

Scrapbook Coach “On a Shelf” Quick Reference

1 photo
on a solid shelf



2 photos
on an airy shelf



3 photos
on a shelf of
repeated shapes



4 photos
on a pieced-
foundation shelf



These are quick guides that accompany the 4 videos in the “On a Shelf” class in the Scrapbook Coach series, self-paced classes by Debbie Hodge. These are “road maps” or overviews only. Be sure to view the videos for full design lessons.

The videos are in the Get It Scrapped classroom. [Click here for classroom](#) or go to getitscrapped.com and click on “Classes” in the menu bar. Log in (sidebar) and find your

class from the menu. Questions? [Email me \(Debbie Hodge\)](#). Scrapbook Coach is a Get It Scrapped Production!



1 photo on a solid shelf

select, mat, cluster and place photos

Select your photo:

(one) 4" x 6" photo with color removed or toned down: black and white or sepia is great.

Place your photo:

Place the photo just below vertical center and to the left (or right, depending upon the lines of sight in your) photo of horizontal center -- leave about 1" margin on the side closest to canvas edge.



choose analogous colors, make shelf, add journaler

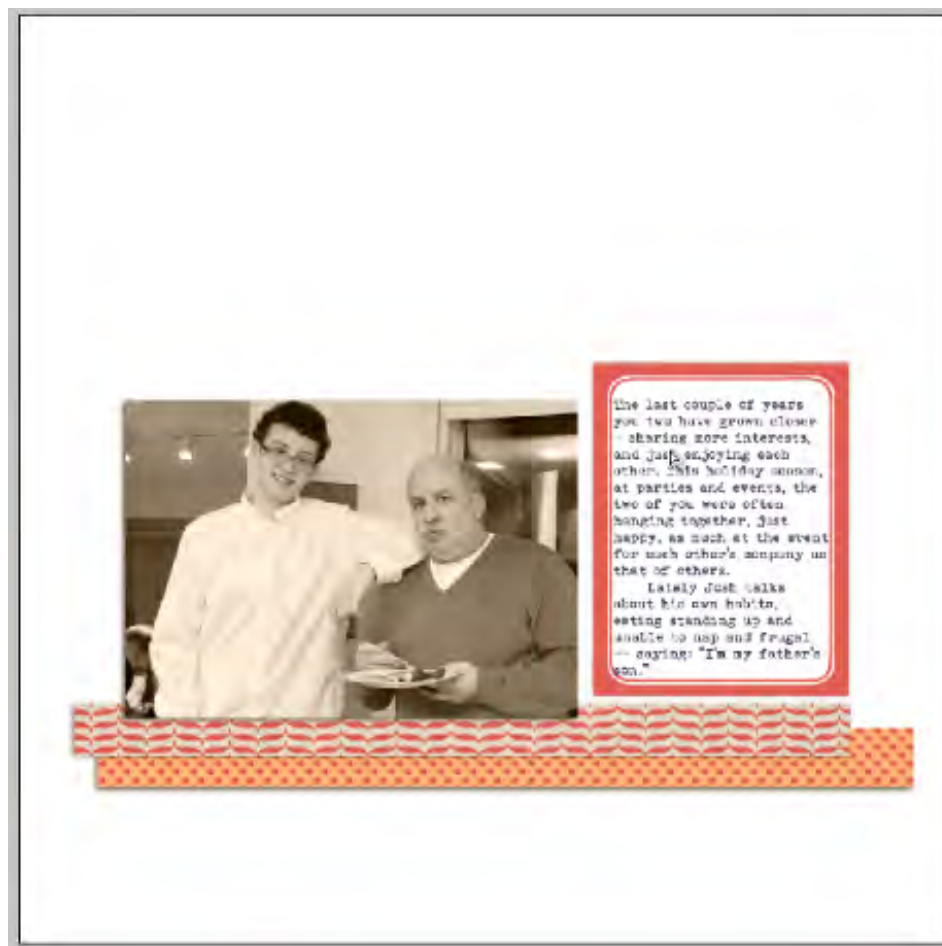
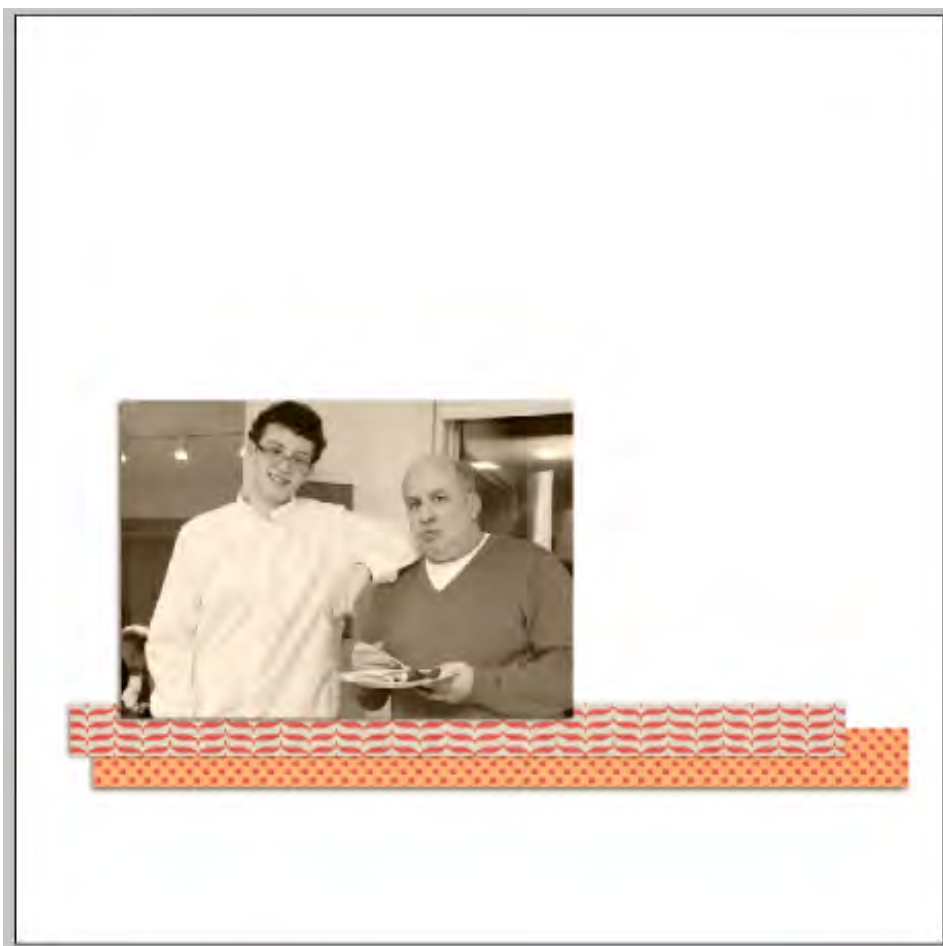
Think about your story. Choose a color that supports it and a second color next to it on the color wheel. I chose red and orange.

