

# Scrapbook Coach “Bracket” Quick Reference

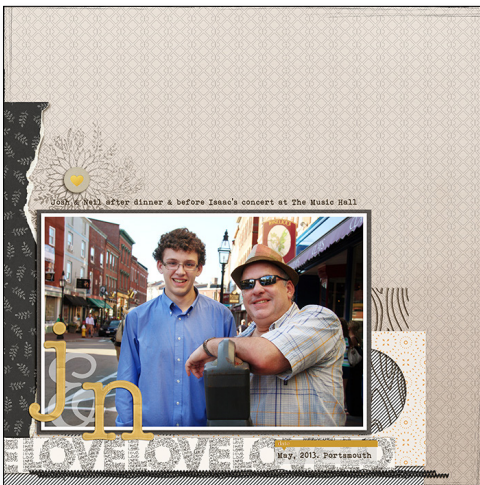
#1: bracket of woven strips



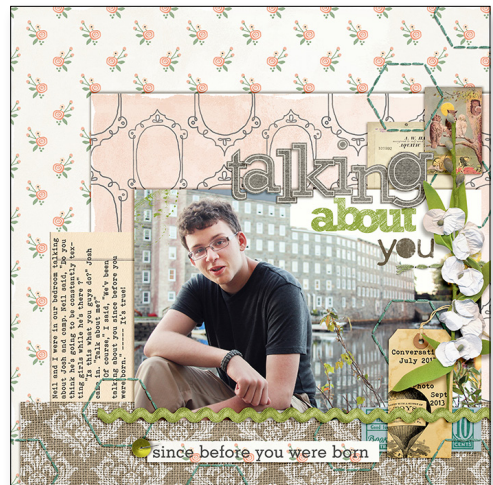
#2: photos define bracket arms



#3: bracket with drama

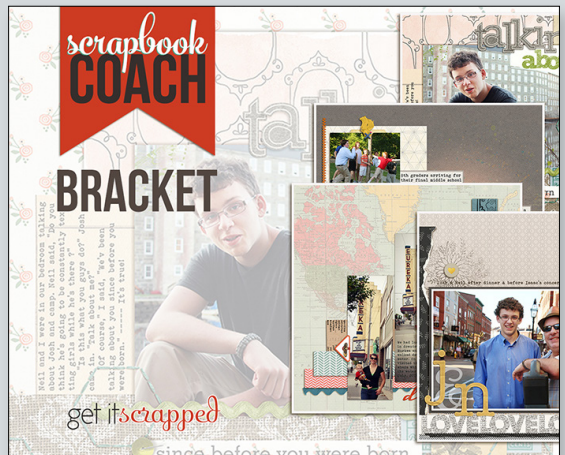


#4: bracket defined by color



This is the quick guide that accompanies the 4 videos in the “Bracket” class in the [Scrapbook Coach series](#), self-paced classes by Debbie Hodge. This guide is an overview only. Be sure to view the videos for full design lessons.

Share your layouts, ideas or questions in the [Get It Scrapped Scrapbook Coach Forum/gallery](#). Questions? [Email me \(Debbie Hodge\)](#). Scrapbook Coach is a Get It Scrapped Production!



