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Scrapbooking Life's Great Moments
The Complete Guide to 100's of Scrapbooking Ideas

By Ryan & Jan Sawyer

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Table of Contents

Please Read This FIRST	2
Terms of Use	2
Disclaimer	2
Table of Contents.....	4
1. Scrapbooking – Hobby, Passion, and Fun.....	7
Reliving Your Past	8
Maintaining Scrapbooks.....	8
2. What is Scrapbooking?	10
History of Scrapbooking.....	10
The Present Scenario	10
3. Characteristics of a Simple Scrapbook.....	12
4. How to Start Scrapbooking	13
Getting Started	14
Selection of Photographs	14
Planning Your Design	14
Selection of Stationery	15
<i>Matting Photographs</i>	<i>15</i>
Verbal Expressions.....	15
Planning the Layout.....	16
<i>Decorations and Beautifications</i>	<i>16</i>
<i>Wrapping up</i>	<i>17</i>
5. Important Notes for Scrapbook Beginners	18
6. How to Scrapbook Economically	21
7. How to Assemble and Organize Your Photos	23
8. How to Place, Label, Crop and Mat Your Pictures.....	25
Placing Photographs and Pictures	25
Labeling Your Photographs	25
<i>Cropping Photos</i>	<i>26</i>
<i>Matting Photos</i>	<i>27</i>
9. Supplies and Accessories to Get You Started	28
10. Scrapbook Cutting, Cropping Tools and Templates.....	31
11. Choosing an Album	32

12. Packing Your Scrapbook Supplies for a Get Away	33
13. Embellishing Your Scrapbook Pages.....	34
14. Planning Your Scrapbook Layouts.....	35
How to Plan Scrapbooking Layouts	35
<i>Materials Required</i>	35
<i>Procedure</i>	36
15. Creating Layouts for Your Scrapbook.....	38
Where to Start	38
<i>Getting Scrapbooking Ideas</i>	39
16. Some Examples of Scrapbook Layouts.....	42
Common scrapbook layouts include:	42
<i>Christmas</i>	42
<i>Homes</i>	43
<i>Summer</i>	43
<i>Heritage</i>	44
<i>Sports</i>	45
<i>Sleeping</i>	45
17. Explore Your Perfect Scrapbook Style.....	46
<i>Common Styles of Scrapbooking:</i>	46
18. How to Make Lumpy Scrapbook Pages	49
<i>How to Care for Scrapbooks with Lumpy Pages</i>	50
19. Why and How to Journal in a Scrapbook	51
How to Journal Your Scrapbook.....	51
20. Ideas to Improve Your Scrapbook Journaling	53
21. Handwritten vs. Computer Journaling	55
<i>Handwritten Journaling</i>	55
<i>Computer Journaling</i>	56
22. Making Time for Your Scrapbooking	58
23. Preserving Your Scrapbook	60
24. Choosing a Scrapbook Theme	62
25. Wedding Scrapbook Album	65
26. Scrapbooking Your Family History.....	67
Starting the Scrapbook.....	67

27. Make a Family Recipe Scrapbook	69
28. Baby Scrapbooking Thoughts	70
29. Recollecting Your Love Notes	71
30. Christmas Memories	72
31. Halloween Scrapbooking Fun	73
32. A Father's Day Gift	74
33. Happy Graduation.....	75
34. Summer Vacation	77
35. The World of Digital Scrapbooking.....	78
36. Scrapbooking Verses, Quotes and Sayings for Various Occasions.....	79
<i>Good Friends</i>	<i>79</i>
<i>Babies</i>	<i>80</i>
<i>Birthdays</i>	<i>81</i>
<i>Christmas</i>	<i>81</i>
<i>Fourth of July.....</i>	<i>83</i>
<i>Heritage.....</i>	<i>84</i>
<i>Halloween</i>	<i>84</i>
<i>Scrapbooking</i>	<i>85</i>
<i>New Year's Day.....</i>	<i>86</i>
<i>Love/Romance.....</i>	<i>86</i>
<i>Thanksgiving.....</i>	<i>90</i>
<i>Graduation</i>	<i>91</i>
<i>Mother's Day</i>	<i>93</i>
More Ideas.....	95

Part-I: Introduction

1. Scrapbooking – Hobby, Passion, and Fun

Scrapbooking is a fantastic hobby of freezing memories and anecdotes of days gone by. Each day in your life symbolizes a great and new beginning, as you progress into the future. But, your past need not be forgotten. You can keep all the past events in your life fresh through scrapbooking!