Trim 2 strips of patterned papers with your colors, each about .5" wide. One should be approx 10" and the other 10.5" long.

Add journaling to journaling card (approx 3.5" wide by 4" high"). The journaler should include one of your two colors. If you can't find a journaler,

mount white cardstock on colored cardstock with narrow edge.

Mount to right of photo.



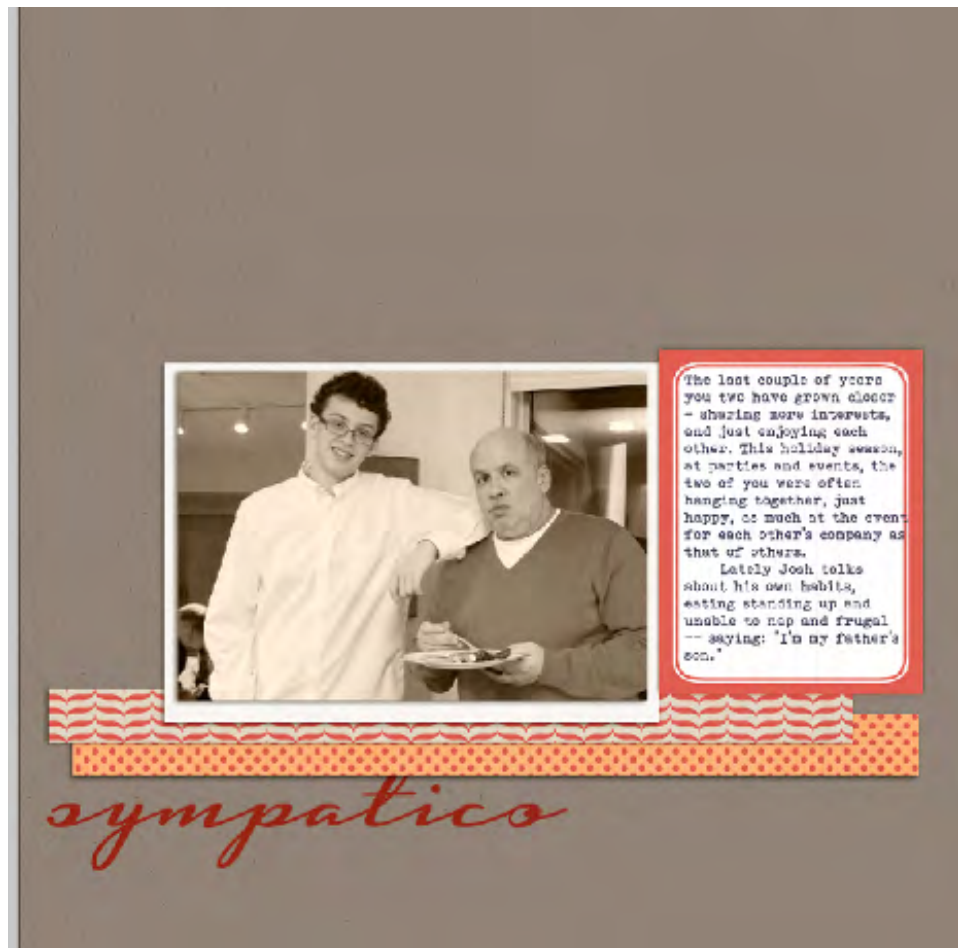
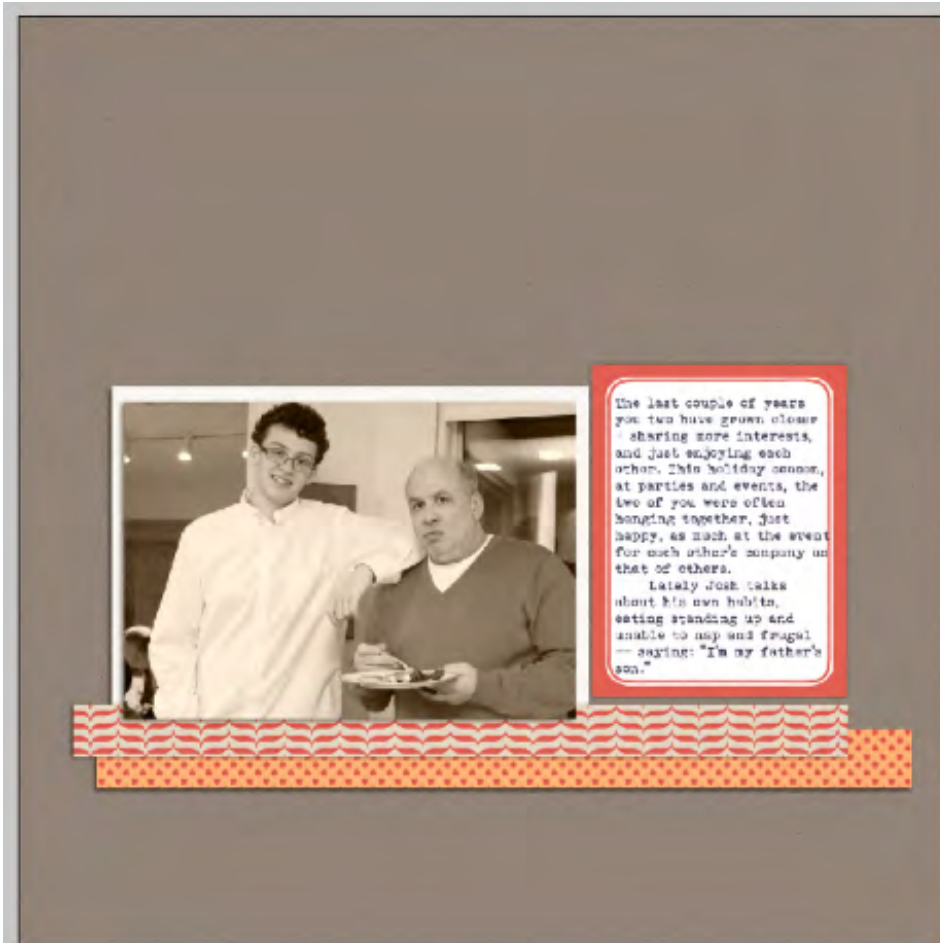
