BUILDING PAGES

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ONLINE CLASSES
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workshop taught by Debbie Hodge

Lesson 8: Banded

- The Design
- Variations and Details
- Sketch
- Your Turn

THE DESIGN

Arranging your photos in a strip or a band and then using the remaining space on the canvas for journaling and title is page foundation that is easy to use AND that provides lots room for variations.
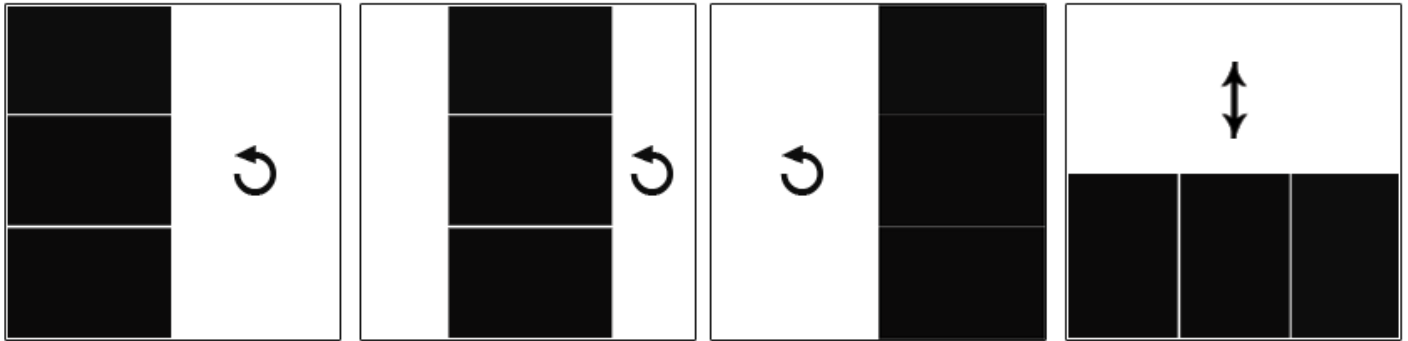
This design is great for:
* presenting 1,2, or 3 photos.
* working with 3 portrait-oriented photos or 3 landscape-oriented photos.
* including a substantial amount of journaling with multiple photos on a one-page layout.

This design is flexible and provides lots of opportunities for incorporating products and techniques that support a variety of styles. Keep the mats and edges simple and the photos lined up for a clean and classic page. If you're looking for something more casual, tilt or place a photo ajar, rough up your edges and add stitching, doodling, or some other homey touch. The number of possible variations in placement is huge.
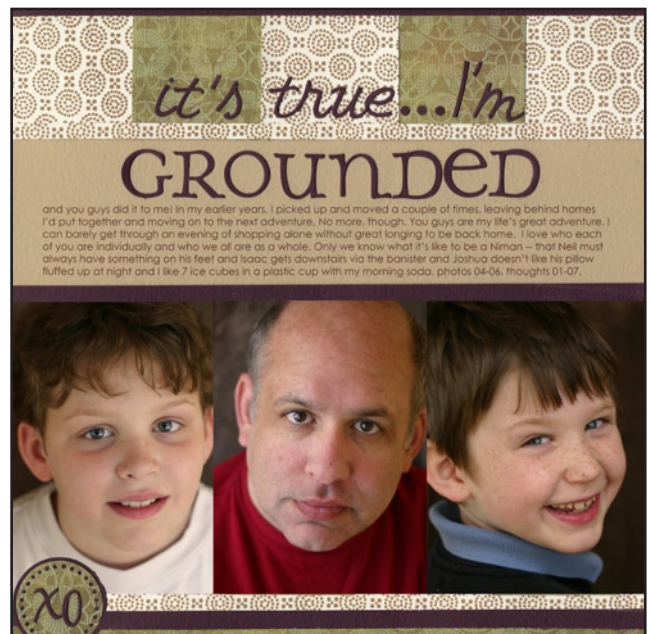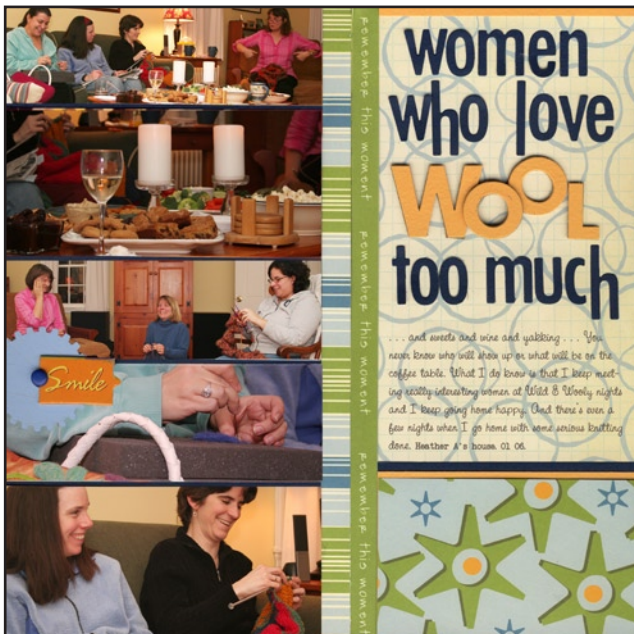
Three unframed and unmatted photos of equal size are placed in a column with narrow gutters. The vertical band of photos sits about two inches in from canvas edge and a strip of patterned paper runs their length and unites them.
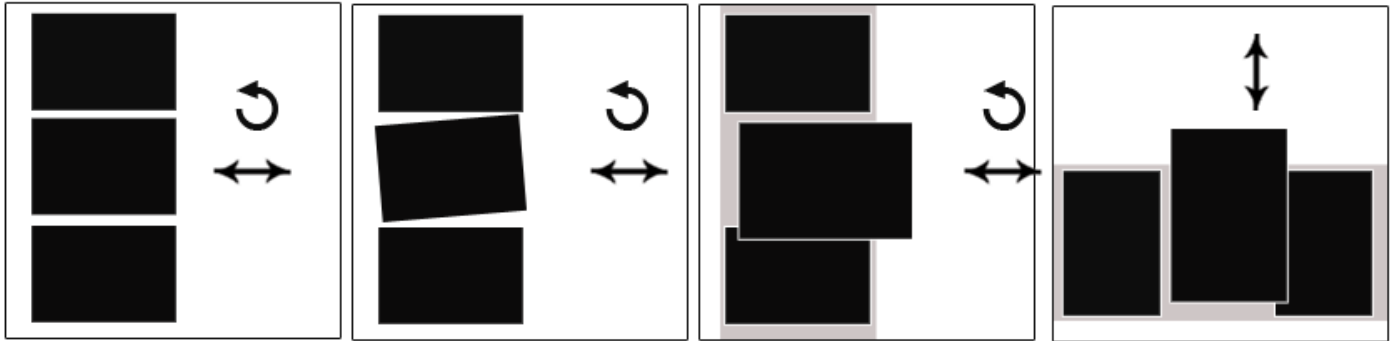
VARIATIONS AND DETAILS