Scrapbooking is literally putting your memories, happenings, and values in life and everything around you on to paper. Your scrapbook is a book in which you can paste pictures, photographs, write notes, express your feelings and stick simple mementos like flowers, cards, gifts, color, paste-in borders and cool phrases.

You can arrange, decorate and present information or pictures in any manner you like. There is no fixed rule to follow. You do not have to follow the dictates of others. You do scrapbooking according to your interests and preferences. You can be yourself, free of any inhibitions and express yourself. It's called creativity and it's fun!

Modern day scrapbooks come with many tags to enliven your presentations. Every page of the scrapbook has a theme and they contain many stickers, tags and ribbons for you to use. You can journal the happenings and incidents in whatever way you prefer. You can add quotes to the photographs to capture that particular moment.

The memories can be anything; your childhood, your teenage years, your first pet, the first time you performed on



stage, birthday cards, your wedding, your children, their first steps, their growing years, and the list goes on.

Every page will bring back so many memories and refresh your mind and body. It boosts your spirits on days you are feeling blue.

Reliving Your Past

Looking through a scrapbook helps you walk down memory lane and relive those nostalgic moments. Every photograph or piece of writing brings back so many memories of that particular moment and so many recollections flood your mind.

You go into a separate world. You are full of joy, happiness and a feeling of satisfaction engulfs you. Some funny incidents tickle your funny bone and make you feel very lighthearted.

You can have a first date, a wedding, a special birthday, a holiday, a fishing trip, a graduation, or just a plain picnic that you would want to have the memories of in your scrapbook.

Maintaining a scrapbook brings out the creativeness within you. It does not need any exquisite talent or specialization. It brings the natural artist that you have in you. You can enjoy doing one or have a passion for doing many scrapbooks as a passionate hobby that keeps you busy and creative.

But, you do want your scrapbook to last forever. So you must make sure you use the right tools, to keep it fresh and your photos from fading.

Maintaining Scrapbooks

You can organize scrapbook crops. (**Crops** are meetings of scrapbook friends) usually by forming groups among friends. Such

crops help you sit and work on your scrapbook with your friends for many hours at a stretch. You could arrange for crops weekly, monthly or bi-monthly. You could also hold crop nights during weekends. There are also certain groups, restaurants, cruises and retreats that organize crops for their members and other interested people.

You can explain and display the importance of family values and other values in life through the scrapbook's pages and photographs. These remain as a legacy and your children can inherit it after you are gone. Scrapbooks help keep memories alive. Even after your death your scrapbooks will be cherished.



Everything comes to a standstill within the pages of your scrapbook.

Children love going through scrapbooks and this initiates them into maintaining a scrapbook from a young age. They love looking at photographs of their childhood. They will have their scrapbook memories as they grow, too.

Your love and passion for keeping your memories and your past alive is sufficient. You can organize your photos, plan their layouts, and set them accordingly.

Part-II: Getting Started

2. What is Scrapbooking?

The dictionary defines a scrapbook as, "a blank book used for collecting and preserving miscellaneous items like newspaper clippings and pictures".

History of Scrapbooking

The word, "scrapbook" has been in use since the early nineteenth century. The commercial scrapbooking industry celebrated its silver jubilee in August 2006. Marielen W. Christensen started the first scrapbooking store, Keeping Memories Alive, in 1981. This was at Spanish Fork in Utah, USA. You had to use photo mount corners to fix photos in the scrapbooks of that time.

Families all over America have scrapbooks that have been passed down from generation to generation. They can be creative diaries with poetry, little pieces of material, ribbons, small collector items and childhood drawings.

The Present Scenario

Now there are varied options for indulging in your hobby of scrapbooking. Albums are available as mini-albums and foldout albums, which allow the insertion of pages and present a permanent bond. You can also maintain scrapbooks in CD cases and similar holders.

Some common sizes of album sheets are 6"x6", 7"x 7", or 8"x 8".

The most popular sizes for a standard scrapbook are 8½" x 11" and 12" x 12"

You can choose your materials and tools from innumerable options like rubber stamps, stencils, craft punches, die cut templates, eyelet setters, personal die cut machines and heat embossing tools.

Accessories include many decorative elements like eyelets, rub-ons, stickers, stamps, chipboard elements in different shapes, ribbons, alphabet letters, and the like. An electronic die-cutting machine can shape your scrapbook pages into any font or shape. Modern gadgets and programs like desktop publishing, scanners, page layout programs and others help you to present your scrapbook in a digital format as computer or digital scrapbooks become ever more popular.