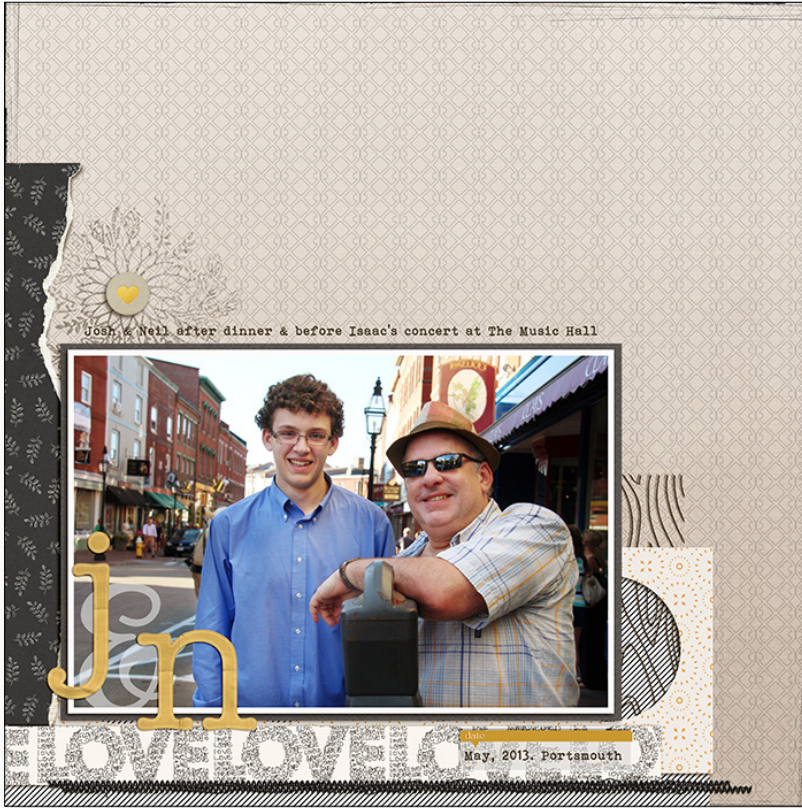
# supplies



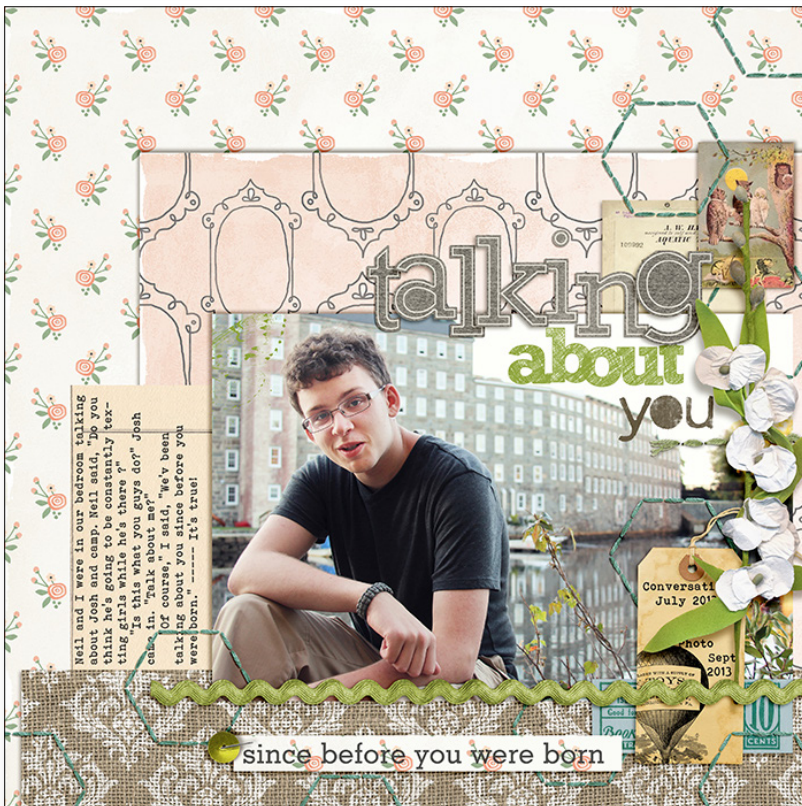
Downtown by Debbie Hodge | Supplies: Felicity by Mye de Leon; Feedsack by Splendid Fiins; Sup, Mellow Yellow by Karla Dudley; Destinations by Studio Blagovista; Arrows Patterns by Little Butterfly Wings; Coconut by Sara Gleason; Housegrind font