choose neutral canvas, mat photo, add title below shelf

Choose a solid neutral canvas that shows off your photos well.

Add a white mat to your photo.

Add a title below the shelf. Align it with the strip furthest to the left.

Title should include the color on your journaler. Title and journaler balance each other and add repetitions of a color to guide the eye.



add embellishments

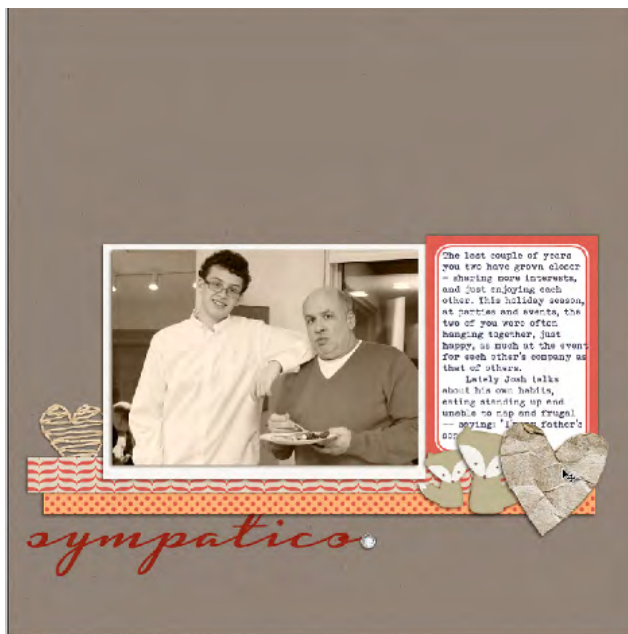
Gather embellishments that support your story in neutral colors.