These books help you make use of many different options available on the Internet like image editing software. You can try many different options without wasting any materials.

3. Characteristics of a Simple Scrapbook

A simple scrapbook details your hopes, dreams, relationships, family traditions and daily routines, and may include things that do not fit within the realms of a traditional scrapbook. A simple scrapbook is not just any scrapbook for beginners nor does it lack in creativity or content. It concentrates more on the other facets of your life, not directly related to specific events.

These do not harbor any photographs or similar memorabilia. These facets help you remain grounded and bound to the basic elements of life and the material world.

A simple scrapbook consists of many pages such as a title page, introduction page, contents page, sections page, filler pages and the closing page. The title page gives the basic details of your name and the name of your scrapbook. It also sets the style and color combinations of your scrapbook.

You can use the introduction page as the dedication page too; you can dedicate your scrapbook to someone or you can make a scrapbook for that special person, too.

The contents page details the facts present in the scrapbook within various sections. Each of these sections can have many features that make it unique.

Filler pages form the backbone of your simple scrapbook. It is not necessary to complete all filler pages right at the start. You can create filler pages as you develop your ideas. You can fill these pages with your most beautiful and creative efforts. The closing page, ideally, symbolizes closure of your scrapbook.

4. How to Start Scrapbooking

Once you decide to make your scrapbook, the next most important factor is to decide where and how to start scrapbooking. The basic requirement for scrapbooking is to collect items for your scrapbook.

Scout through your albums, drawers, and other places to retrieve old photographs. Just think of important and unimportant events in your life, and zero in on all that you would like to include in your scrapbook.

Scrapbooks are available in different varieties, sizes and styles. You can locate scrapbooks at stationery stores or at online shops. You need some basic tools like:

- Double-sided sticker tabs for mounting on cardstock,
- Glue stick for pasting little things, or other **acid free** adhesives.
- Paper cutters help you trim and cut ends decoratively for a better presentation so that you can express your ideas with more magnificent patterns.
- Use high quality pens to add to the beauty of journaling. You can have a collection of pens in an array of colors and styles to add style to your scrapbook.

If you are unsure of how to proceed, you can join a CROP group to learn the various features of presentations. A **crop group** is a group of people coming together on weekends or at other opportune time to discuss and share scrapbooking ideas. These crop groups also plan schedules for working on their scrapbooks.

You will see the word “crop” crop up. A mother might tell her family that she is going to crop (which, really means: leave me alone for a bit while I ‘scrapbook’ to relax.)

You can also have your children help you with your scrapbook. Or, you can start one for a child.

Getting Started

Now, the actual work of scrapbooking starts. The following steps can serve as a guideline, but there is no steadfast rule for scrapbooking.

Selection of Photographs

Photographs form the core of your scrapbook. Zero in on any particular theme and select relevant photographs. You can choose many small photos or focus on a single big one with one or two smaller ones.

The bigger photograph should be able to capture the attention of the reader. Otherwise, spread the smaller photos to cover the full page. Trim your photographs to highlight the main theme and features in the photos.

Planning Your Design

Use your creativity to decide what you would like to make into a scrapbook plan. Otherwise, you could also look up different scrapbooking designs available on the Internet or flip through other people's scrapbooks. There are many forums that highlight scrapbook designs and layouts, which may prove to be a boon to beginners and professionals alike.

Follow whichever plan that suits or appeals to you most.

Selection of Stationery

Acid and lignin-free papers are the best for scrapbooking. You need mat paper and background paper for presenting your photographs. Put Mat photos on solid cardstock initially and thereafter, place matted photos on patterned paper. The color of the paper could be contrasting or complement the photo subtly.

Matting Photographs

Experiment with different matting ideas like an all-round mat of half to one inch or a mat of ¼" on all four sides. If you have a wider page, you could try your hand at double matting. Your main idea is to enhance the focus on your photograph. You can implement different creative ideas too. The only word of caution is to refrain from applying adhesive until you are sure that you are happy with the matting idea.

Verbal Expressions

Decide on a title for your page. Write a few lines about the photograph and explain the focus of the page in question. You can probably think of any good and apt title that befits the page. Otherwise, you can get help off the Internet or other scrapbook sources.

It is essential to write something about the photograph. You should include details of the people in the photograph with the time, date and place of the photograph. Emotions within the photograph spell out the story behind the photo.

Although handwritten journaling has a unique appeal, computer journaling provides space for many innovations. You can choose the

one that appeals the most. Your writing of the title and notations bring out the emotions and feelings of those special moments.