Me Too by Debbie Hodge | Supplies: Maggie Holmes Collection Papers and Elements (digital) by Maggie Holmes/Crate Paper; Peachy Alpha, Kraft Essentials, Life 365 (flair) by Karla Dudley; Stamped Alpha by Just Jaimee; Stitched by Anna Orange, Warm Photo Glows by Anna Aspnes; Far Away From Here (spritz) by Ju Kneipp; Pinned Tabs No 1, Flossy Stitches Blue by Katie Pertiet; Bohemian Typewriter font



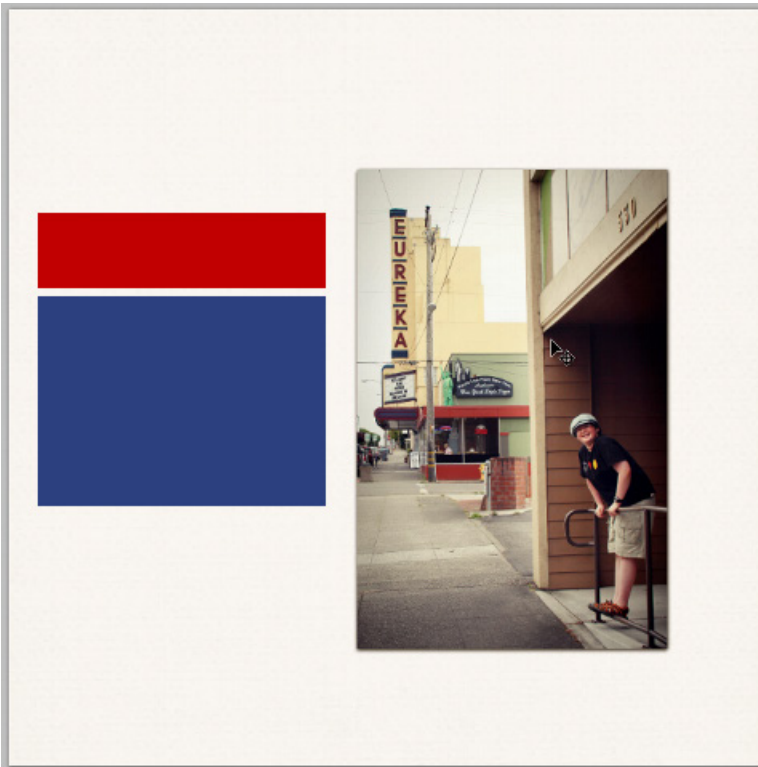
N & J by Debbie Hodge | Supplies: Equinox, Generations by One Little Bird; Diptych by Paislee Press; Generations by Traci Murphy; Artplay Palette Sunflower, Straight Stitched Black by Anna Aspnes; Life Unscripted by Rebecca Wagler; Pocket Fillers by Valerie Wibbens; Ripped & Stitched 2 by Lynn Grieveson; Jade by Becky Higgins; Basic Paper Alpha by Katie Pertiet; Mercury Script, Bohemian Typewriter fonts



Talking About You by Debbie Hodge | Burlap Essentials, Krafty Alpha, Flossy Stitches 2 by Katie Pertiet; CYO Alpha by Zoe Pearn; Small Alpha by Allison Pennington; Sophia, Jane 2, Hello, Eh?, Sam by Rebecca Wagler; 5th and Frolic by Dear Lizzy; Stapled Sequins by Kim Jensen

## BRACKET #1

# bracket of woven strips



1 portrait-oriented photo (this one is 5" x 7.5")

2 determine whether to place your photo to the right side or the left side of the canvas

3 select two colors for your papers and elements - one to be dominant and the other to accent



4 select two patterned papers with your dominant color

they should be tone-on-tone or tone-with-neutral

5 cut strips from each about 1" wide, play with lengths - keep long for now and trim as your design develops

you could add a second photo if desired



cut a strip (a little less than 1" wide) of patterned paper in your accent color.