Place one embellishment to the left of the photo, layered below photo and shelf strips.

Place one embellishment below journaler, layered over all other elements.

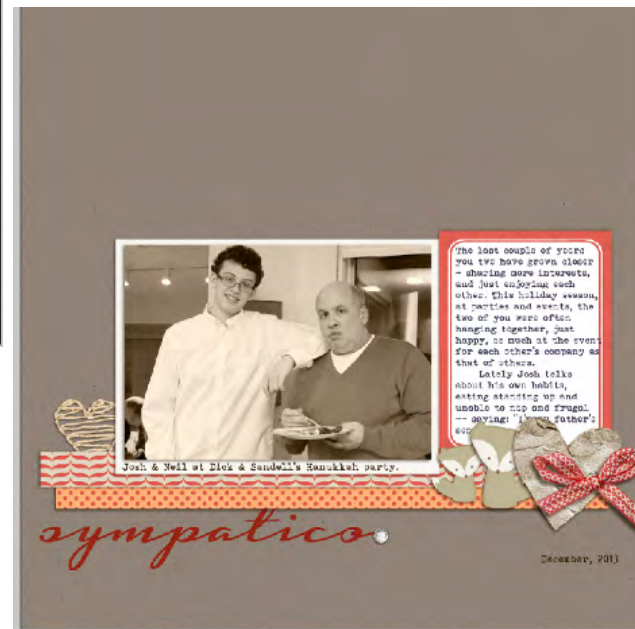


Add two more elements below the journaler, creating an embellishment cluster.



Find an embellishment in the color you've used on your title and journaler (in this example it's red). This should be a bright hit of color in your cluster of neutrals.

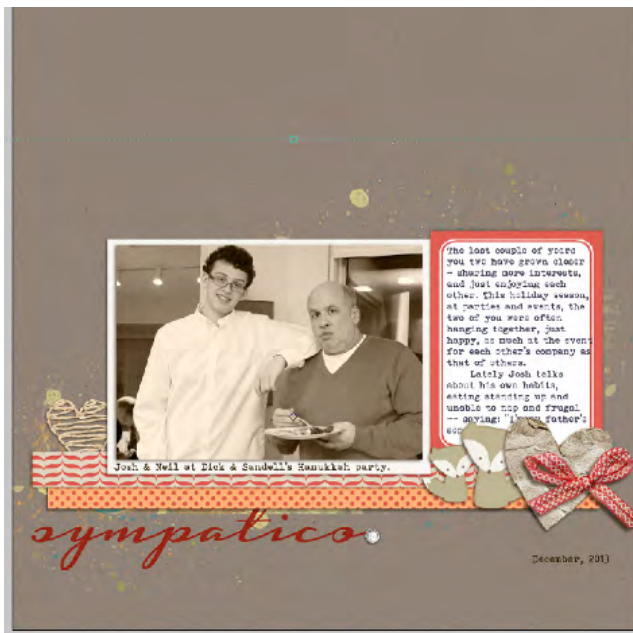
Buttons, ribbon, ties, gems, and brads are great for this purpose since they are meaning-neutral.



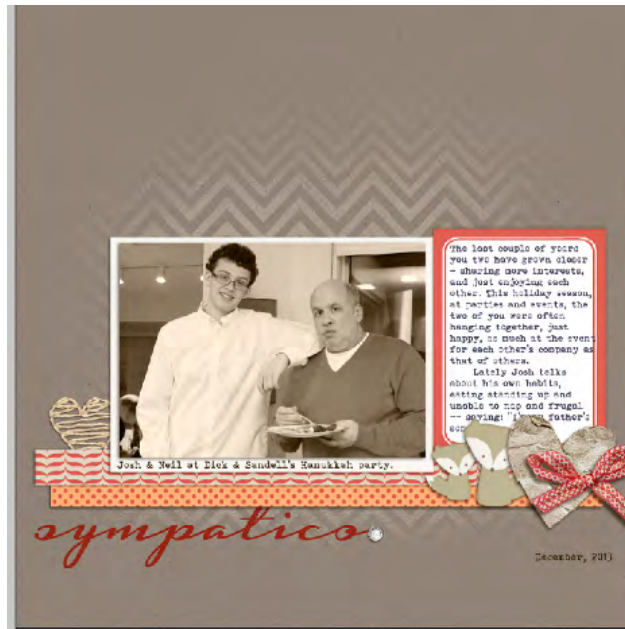
add subtle foundation behind cluster

Add a subtle foundation behind your photos.