The most basic approach for this foundation is to vertically align three (or more) photos (or blocks of paper or journaling) of equal width. Place with abutting edges from top to bottom. This "band" can be placed to the right of the page, to the left of it, or anywhere in between. Bleed off the edge or leave a narrow margin. What's more, you can rotate this foundation 90 degrees and position the block at top, bottom or anywhere in between.

Five photos of varying heights and equal widths are placed with very narrow gutters between and edges bleeding off the left side of the canvas.

Three equally-sized photos are lined up horizontally with edges abutting. They are placed a short distance from page bottom where paper strips add decorative interest.

Use slightly smaller photos (or blocks) of equal width and of heights that allow gutters or even framing. Again, play with positioning of the grouping across the page--or rotate 90 degrees
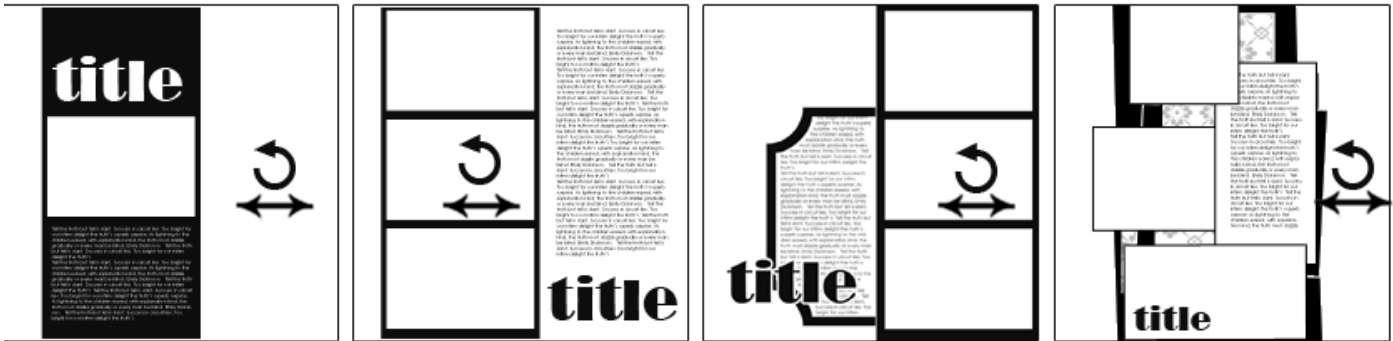
and play with vertical positioning of the grouping on the page. Jazz things up by pulling one photo out of alignment, or even adding some variety of in photo sizing. Try different block mat options.