6

add to the horizontal arm of the bracket

"weave" the horizontal and vertical arms

add one more narrow strip or piece of trim in your dominant color to the horizontal arm

7

add a wide neutral block to horizontal

8



choose background paper

9

# BRACKET #1 (continued)



consider space  
needed for your title  
and journaling

10

think of the two  
together and  
determine where to  
place each

add journaling

11

add title incorporating  
your accent color

12



consider space  
needed for your title  
and journaling

think of the two  
together and  
determine where to  
place each

add journaling

add title incorporating  
your accent color

place elements to  
suggest a diagonal  
between the ends of  
each bracket arm

13



embellish in two more spots with your accent color

choose those spots to work with your title to create a visual triangle

the triangle should frame or pass through the photos



the bracket on this first page of the lesson was established with woven strips of paper

one dominant and one accent color were chosen

the horizontal arm was built up and layered more heavily than the vertical arm

the photos are housed inside the bracket

## BRACKET #2

# photos define bracket arms



(1) focal point photo:  
landscape, 6" x 4"

1

(2 or 3) smaller  
photos to make a  
grouping about 3" x  
7.5"

add narrow white mat  
to focal point photo



arrange photos in a  
forward-facing "L"  
shape with the  
grouping of smaller  
photos making the  
vertical arm and the  
single photo defining  
the horizontal arm

2

consider colors -  
choose one color to  
work with in building  
your supporting  
elements initially

3





select patterned papers with your chosen color

4

look for a tone-on-tone and a tone-with-neutral (trim to 11" x 4" and 10" x 1")

5

select, also, a neutral-on-neutral print (4.75" x 10")

6

weave them to back up your photo

7



use titlework and journaling to fill in the open area, creating a diagonal line

8

begin with a sideways 3" x 4" journaler to hold the title

9

add strips for journaling

stay with your chosen color and neutrals

## BRACKET #2 (continued)



choose a background that presents your elements well

10

layer a few more pieces that are primarily in neutrals (strips, tags, ephemera) **BEHIND** your photos

11



add a subtle element (like brushwork, paint, stamping, stenciling, tone-on-tone cutwork) behind title and journaling

12

do this in an accent color



add finishing bits in your accent color and in neutrals

13

add them to define a visual triangle

emphasize the bracket foundation with high-contrast lines of stitching, rub-ons, doodling, or narrow trim

14



this composition accommodates several photos

placed along the arms of the bracket

woven strips back the photos up

the cluster defines a triangular shape

elements are connected and grounded with layers

## BRACKET #3

# bracket with drama



one large and engaging photo 8" x 5.5" (or two 4" x 5.5" photos)

1

double mat with white and then dark gray

place photo less than 1" from left edge of canvas and a bit more than 1" from bottom of canvas