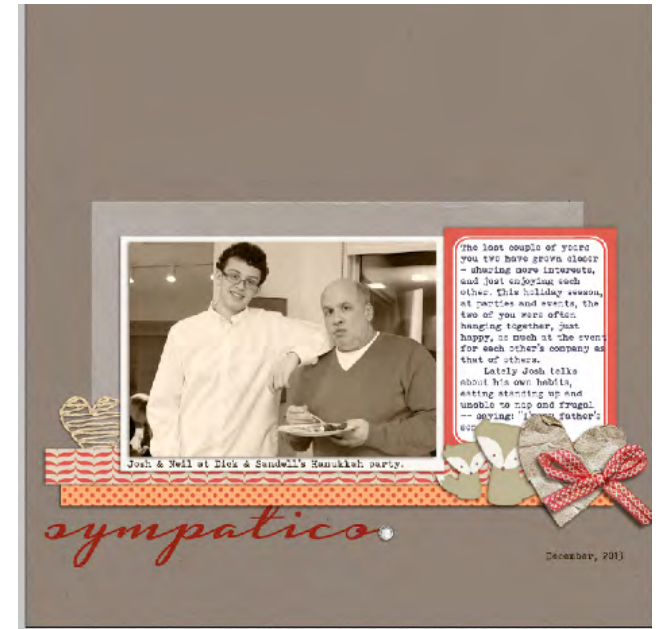
Try misting or splatters.



Try masked mist or paints.



Try a vellum block.



add “edge” cluster at top left

Cut banners from the two patterned papers you used for your shelf and mount at top left, overlapping and bleeding off page edge.

Add a small embellishment (like a tab or button) in the same color as your title, journaler and hit of color in the larger embellishment cluster.

If you want, add “attachers” to the banner cluster. Here I used a line of stitching and I repeated the stitching at bottom right.

Sympatico Supplies: Going Places by One Little Bird; Vellum Papers; Straight Line Stitched Orange, Word Label Templates, Spiced Jewel Elements by Anna Aspnes; Stringbats by Kim Jensen; Brad Bonanza 1 by Pattie Knox; Little Round Tabs, Winter Peony Elements by Katie Pertiet; Foxy by Gina Miller; Bohemian Typewriter, Housegrind fonts



2 photos on an airy shelf

select, mat, cluster and place photos

Select your photos:

- focal point photo 6" wide by 4" high - with ability to accommodate a title layered over it at the bottom
- detail shot: 2.5" wide x 3.5"

Mat accent photo

Add narrow white mat to the smaller photos to add definition since we are layering it.

Place the larger photo about 3.75" from top and 1" from left. This way it is sitting mostly in the middle third of the canvas.

As we build the page, the bottom 2/3rds of the canvas will hold photos, title, journaling. The top 1/3 will hold an embellishment cluster.



make shelf and select canvas

Choose two brightly colored patterned papers.

Cut two 1/4" strips, one 10" and one 10.5"

Place strips, layered over one another, just below but not touching or overlapping the photos. Stagger right and left edges.

Select a solid neutral canvas against which your photos and papers will "pop."



add title, select bold accent color, add first accent

Select title alphas that will “pop” against the larger photo.

Place title along bottom of larger photo. For longer

titles put one word on the photo and add the rest of the title on a strip of paper or label.

Identify the boldest color in your patterned papers. Cut a banner bit or folded ribbon tab and tuck it under the larger photo in front of the title.

I’ve cut a small banner pit in bold pink on my page below.



add decorative border and cluster foundation - in your bold color

Add a decorative border in this bold color.

Layer it over your patterned paper strips. Again, stagger the right and left edges of the strips.

Cut a circle or tag in this bold color to use as a foundation for an embellishment cluster.

Mount cluster foundation piece at the right edge. The bottom of it should be a little lower than the top of your larger photo.



add journaling on strips and a mini shelf to the embellishment cluster

Print or write journaling on cardstock that is the same (or a close match to) the cardstock you used for your base.

Trim into skinny strips ranging from 6" to 7" in length.

Place journaling strips below your "shelf" in a staggered arrangement that moves down and to the right. Leave 1" margin at bottom.

Trim a skinny strip from one of the patterned papers in your shelf and layer below your canvas foundation. It should extend just a bit over the smaller photo.



add a visual triangle in a second accent color

Identify another color in your patterned papers to use as an accent in three spots on the page. (I used blue).