Planning the Layout

After finalizing the photos, title and journaling, it is time to plan your layout. Place and view the photos at different angles and positions before finalizing the way you will fix them in place.

Try to make a balanced page so that the focus is on the photograph. Try drawing imaginary lines to finalize the position of the photograph. However, the final decision rests with you. You should like the layout and should not harbor any lingering doubts.

In the initial stages, planning the layout could take up a lot of time. But, with time and practice, you get better at placement of photos.

Don't try for perfection in your creation. There are many people who can't get started because they feel it isn't perfect. Part of scrapbooking is the joy of creating, but you must glue something sometime. ☺

Decorations and Beautifications

There are no restrictions on any beautifications which you would like to add to your scrapbook. You can choose any stickers, buttons, cut-outs, tags and the like. Place them appropriately on your scrapbook page.

However, take care not to overdo anything. Too much clutter takes the viewer's eye away from the creation. It can become overwhelming and the point of the page is lost.

Wrapping up

Complete and present all your pages with apt photographs. Next, slip your page through a page protector and fix it into the respective binder. Page protectors prevent soiling of your photographs and pages.

Try to make your scrapbook cost-effective and do not spend enormous amounts on your scrapbooking. Of course, if you are really rich and want an extravagant display, it is your choice, but don't despair if you have small amounts of money to do your creation. It just means that you must be more creative!

The main theme of your scrapbook should maintain the flavor of your original ideas. You can go through other people's scrapbooks or scout through ideas available on the Internet. However, the final design should adhere to your personal tastes, preferences, ideas and ideals.

Copying and presenting other's ideas differently cannot do justice to your scrapbooking.

5. Important Notes for Scrapbook Beginners

Your first scrapbook could prove to be a very trying experience.

You may take a long time to complete it. You can attend scrapbooking classes to understand the actual procedures and ways of going about it. You can also see various scrapbook albums at the classes. These provide varied ideas and you do not feel at your wit's end while embarking on your scrapbooking.

Scrapbooking is a time-consuming passion and hobby, yet the end-result is truly wonderful and brings you the greatest satisfaction for all the hard work you put into it.

The following tips may prove helpful:

Your scrapbook is, ideally, a compilation of your different moods and feelings, rather than a chronological collection of photographs. You do not have to affix all the photographs in your scrapbook. You could do well by choosing a few exclusive photographs that aptly describe the mood. Choose themes for your scrapbook according to events like reunions, Christmas celebrations, and vacations.

Choosing the correct type of scrapbook is essential. Most scrapbookers use two of the most popular sizes: 8½" x 11" and 12" x 12". Although the latter presents more space, the cost could dissuade you from choosing this scrapbook. 8½" x 11" proves very convenient, as all stationery supply stores offer this size.

Additionally, you can use this size through your computer's printer too.

Binders help keep the scrapbook pages intact. A three-ring binder has the necessary rings and lots of space within too. You can add

and remove pages at will, and without much difficulty. Handling the spiral, non-removable page scrapbooks may prove cumbersome. Additionally, you cannot remove or add any new pages.

Cropping a photo means to cut out other distracting factors in a photo. Cropping helps you focus on the main aspect of the photo. Photographs with clean-cut edges give a better appearance. At times, you can present photos in a circular shape too.

A thin border of colored paper around your photos gives the perfect mat finish. This edge props up your photo. You can use different creative ways to get the mat finish. Cutting the colored mat with fancy scissors can give a unique look to your photo and enhance its beauty further.

Use acid-free construction paper, which is available in bright colors, to provide the perfect matting to your photos in scrapbooks.

Use quality products to prevent decay of the paper, glue, trimmings and other accessories. Over the years, pages could turn yellow and develop cuts or breaking lines. This destroys the basic essence of scrapbooking and preserving memories.

Glues and adhesives are an integral item of your scrapbooking accessories. Avoid using rubber cement, as it turns brown over time. Use acid-free glue sticks. Remember that these glue-sticks do not work well in humid climates. The glue-pen containing rubber cement works fine there and causes no accidents of glue turning gummy.

Your accessories should never overshadow the main focal point; the photograph. Accessories are only to enhance the theme and inner beauty of the photograph.

Page protectors, as the name suggests, protect and take care of your scrapbook pages. The non-glare plastic protectors prove better for viewers.

Patience and perseverance are the keys for good scrapbooking. You do not have to be a great artist or an experienced collector. Visualize every aspect individually and proceed, just doing one thing at a time. You will be able to accomplish a lot.