Three framed photos (two of equal size and one slightly larger) are placed a bit ajar in a vertical column. The larger photo is in the center and treated with a fancier frame to create a focal point and add variety. Journaling and title sit on the right half of the canvas.

Here, a navy vertical mat houses four landscape-oriented photos. One is framed and layered above others to add dimension. A strip of patterned paper decorates the mat. Journaling and title sit on the other half of the canvas.

Consider the "band" as a place to house things other than photos. Title and journaling can sit here with one photo. Just as there are a variety of ways to use the "band," so, too, are there a variety of ways to use the remaining area. A great asset of this page foundation is how economically it uses space, and, thus, how nicely it can house substantial journaling.

"Bedtime Delay Tactic #28" is a page with generous white space. The "band" houses one photo, title, and journaling.
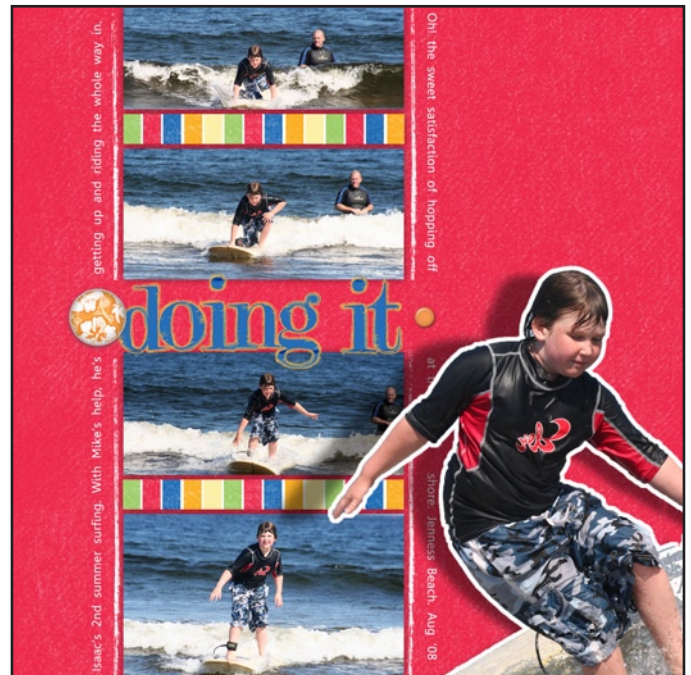

The narrow band of photos on Anime bleed off page edge. A large focal photo and lots of journaling fill the rest of this very full page.

Starting with a very simple foundation and then understanding all of the aspects you can modify gives you innumerable layout options.

The starter: a band (horizontal or vertical) of photos that takes up half (or less) of the page.

CHOICES
- orientation
  ◇ horizontal band
  ◇ vertical band

- positioning of band on the page
  ◇ bleed off page edge right or left (with vertical–top or bottom with horizontal)
  ◇ leave a small edge margin
  ◇ position somewhere in between

- positioning of photos (or blocks) relative to one another
  ◇ abut
  ◇ use gutters
  ◇ use frames
  ◇ place all aligned
  ◇ tilt some
  ◇ pull out and enlarge a photo

- other
  ◇ add edging for a band that goes edge to edge (or top to bottom); use paper strip, ribbon, scallop, etc
  ◇ add mat for band that's smaller than page height or width
  ◇ variation is how you use the space outside of the band

Take a look at the variations on the following pages.

"Meet Me" has a vertical band of photos on the right (notice how the center photo is actually two photos). This "band" isn't matted, but, rather, set off with a hand-drawn border. The area to the left holds title, another photo, and journaling. Notice how each of these elements aligns with a photo in the band.

Narrow strips of horizontally striped paper border each edge of a band of photos. Behind the band is a patterned paper foundation piece that stops short of the opposite side of the canvas. The title runs sideways along the edge of the band, and a journaling block juts off the foundation piece.

"Shovel to Skate" is a collaged band with uneven edges running down the center of the canvas.

"A Really Good Morning" has one oversized photo as its vertical "band" sitting on bold patterned paper. Tilted paper layers back up the band. A narrower band at top houses journaling and title.

SKETCH

The sketch here comes from the layout "Shovel to Skate" on the previous page. [Down-load link for layered psd file.](#)

YOUR TURN

Now it's your turn to use a "band" on your page. Find three photos that all have the same orientation. Think about how much room you need for journaling and title and then go through the options on page x and make choices that work for your own "banded" page.