ELOVELOVELOVELO



select 3 black-and-white patterned papers

2

one print should be more black than white

two prints should be more white than black



tear a strip from the blacker print -- approx 1" wide and 9" high

3

place to the left of your photo, abutting page edge

trim another print 10.5" x 4" and place in bottom left corner

4

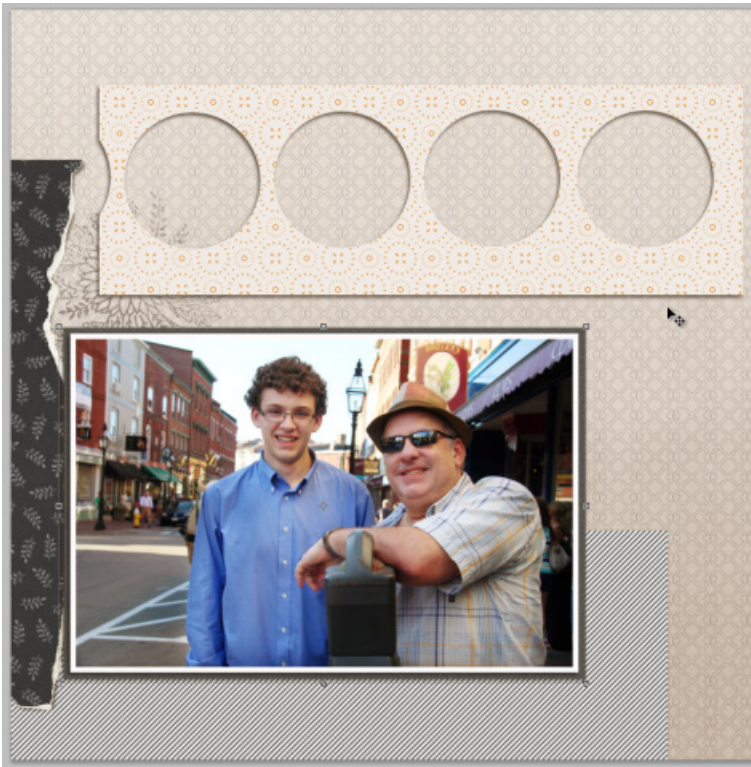
select a tan or kraft base (or a tone-on-tone print)



add a stamped or stenciled or doodled or rub-on or cutwork design to the vertical arm

5

## BRACKET #3 (continued)

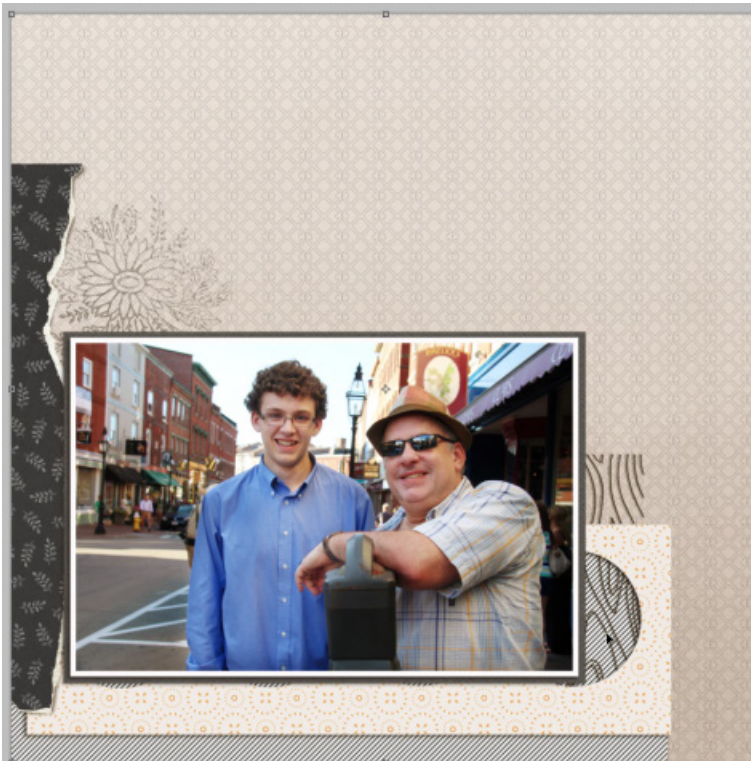


add a stamped or stenciled or doodled or rub-on or cutwork design to the vertical arm

cut a 10" x 3" block from a neutral print & punch shapes from it: circles or butterflies or diamonds . . .

layer it beneath the photo so that some of the punched opening reveals the paper below

6



layer a block of printed transparency or printed vellum between your punched paper and the block below

7



layer a block of printed transparency or printed vellum between your punched paper and the block below

8

add a 10" x 1" strip of a third black and white print below the photo

anchor this strip to the canvas with something narrow and black. It could be stitching, a narrow bit of trim or strong inking



9

handwrite or print your journaling to the page in a way that maintains the basic cluster shape we've built so far

