



## You're Invited to Join Us!

Now that the kids are back in school (or almost!) and the easy breezy days of summer are just about past, we hope you'll join us on our message board. Back Porch Memories has a great message board, full of fun monthly challenges, a monthly Guest Designer contest and friendly conversation. We welcome you to pop in, introduce yourself and join in on the fun. We have a fantastic group of regular posters who are always quick to reply to questions and ooh and ahh over your creations. Of course, there's always room for one more - you! See you online! <http://www.backporchmemories.com/mboard>



## Meet Aubree Greenspun {August Guest Designer}



Three years ago I was out to dinner with a few friends. They spent most of the evening talking about scrapbooking. One had even brought her new Cropadile to show everyone. With great reservation, I decided to give scrapping a try. Now, I am hooked. I love documenting the everyday in photos and then creating a piece of art in which to showcase them. I love that I am creating something my children and future grandchildren will be able to look at and recall all of the love and good times that our family shared.

When not locked in my scrap room, I am a wife and working mother of three. I am my son's chauffeur and both of my daughters' cheerleader; constantly on the run from one sport to another.

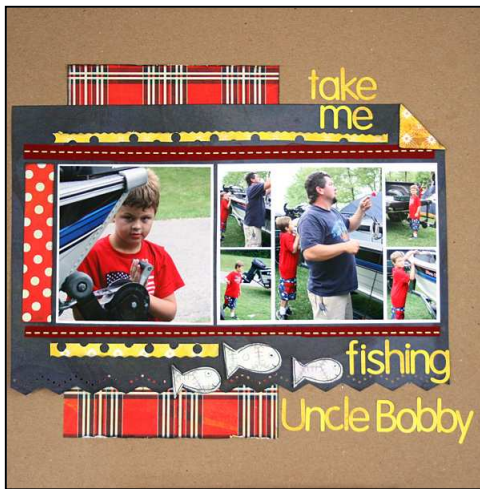
I am thrilled to be Back Porch Memories' Guest Designer this month. I have found tremendous inspiration from the scrappers here. You are all amazing!

If you would like to see more of my work, check out my blog at <http://aubreesscraps.blogspot.com>.

## Layouts in 15 Minutes {or Less}

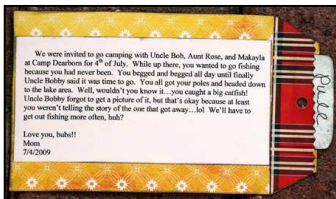
by Tami Floyd

### 10 Minutes

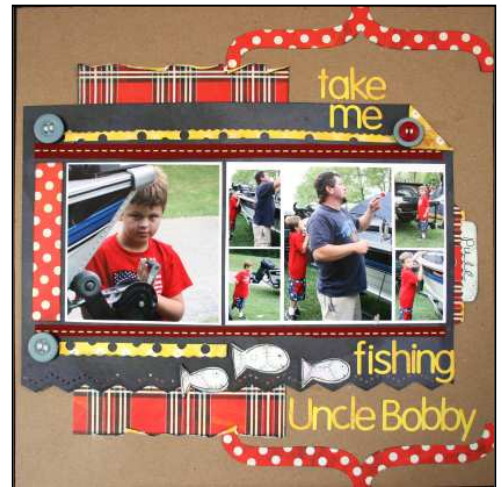


Start with a kraft cardstock from your stash. Cut a  $5\frac{1}{4} \times 9\frac{1}{4}$  piece of BG Vintage Plaid. Glue  $1\frac{1}{2}$ " from left side and centering between top and bottom cardstock edges. Distress/crumple the top and bottom edges of the Vintage Plaid paper. Cut a  $10\frac{3}{4} \times 7\frac{1}{2}$  piece of BG Fresco. Use a border punch or decorative scissors for the bottom edge. Place glue on top, left and bottom sides of the BG Fresco piece and then adhere over the Vintage Plaid about  $\frac{1}{4}$ " from the left on the kraft cardstock. Fold back right-top corner. Cut a small triangle from the yellow side of the Vintage Plaid and place over the corner. Within the center of the BG Fresco, adhere (1)  $4 \times 4$  and (1)  $5\frac{1}{2} \times 4$  matted photos (my  $5\frac{1}{4} \times 4$  photo was actually created using multiple images placed on one  $6 \times 4$  photo paper in Photoshop Elements). Cut  $10\frac{1}{4}$ " piece of gaffer tape. Cut the stitched edges from the gaffer tape and place one strip on the top and the other on the bottom of the photos. Cut  $\frac{3}{4} \times 4$ " piece of BG Aggie and glue to left side of photos as shown. Cut (1)  $\frac{1}{4} \times 4$  and (1)  $\frac{1}{4} \times 8\frac{1}{4}$  pieces of yellow BG Vintage Plaid. Punch holes throughout the two pieces and glue the larger one above the photos and the smaller one below the photos as shown. I hand drew and cut the fishies from BG Broken China. Place title using BG yellow letter stickers as shown.

