

BackPorchMemories

Creativity made easy.....



Newsletter

July 2011

So many of us get out of the house and really enjoy our summers. I know that is *definitely* the case here in Alaska. After months (and months!) of staying indoors, summer means “playtime” for us all.

Even if you catch yourself a little short on scrapbooking time this season, that’s ok! While you’re out there making memories at the park, pool, or on vacation, this month’s kits will help you scrap your summer memories in a flash. Both July kits are filled to the brim with summertime papers and goodies. You can save even more time by scraplifting our fabulous design team. See what they did with this month’s kits by going to their gallery [here](#).

Not only does summer mean it’s time to play, but for the scrapbooking industry, it also means it’s time for Summer CHA! Our favorite scrapbooking companies will soon be releasing their newest fall and winter lines. Woohoo! I love seeing all the fresh new product and ideas. If you see anything on your favorite manufacturer blogs that you’d love to see in upcoming kits, be sure to share your thoughts with us in our ["kit requests" forum](#) [here](#). While I can’t buy it all, I do take your thoughts into account while I’m making my kit decisions.

Enjoy your summer!

Paula



Meet Shellye {July Guest Designer}

Hello! My name is Shellye McDaniel and I’m very honored to be the Guest Designer for Back Porch Memories. I live in NE Texas with my husband of 20 years and three kids: two boys ages 17 and 13 and my daughter, age 9.

I work part-time as a Labor & Delivery nurse, so most of my free time is spent either in the craft room or out-and-about with my family and friends.

I’ve been a crafty person most of my life, so when I came across the concept of scrapbooking in 1997, I knew it was for me! I love all forms of papercrafting, from altering projects to card-making...it’s my therapy ☺



Layouts in 15 Minutes {or Less}

by Karry Weaver

10 Minutes



Use a sheet of Sugar Cream cardstock as your base. Cut a 1 X 12” strip from the Liberty Freedom paper for the top and another 1 X 1” strip from the Liberty Stripe paper for the bottom. Before adhering these papers I like to take and roll the edges a little. Cut a 3” triangle from the Liberty paper and adhere to the top right corner just below the Liberty Freedom paper. Mat a 4X6 and a 4X4 photo with the Maraschino cardstock and place them in the bottom left hand of the page with the bottoms of the pictures somewhat lined up leaving room at the top of the smaller photo for the “Family” sticker. Using your favorite border punch or deco scissors cut a 1 X 12” strip of the Liberty Dot paper and cut it into three pieces, 1 - 5 in. and 1- 4inch and keep the 3” scrap too. I accordion fold my edged pieces and then open them back up. Then on

the back side of the paper add a pop. Tuck the longest piece into the top border, on this piece I used a piece of scrap maraschino cardstock in between the two. The 4” piece I used to highlight the Family title sticker and the last little piece I tucked into the bottom border. Then to finish the page off I used two of the rub-ons on the right side of the page. A flourish border rub-on and the adorable journaling spot rub-on.

15 Minutes

I used the 'Oodles of Fun' CS sticker in the top left corner and one of the circle tap stickers on the top of the largest photo. Then I randomly scattered the rest of the rub-ons around the page. I used the entire sheet! I also added those gorgeous canvas stars to the page, using one to highlight the corner of the large photo and the other two are just randomly placed. I love the extra texture they add.



Scrapbook Shortcuts {A Little Something Extra with Bling}

by Alissa Trowbridge

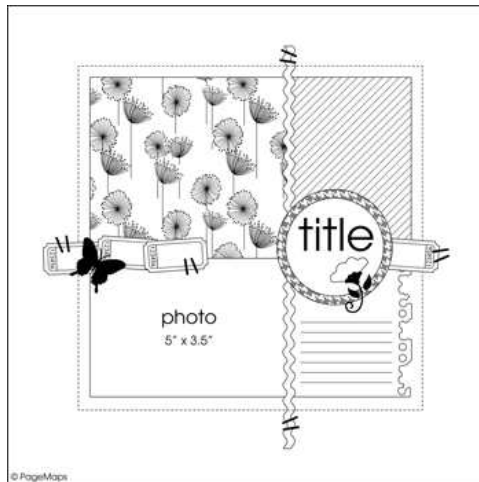


I finished this card, but it felt like it was missing something. Luckily, this month’s Solo Kit had these cute pear-shaped rhinestones in blue and green. I took advantage of the fresh shape and used several green ones to accent the bottom of the tree on my card. Clustering them points down added a little dimension to the flatness of that accent. I then placed two more blue sparkles on the butterfly. This time, I put the two wider ends together in the middle to create the butterfly’s body. Both of these accents just took a few seconds to do and really added a lot to my card.

The next time your project just needs “a little something,” try bling!

{July Sketch}

selected from www.pagemaps.com



July Sketch



Alissa Trowbridge



Karry Weaver



Shellye {July Guest Designer}



Want to be Our Guest Designer?

Each month, we open up a spot on our Design Team to one lucky guest. All you have to do is create a layout based on the exclusive sketch by Becky Fleck (posted in our forum under “contests”). The contest is always due on the 10th of every month, with the winner being announced around the 15th.

Guests are given full designer privileges for the month they design with us. You’ll receive a kit to design with compliments of Back Porch Memories. Plus you get access to our private Design Team forum, where we discuss all the behind the scenes stuff – what products are coming out in the next kit, what to put in our newsletter, who is working on the sketches for the month, etc. It’s really fun!

Don’t be shy – submit your layout to our contest and maybe YOU will be our next guest designer! Good luck!

Mixed Up Chipboard Mini Book

by Danielle Price

For this month's mini-album idea, I came up with a fast simple way to make something cute using the "flash card" paper in the Solo Kit. Seriously, it was so easy!



Step One: Using the flash card paper you received in this month's Solo Kit, cut them apart and choose the ones you would like to use. I ended up using nine of them.

Step Two: Trim or print your photos to measure 2 x 3. Add to the cards. Then add all the yummy embellishments from the kit.



Step Three: Punch holes in the upper left hand corner. They don't have to be the same. I like the uneven look. Place a ring through the hole. Add as little or as much ribbon as you like. I like a lot of ribbon!

Step Four: I cut out the sun from the patterned paper embellishments and added over the printed sun on the flash card with pop-dots. I then used three different styles of lettering for the titles. The button is from my stash.

I would love to see everyone's version of this album. Don't forget to upload them to the gallery. Happy scrapping!!

Pinterest as Scrapbooking Inspiration

by Danielle Calhoun

Have you discovered this new place on the Internet for inspiration. Yes, it is called, Pinterest. (<http://pinterest.com/>) Pinterest is a place that you can bookmark all of the inspiration you find across the Internet. Even better, you can bookmark the inspiration of others. You can organize your inspiration into categories. It is more than just creative inspiration. It can include (but not be limited to) home decor, clothing, travel, party decor, etc. This place is a gem of inspiration.

I often stop by Pinterest before I start creating. The colors, designs and inspiration are a great starting point for a creative day! The best part? So many of your favorite scrapbookers are on Pinterest to follow their "pins" (when a person bookmarks something, it is called a "pin"). In addition, many scrapbookers have a category called "layouts/creative stuff," and you can browse through their favorite layouts. It is like a huge party of inspiration!

I'll leave you with a "pin" from Pinterest that I love. I love finding these inspirational quotes...



If you would like to see what a profile, including pins and bookmarks looks like on Pinterest, feel free to check mine out: <http://pinterest.com/daniellectalhoun/>.