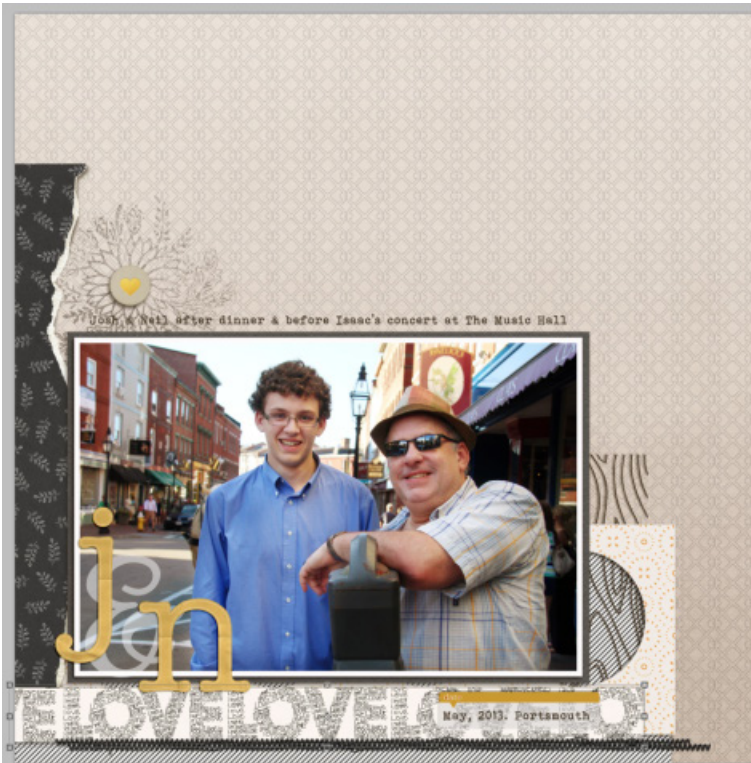
## BRACKET #3 (continued)



choose a single accent color

10

add titlework and embellishments with the accent color in a triangle -- and also in a way that creates an "L" that echoes the "L" of your bracket



choose a single accent color

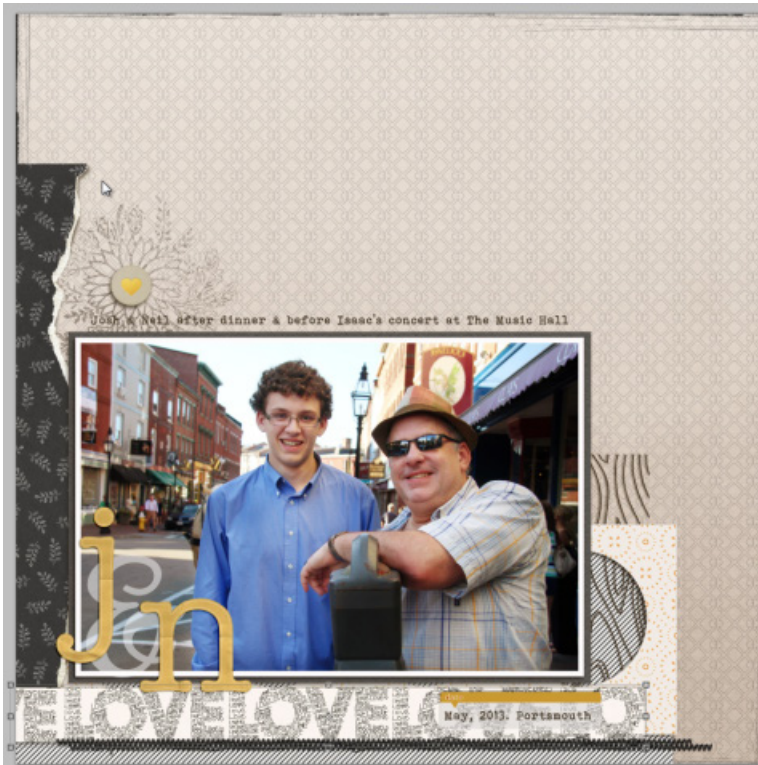
add titlework and embellishments with the accent color in a triangle -- and also in a way that creates an "L" that echoes the "L" of your bracket





finish off with a canvas border: stitching, inking, hand drawn lines (in black)