### 15 Minutes



Choose three medium-sized blue and one small red buttons from your stash. Thread two blue and the small red buttons. Place all the buttons as shown on the layout. Cut a  $6\frac{1}{2} \times 3\frac{3}{4}$ " rectangle from BG Vintage Plaid using yellow side for journaling. Cut a  $\frac{1}{2} \times 2$ " piece of BG Broken China and round top corners, write PULL and glue at the top of the tag. I cut a  $1 \times 3\frac{3}{4}$ " piece of BG Vintage Plaid and place along the top of the yellow tag just below the PULL. Cut right and left corners off and punch a hole to form a tag. Write your journaling and slide the tag behind the BG Fresco paper. Hand draw (2) 7" brackets using BG Aggie. Glue above and below the title as shown.





## Challenge! {Digital Photo Sizing}

by Danielle Calhoun

*Editor's Note: We're adding a new feature to our newsletter, beginning this month! Danielle's going to show you a new tip, trick or technique each month. Then on the first day of the next month, she'll post a challenge relating to her article in our "Challenges" forum. Since this is our August newsletter, you can look for her challenge as it relates to this article to be posted on September 1<sup>st</sup>. Sounds like fun, Danielle!*



There is something I love about using a variety of photo sizes on my layouts!

If you have a photo-editing program like Photoshop or Photoshop Elements, it's very easy to edit your photo sizes! I'll give you a step-by-step guide.

- \*Go to File>New>Blank File
- \*For this example, let's use 4 inches X 6 inches for the new file size.
- \*Open your photo that you would like to resize.
- \*Once photo is opened, go to Image>Resize>Image Size
- \*Go down to width and height and input your new photo size. Let's do 2X3.
- \*Use the rectangular marquee tool, and copy image.

\*Click on your blank file, and paste the image.

\*You will see your image with a white background.

\*I will print my photo like this, and you have the option of cutting the photo down with or without the white border.

\*Be sure that you DO NOT save your original photo.

If you have any questions, feel free to ask in the forum. And be sure to look for my challenge on September 1<sup>st</sup>!



## Scrapbook Shortcuts {Quick Typed Journaling}

by Alissa Trowbridge

Here's something to try if you have a lot to say (or love the neatness of typed journaling), but hate the frustration of making typed journaling fit on your page.

Type your journaling *before* laying out the page, as I did here on my "Alabama" layout. Print the journaling on cardstock (or lightly

patterned paper) and cut it out. Then make the journaling block work into your design, just as you would a photo you've already printed. Mine worked out to be about 4x4" in size on this page.

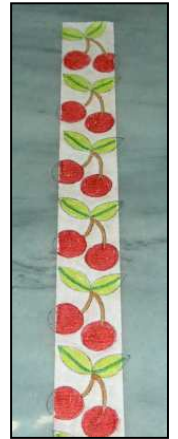
This technique will look like you spent hours adjusting your journaling to just the perfect size!

# Masking Tape: Reinvention

by Audrey Tan

The ordinary masking tape has been revolutionized! It has found its way into the scrapping arena and certainly companies have completely reinvented its use and it's look. No longer is it plain looking. These days you can easily buy decorated masking tapes to suit your needs.

Having seen one sold online, I decided I would try and create my own design on a masking tape. The first thing that came to mind was to see how well the masking tape took to stamping. I tore out a strip and placed it on a plastic bag (the one that Paula stores the kit in make a useful working surface). Once I picked out an appropriate stamp image, I stamped on it using black Memento ink. Not satisfied with simply stamping it, I even coloured it using my Promarkers/Copics. The masking tape took to that very well. Here's the result.



I quite liked the result and decided to make use of it in a LO. I used it as a decorative feature in this particular LO:



I decided to make further use of the masking tape by turning it into a journaling strip, but not before colouring it with a Copic marker first.

I certainly had fun playing with the ordinary masking tape. It's amazing how it can transform itself into a useful embellishment when required. Have fun with it!

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