Embellish with this color in three spots:

1. in the cluster at upper right
2. at the end of one journaling strip

3. at the beginning of the title.

Use meaning neutral elements like buttons, stitches, and tags.

Add an embellishment with a little pizzazz to finish the cluster at upper right.



add subtle bit of color at top left of canvas

Add a subtle touch of your bold color at the upper left corner of the canvas to serve as an entry point into the page -- and to add balance.

You could use mist, paint splatters, chalk or even a bit of paper or a doily edge. See pink mist on my page.

Crochet by Debbie Hodge | Supplies: Vintage Florals by Valerie Wibbens; Bare Necessities by Creashens, Festive Brights Classic Cardstock by Katie Pertiet; Mist Brush by Splendid Fiins; Retro Mod Alpha by Sahlin Studio; Edgers (border mask) by Amy Martin; Storyteller (crochet flower) by One Little Bird; Never Forget (button) by Erica Zane; Cut It Out (circle mask) by Robyn Meierotto; Flossy Stitches Blue by Katie Pertiet; Bohemian type-writer font.



3 photos on a shelf of repeated shapes

select, mat, cluster and place photos

Select your photos:

- focal point photo 6" wide by 4" high
- 3" square accent photo
- 4" wide x 2.5" high

Cluster your photos in an asymmetrical triangle -- a lopsided pyramid.

Place the cluster of photos: Place the cluster with 1" right and left margins.

Place the cluster to sit primarily in the middle third of the page vertically (in other words: if the canvas is divided into three horizontal bands it will sit primarily in the middle one).

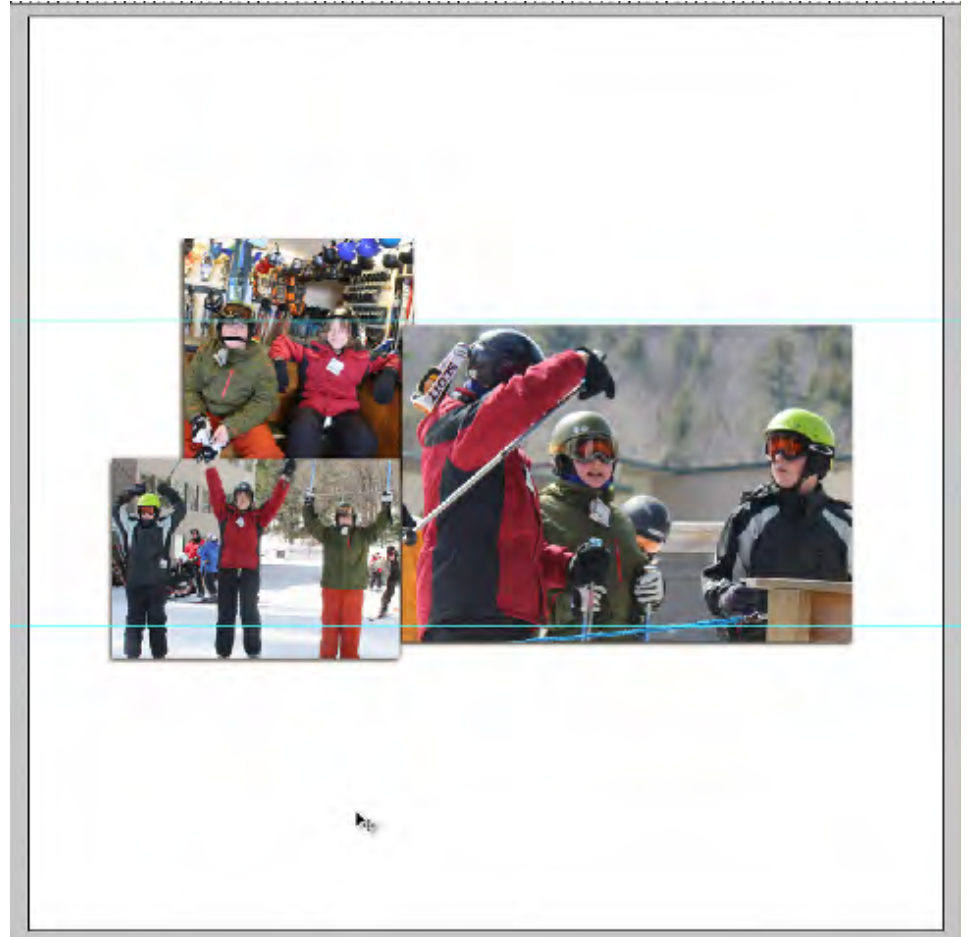
Let just a bit of the cluster

overlap the bottom third and more of the cluster jut into the top third.

As a result each photo sits on a "sweet" spot. If the canvas were divided like a tic-tac-toe-board, the intersections are the "sweet" spots -- spots that the viewer's eye is drawn to.