11



a bracket composition with pizzazz

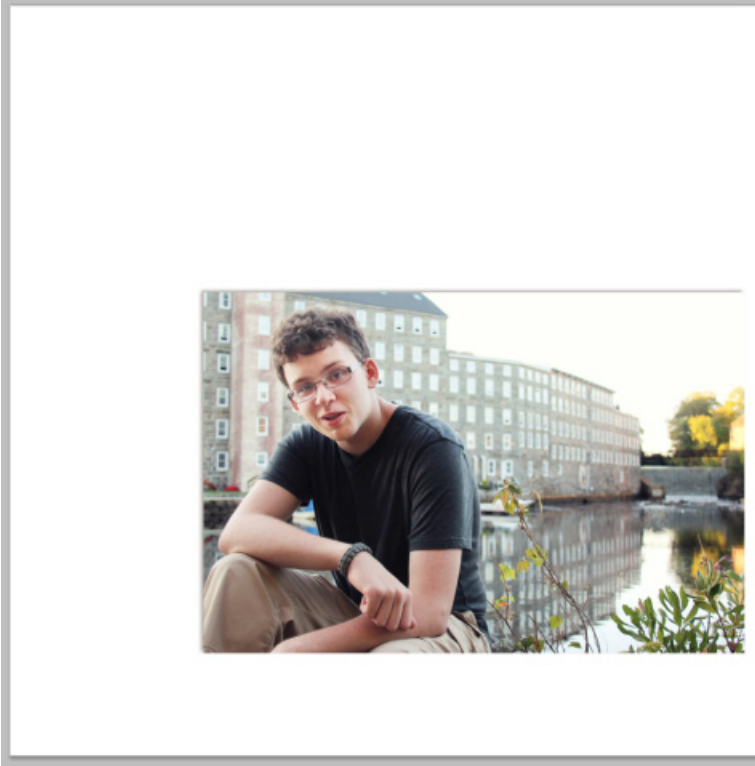
the bracket arms are defined in creative ways and bleed off the canvas

the black and white design with an engaging photo and one accent color is both classic and energetic

see through layers add a modern feeling and interest

## BRACKET #4

# bracket defined by color



photo(s)  
one 8.5" x 5.5"  
or  
two 4" x 5.5"

1



select 3 papers

start with a pattern  
that's "weighty" in  
color, motif size, and or  
density and that works  
well with your photo

trim to 11.5" x 2" and  
place in bottom right  
corner

add 10" square behind  
photo and, again, flush  
with bottom right corner

add background  
canvas

2

3



choose a bold and vivid color for defining the bracket

4

add a strip of the color horizontally below your photo - try to use something other than a strip of paper: trim, stitching, punched border are all options

5

add a vertical arm in your bold color creatively: try a series of shapes or buttons, fussy-cut or die-cut shapes . . .



layer a few pieces of ephemera (in neutrals) to build up the vertical arm

6

## BRACKET #4 (continued)



add another layer below those first boldly colored arms of the bracket -- something that's subtle and that strengthens the lines

7

consider outlining shapes, sprinkling confetti, adding mist or paint . . .



find a place for titlework and journaling

8

keep the area at top left of your photo open

add elements with an eye toward defining a diagonal line between the ends of the bracket arms

9



The bracket here is defined by elements in one stand-out color. You can use stitching, repeated shapes, cut work, florals, or some other element to define the bracket.

Once you've done this, add subtle layers -- of ephemera, of scattered confetti, of repeated shapes, or of something else to reinforce the lines of the bracket.