over the orange cardstock as shown. Fold corners of a 1½ x 12” piece of Little Garden Stripe on both ends to form an arrow point. Glue this piece down the center of the orange and over the other Purple Leaf. Cut an 8½ x 7½” piece of the Bo Bunny green cardstock with the right side having a wavy edge. Place two 3 x 6” matted photos atop. Adhere this piece over atop the Purple Leaf Dot centering it. Cut a 1¼ x 5½” piece of white cardstock and mat it with the orange. Glue on the right side of layout next to the photo, add lines, and then your journaling. Cut a 3” ampersand from Sweetheart cardstock for

title. Place title where shown and you’re finished!

15 Minutes

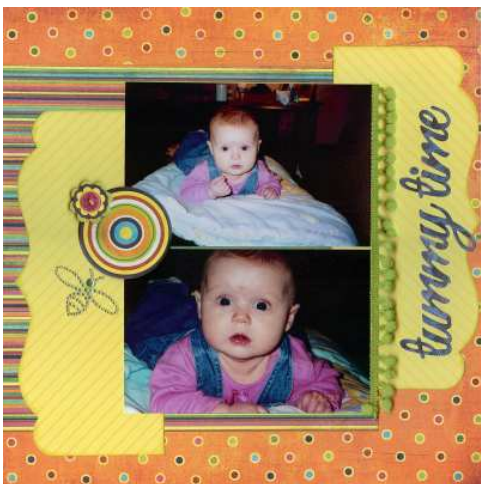
To bump it up a notch, place the Zinnia chipboard and rhinestone accents as shown. Place two green brads at the top and bottom edges of the striped paper in the folded corner sections. Punch a 12” strip from the Bo Bunny green using a border punch. Cut the strip to 8¼”. Adhere thinly cut strip over the Purple Leaf Dot as shown. Place the remaining piece of the border along the bottom edge of the Purple Leaf Dot. Run a piece of ribbon over the orange cardstock and down the side of the striped paper sliding it just under the striped paper. Glue in place and then staple, if desired.



Scrapbook Shortcuts

{Making Masculine Papers Work}

by Alissa Trowbridge

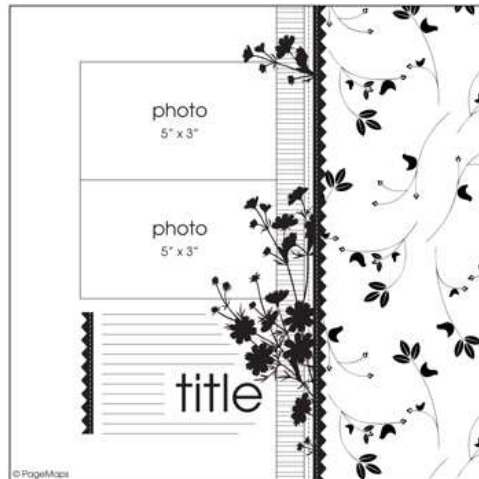


I absolutely loved the Basic Grey kit included in this month’s Medley Kit. The problem? I didn’t have any pictures that would work with the more masculine color theme.

Since the paper does have a bit of hot pink in the orange dots and stripes, I decided to pull that out and make it work for these photos of my cousin wearing the same color pink! I also added the yellow stripe paper from the Medley’s Scenic Route kit to help “girl it up” too. Finally, I added a sparkly pink button from my stash and used the rhinestone butterfly and pom-pom ribbon included in the Basic Grey kit. Viola! Instantly girlie.

{June Sketch}

selected from www.pagemaps.com



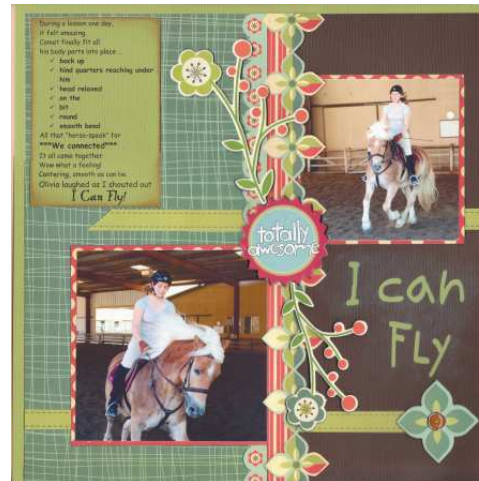
June Sketch



Alissa Trowbridge



Michelle Swartzinski



Robin {Guest Designer}



{Mixing and Matching with the Medley}

Did you know we often purposely choose papers and embellishments for the Medley that will mix and match with one another? For instance, the orange chipboard alphabet looks great not only with the Scenic Route papers, but also the Basic Grey page kit this month!

A trick to get the most out of your Medley kit is to pull out *all* of the Medley papers and embellishments and look at them as a group. Our designers tell us they often spread their Medley kits all over the floor as soon as their boxes arrive to help them see the possibilities. We thought this was such a great tip and technique and wanted to pass it along to you, too.

Happy scrapping!

Getting the Most Out of Your Craft Punches

by Deb Harter

So many of us have shape punches, but how many times have you wished that the shape was bigger? Well, you can take just about any shape punch and make your own template any size you like!



Punch the shape on a scrap piece of paper.



Adhere a dark piece of paper or cardstock to the back of the negative space.



Place the image face down on a copier.



Adjust the size of the image to the desired size. I enlarged mine to 200%.



Copy the image on a piece of cardstock. Cut the image out, and you have a template of the same shape, just larger!



Photo Mojo
{Capturing Movement}
by Michelle Swartzinski

With two boys I love to take photographs capturing their movement...this is not always easy but with practice and some luck I have taken some awesome action pictures of them.

Timing is a key element in action photography. If you shoot at the right moment (actually, just a beat before, to give the camera time to react), you'll get a better shot than if you miss the moment

There are two basic ways to deal with an action subject: freeze its motion by shooting at a fast shutter speed, or blur it by shooting at a slower shutter speed.

The faster the subject, the closer it is to the camera, and the longer the focal length, the faster the shutter speed required to "freeze" its motion. A subject moving directly across the field of view (from left to right or vice versa) will require a faster shutter speed than one moving directly toward or away from the camera at the same speed.

Use a slow shutter speed and pan the camera to track the subject while you shoot. Stand facing the spot where you want to shoot the subject, and rotate your body from the waist up to point the camera toward the approaching subject (keep your feet firmly planted). Smoothly move the camera to follow the subject, so that the subject remains in one spot in the viewfinder. Gently trip the shutter as the subject reaches the desired spot, and continue to track the subject for a beat—don't stop panning as you trip the shutter. With this technique, you can get a sharp image of the moving subject, while the slow shutter speed really blurs the now-"moving" background. The effect will really emphasize the subject's speed.

Another way to get a sharp image of an action subject at a slow shutter speed (works great in dim lighting conditions) is to shoot at the peak of the action—that point where a rising subject momentarily stops before starting back down. This offers an additional benefit, in that peak-action moments are often the most dramatic, too.

Like I mentioned...it takes some practice and a bit of luck to get great actions pictures...but is always lots of fun!

Be sure to share your action photos in the Photo Mojo section of the message board!



[You can see upcoming sneak peeks and future paper lines here.](#)