Mat accent photos

Add narrow white mats to both smaller, accent photos. Do this in order to add definition and avoid confusion about where one photo ends and the other starts since they overlap.



make a banner shelf from a 3-color patterned paper

Our shelf will be made with a series of shapes. I'm using banners in the example. They are solid and easy to work with. Try banners in this lesson then

try it again later with another shape like hearts or circles

Select a patterned paper with at least two,

preferably three, colors.

Punch or cut your banners from the patterned paper.

Place the banners below the photos -- slightly underlapping. Place to start a little bit staggered from the cluster (i.e., right and left edges do not align.)



patterned paper accent strips

Patterned paper accent strip #1: Select a patterned paper that includes:

- 1 neutral, and
- 1 color from your banner patterned paper.

Cut an angled strip and place at top edge of canvas.

Patterned paper accent strip #2: Select a patterned paper that includes:

- 1 neutral and
- 1 color that is NOT in your banner patterned paper and that contrasts strongly with it.

Cut a 10" x 1" strip and mount over the banner, and underlapping the photos.



select base, plan for journaling and title

Select a solid neutral-color cardstock for your base.

Add a label at bottom right of your largest photo for holding journaling.

Create a title that will sit above the largest photo.

The challenges:

1. The top of your title must sit **BELOW** the top of the square accent photo. We do not want to create a straight line at the top of the photo cluster. We want a “stepped” shape.
2. Your title should stop short of the right side of your largest photo (again, we’re “stepping” not aligning).

3. The alphas you use for your title should be in neutral colors OR come from the patterned paper you used for your banners.



add two “scatter” clusters

Embellish with two “scatter” clusters.

Choose two colors from your banner patterned paper.

Find three buttons in each of those two colors -- so 6 buttons!

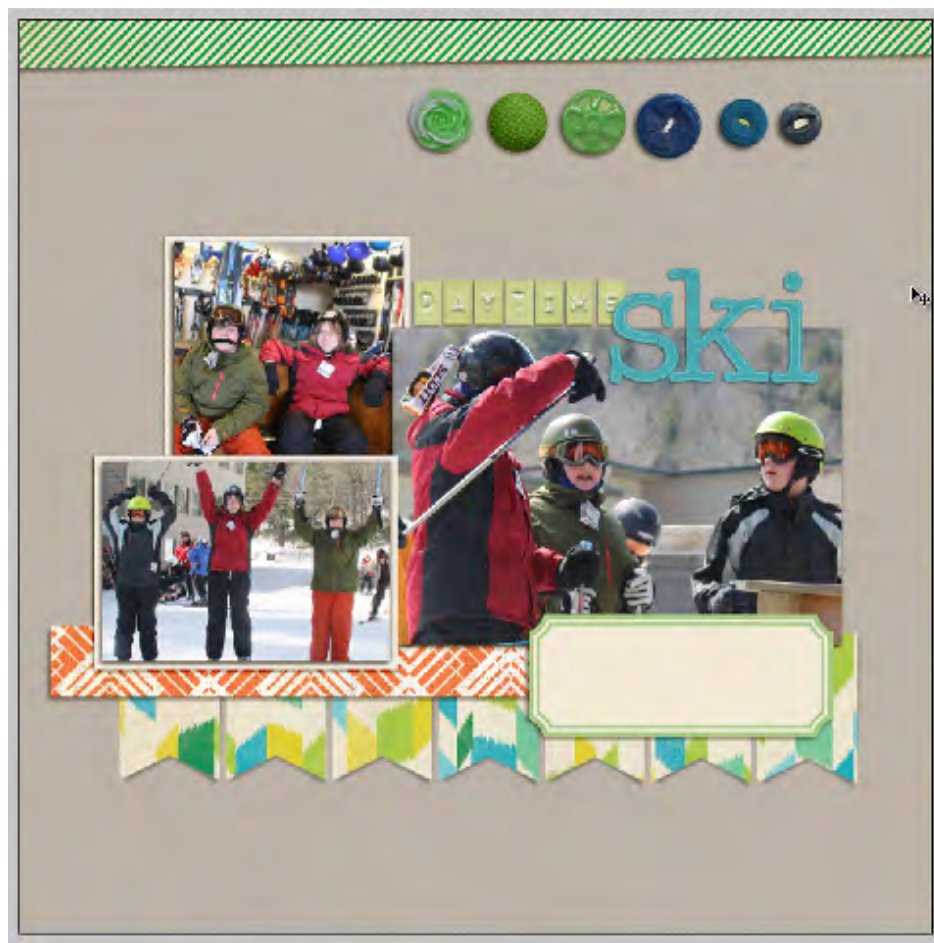
Here's the twist: 4 of the buttons should be same-sized and **2 of the buttons should be smaller** than the other 4.

