

CANVAS PHOTOS TITLE EMBELLISHMENTS JOURNALING

challenge # 11: Embellishment Choices

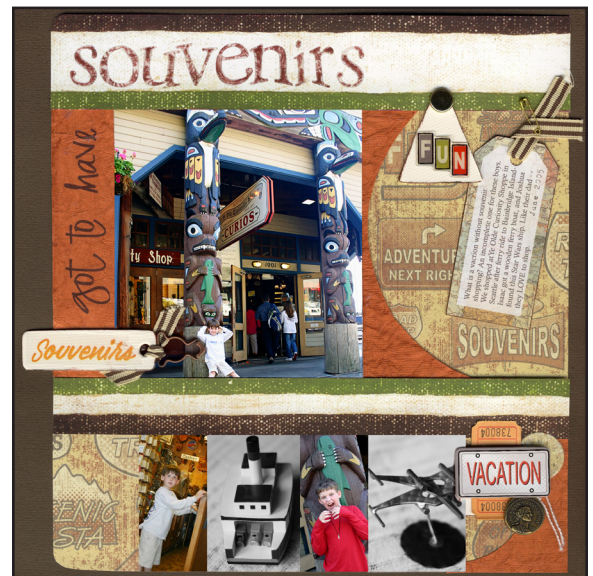
Think about racing stripes on a car, earrings on a woman, roses on china. Each of these are embellishments. Wikipedia defines an embellishment as something that enhances appearance without having any functional purpose. I say "not so" when it comes to embellishing scrapbook pages.

Embellishments can deepen and support your page subject.

Motifs, words, and even textures can signal an obvious connection to subject or they may more subtly evoke a sense of your page subject.

Themed products are the fastest path to embellishments that connote a particular subject. "Got To Have Souvenirs" mixes themed embellishments with others that combine well: a "souvenirs" sticker on a chipboard tag with buckle, "fun" sticker on a chipboard tag that matches the previous tag, "vacation" chipboard in a cluster with a ticket, coin, and watch face.

Don't have themed products? "Usurping the Throne" includes a crown cut from glitter paper (the crown is a shape in Photoshop that you could print to the back of paper and cut out) and a flourish covered with gold glitter paper. Even the glittery journaling tag contributes to the fun title and juxtaposition of a sick child in the family throne: Dad's chair.



Embellishments add charm and design interest.

- ◇ Use embellishments colored to match important items in your photos OR to provide contrast.
- ◇ Use shape to carry through a repetition in your design or to provide eye-catching contrast.
- ◇ Add interest by using embellishments with texture and depth.

Go-to embellishments that work with most subjects: photo-turns, ribbon, buttons, brads, circle tag punched from coordinating paper, date on a tag or sticker.



"Removed From Circulation" uses general purpose embellishments. They're placed in a visual triangle. Each spot has at least two of these three colors: green, blue, brown. A blue photo turn tied with blue ribbon is placed next to the title at top left. Brown and blue string tied around a paper strip sits at bottom right. Three buttons and a word sticker finish the triangle at bottom left. The embellishments in

"Neighborhood Contender" are not themed but they're chosen to support the theme and add to the tone of this page about girl power on the baseball field. Flower sequins repeat the flowers in the paper and hint at pretty things. The starburst repeats the comic-book "pow" of the title background, and the flourishes add both elegance and energy.

Embellishments provide opportunities to add repetitions to your page.

Repetition contributes to a feeling of connection on your page, and, thus, unity. Elements you may repeat include: fonts, shapes, colors, textures, images/motifs, and patterns.

Repetition without variety can be dull. The challenge is to *change something while keeping it the same*. The goal is **repetition with variety**. There are many ways to do this, and approaches include:

- repeat an image or shape in different sizes
- use the same color on different elements of the page (alphas, ribbon, paper, various embellishments)
- use a variety of tones of the same color in different page elements
- use clusters that include an item that's been placed singly elsewhere on the page.

YOUR CHALLENGE: Make a page with embellishments that provide repetition AND variety.

One striking embellishment cluster in "Stuffedds" (a felt bird, funky branch, and button) is balanced with a button and ribbon tab.

Lace, applique, hearts, and ribbon complement page colors and add to the cozy feel of the winter tea party in "T43." A chipboard "seal of approval" finishes things off with a little commentary on how I felt.



A variety of embellishments on "Today" sit in three clusters. Look for the repetition AND the variety. Pink, yellow, and green buttons, flowers, brads and an applique repeat colors from the photo, papers, and titlework. The black-outlined bird echoes the black-outlined title. Little things like the thread or brads that attach other embellishments add color repetitions.