Making mistakes is just human, and you will learn important lessons from your mistakes.

A scrapbook is very different from assembling a photo album. Photo albums present photographs in chronological order, while scrapbooks tell the story behind the photos according to the chosen themes.

Scrapbooking can be a hobby that continues for generations. You can start your child's scrapbook in his early years. Thereafter, you can pass it on to your child once they are capable of handling and maintaining their own scrapbooks. Scrapbooks spread joy while you reminisce of the days gone by and the events and incidents that are now a part of the past.

6. How to Scrapbook Economically

Follow these tips to save money while scrapbooking:

- Buy supplies in bulk and share supplies and costs with your scrapbooking friends. Bulk supplies are normally cheaper.
- Always first use up supplies and accessories that are available in your house; stickers, colored paper and photo edges.
- If scrapbooking in a group, pool resources and purchase necessary tools, supplies, idea books and magazines for all to share and scrapbook with.
- Scout the Internet for free layout ideas instead of purchasing idea books.
- If you need to buy any product like templates, buy only the ones that you will use, rather than buying lots of "possible" patterns and designs.
- Just buy only the tools that are necessary. Do not buy and keep tools that you won't use.
- If you are scrapbooking a family album, buy only the exact number of prints that are needed. Reprinting is a costly affair, so it's prudent to only invest in the specific number of prints that you require.
- Bargain for the best processing prices but do not compromise on quality. Scout different shops in different places before making your final purchase.

- Be on the lookout for sales at different scrapbooking supply stores. Keep a sharp eye out for sales and stock up on all necessary supplies at that time.
- Do not waste or throw away materials. If you make any mistakes on a page, cover the mistake with some colored paper and reuse the same page.
- If you are using rubber stamps in your albums, do the page and then stamp desired images on white, acid-free, lignin-free paper or cardstock. Even if you make a mistake, you do not waste a full album page this way.
- Recycle die-cut letters and numbers. Punch a hole in one corner and bind with a ring. Use stencils to repeat letters and numbers.
- The frames of die-cuts also function as a template to trace shapes on paper and cut them out. The frame can also function as scrap paper for small paper punches.
- Use cardboard from the packaging around album pages to make your own wavy rulers.

Part-III: Handling Photos

7. How to Assemble and Organize Your Photos

Photographs form the core of scrapbooking. You need to assemble and organize all your photos in a specific manner.

The very first step is to decide on the type of album.

- If you intend to make albums of each family member, sort your photos accordingly.
- If it is according to a chosen theme, gather all your photos and sort them in line with the specific theme.
- If you want to make albums chronologically, arrange all photos according to the dates and years.

Next, place all photographs into labelled containers. You can get photo safe boxes at local camera shops. Cardboard boxes become acidic and video boxes are not safe either. Cheap PVC albums also damage your photos. Place photos in flip style albums with photo sleeves. These safeguard your photos while you plan your layout and other details.

Some photo sleeves hold negatives in ringed binders while others let you store index prints within the same binder. Otherwise, make and label boxes for your negatives. Place negatives in the boxes after labeling index prints so you can find them when you need them.

Old photos are priceless treasures. Handle them carefully and wash your hands before touching them. Old photos sometimes turn yellow and become brittle. Make copies of the photo on a color photocopier

and use the copies. If you intend using the originals in your scrapbook, use photo corners to affix them. Avoid using any adhesive or glue for them.

Refrain from using rubber bands, metal clips or cheap tape on photos. Do not put photos into paper envelopes either. Always organize all your photos and do not store them in piles. Careful organizing is important when planning your scrapbook.

Do not try to scrapbook all your photos. Choose only the best and most important ones to use in your scrapbook. You can store the rest in good albums. The chosen ones should be exceptional and relate most closely to the theme or mood.

The photos should spell out the story and any accessories should remain well within the theme. A good photo seldom requires any accessories.

Remember, with your computer, you can scan your photos and use copies in your scrapbook. The originals can be in your regular photo albums. This, of course, is an option for you. You will decide if you want to get copies of originals and how many you might like from your negatives. Or, you can scan and print to photo paper, or some bright shiny paper, like Hammermill 32 High Gloss Bond Paper. You can find it on the Internet with prices ranging from 2 to 4 cents per sheet.

8. How to Place, Label, Crop and Mat Your Pictures

Intelligent and artistic display of photos increases the appeal of your scrapbook. Proper placing, labeling, cropping and matting of the photographs can ensure the best end result in your scrapbook.