See mine:

- 3 green buttons
- 3 blue buttons.
- 2 of the blue buttons are smaller.

Put two of color #1 and one of color #2 at top left in an asymmetrical triangle.

Place the remaining three buttons in an asymmetrical triangle at bottom right.



add punched circle to each cluster, add journaling

Choose one of your button colors. Punch two circles from patterned paper or felt of that color:
(one) 1.5" circle
(one) 1" circle

Detail the edges of the larger punched circle (ink, stitching, pen border).

Layer the smaller circle behind a button at top left.

Layer the larger circle behind a button at bottom right.

Add journaling to label.

Daytime Ski | Supplies: On Trend by Crate Paper; Life 365 Alpha by Karla Dudley; Basic Paper Alpha Teal, Pear Perfection Classic Cardstock by Katie Pertiet; Oh Dearie (felt) by Paislee Press; On This Day (label & flower) by Laurie Ann; Sequoia (button) by Sara Gleason; How It Began (button) by One Little Bird; Bohemian Typewriter



4 photos on a pieced-foundation shelf

crop 4 square photos

Crop (4) 3" square photos and arrange in 2 by 2 grid.



choose 3 patterned papers that share one color and a neutral canvas

Choose 3 patterned papers with different styling, united by a common color. The uniting color in this example is blue.

Choose a neutral background cardstock that “pops” your photos and patterned papers.

Neutral-on-color band, 12” wide by 4” high.

This should be a print with your color as the base and a pattern done in white or cream or black. This print should be the one with the most visual weight because it makes the shelf that supports all of the other elements.

The styling on this print is “doodly” and whimsical. It’s white on blue (neutral on color).

Multi-color print, 12” wide by 1” high.
Place at top edge.

The styling of this pattern is modern and graphic. The base is blue and the colors in the print are all in the photos: yellow, green, and other shades of blue.



Color-on-neutral, 12” wide by 1” high. Layer over the larger band “at the seam.”

The styling of this pattern is old fashioned and vintage. It’s blue on white (color on neutral).

mount photo grouping on shelf, add decorative border and journaler

Mount 2 by 2 photo grouping 1.5” from left edge and overlapping patterned paper shelf about 1/2”.

Cut decorative border about 10” long from a dark neutral. Mount the decorative border overlapping the seam where the two prints meet in the lower band.

Cut a “journaling” card from the same (or similarly colored) cardstock as the base cardstock.

Mount journaler to the right of photos and overlapping patterned paper strip and decorative border. Add journaling.



choose embellishment and use that color in title work

Find your accent colors. Look at your stash to find 2 embellishments in 2 different colors. Look to your multi-color patterned paper and photos for color possibilities.

Do not use the color that's uniting your patterned papers. (Thus I avoided blue. I used yellow and orange.)

Place two embellishments in group at bottom left of the photo cluster.

Add title work above (and overlapping) journaler.

Use alphas in a color that comes from your embellishments. Here, I repeated the orange from the starfish and used a neutral as my second alpha.



embellish title with second color from embellishment grouping

You should have used one of your embellishment colors in the title (I repeated the orange from the starfish in the word “sand.”)

Now **embellish the title to repeat the other color in your embellishment grouping.** Possibilities for embellishing:

- fasten your title with stitching or colored staples

- back up the openings in your alphas with colored paper
- top off an i or j with a colored button
- cap your title work with a small series above the title work

See how yellow is used in three different ways to embellish the title:

In the first layout the openings are backed up with yellow paper.

In the second example, the title is “capped” off with a button and two sequins.

In the third example, a rub-on crown “caps” the title work.

All are in yellow -- the second color in my embellishment cluster.



add 3rd embellishment spot & add a hit of uniting color to each spot

Add a third (small) embellishment cluster to the right of the journaler. (I used a tag and tie and cross stitch.)

Incorporate the 2 colors from the first embellishment grouping in this new cluster.

AND incorporate your uniting color in each embellishment spot -- in little bits. I added a blue gem to the flower in

the first cluster, a blue brad to the title cluster, and blue edging on the tag in the newest cluster.



Sand Play | Supplies: Patterned Paper: On Trend by Crate Paper, Soho Square by American Crafts, Sketchbook by Amy Tangerine; Cardstock: La Belle Vie by One Little Bird; Starfish, Flower: Seas the Day by Ju Kneipp and Jenn Barrette; Crown: JBS Vintage Whimsical; Gem, Brad, Tie, Stitch, Scallop Mask: Reminisce by Leora Sanford, Cold Springs Elements, Flossy Stitches, Scallop Strip Masks by Katie Pertiet, Brad Bonanza by Pattie Knox; Enjoy Life Alpha by Cluster Queen; Pacifico, Bohemian Typewriter, Pea XOXO fonts