Placing Photographs and Pictures

It is difficult to visualize the effect of different placements of your photographs according to the background. The best way is to make many photocopies of the photos. You can now experiment with all your ideas. You can shrink some photos to put the focus on the main object or you can enlarge some portions and cut them out in silhouettes to create a different effect.

You can also try cutting them into unusual shapes to present your photos in a novel way. Try to make color photocopies of your photos as colors highlight the details. Color photocopies present details perfectly while black and white copies present details in a muddy and unclear manner.

Labeling Your Photographs

Correct labeling of your photographs ensures that they do not pass into oblivion. The date, time, place, incident and other important facts of the photo make it more interesting. You are better able to visualize the particular event and the emotion associated with it.

Take care of small details while labeling your photos. Use a soft graphite pencil, a permanent pen or a fine-line permanent marker to write the details. Do not use a ballpoint pen to label the back of a photo. The pressure from the pen casts an imprint on the photo.

Similarly, do not keep photos in a stack and label them as the surface becomes very soft and the impression does not come through properly. This may destroy the photos.

The best way to label is to place the photo on a hard surface and then write the details. Use a permanent pen to label photos but ensure that the ink is fast-drying. Write important information around photo edges to avoid any impressions from marring faces in the photos.

Journaling can add more life to the photos. You relive those moments each time you look through your scrapbook.

Cropping Photos

Cropping photographs refers to trimming photos to bring the focus onto the main subject. You can trim away the unnecessary scenery or people that are irrelevant to your theme or idea.

Experiment with your cropping ideas on different photocopies of your photos. This can help you arrive at the best idea. You can then implement this as the final pattern for cropping your photo.

Some photos could have an empty background which is unnecessary. Some others might have houses and cars in the background. These could assume higher significance in the years to come.

The essentials for cropping include a wax pencil, scissors and ruler, shape template and paper trimmer. Use a wax pencil to mark the part of the photo you want to keep. Then use a template or ruler as a guide and cut off the excess with a trimmer or scissors. The best effect of cropping may be evident if you use a circular or oval cutter.

Square and rectangular shapes project a sophisticated and clearer look.

Matting Photos

Matting photos is essential to highlight the importance of the photograph. Your photo is the main element of your scrapbook. So, it should receive the maximum attention. Matting refers to placing a photo on a complementary cardstock or some other paper in such a way that there is a border left around the photo.

The very first step in matting is to decide which photo requires the perfect matting. Thereafter, place the photo on different paper sheets to identify which paper best complements the photo. The mat color should match the photo. It should not be so overbearing that the photo becomes dull and fades into the background. At the same time, it should not be very sober and unassuming that it does not create any effect at all. After deciding on the actual color combination, place the photo on the cardstock and decide the width of the necessary mat. Then, measure and mark the borders to mat your photos.

Part-IV: Supplies and Accessories

9. Supplies and Accessories to Get You Started

Scrapbooking is a fantastic hobby. You need certain basic supplies and accessories to start your scrapbooking hobby. The essentials include:

Scrapbook album: This is the most important and basic supply for scrapbooking. Normal album sizes are 8½×11" and 12"×12". There are also smaller ones like 7"× 7", 6"× 6" or 8"× 8". These are becoming more popular.

Albums should have acid-free pages with page protectors. These page protectors should be chemically correct to prevent any spoilage of photos. Ideally, page protectors should be PVC (polyvinyl chloride)-free.

Putting in and taking off pages should be simple and pose no major problem. Your album should coordinate with the color or theme of your scrapbooking.

Cardstock and Printed Papers: Go for color combinations that suit the theme of your scrapbook. The paper quality should match your album and synchronize with the theme within. You can also try using separate scrapbook sheets for each page.

Refill Pages: It is not always possible to get the same type and quality of the album sheets. The available refill pages may not suit your book size. So, it is best to buy extra supplies of refill pages at the time of purchasing the album to ensure uniformity.

Adhesive: There are different types of adhesives, like photo corners, photo tape, double-sided adhesive dots, glue sticks, glue pens, nonpermanent glue, bottled glues and adhesive squares or strips.

The best among them is an acid-free adhesive that works well on photos and cardstock.

Journal Pens: Pens are essential for writing anecdotes and small notes about the photographs. When purchasing journal pens, look for permanent and acid-free pens. These pens should have fine tips at one end and a wide tip at the other end. This adds to the beauty of your writing. Inks should be fade resistant and waterproof. A photo-labeling pencil is the best for writing on the back of photos.

Sharp pair of scissors: A sharp pair of scissors ensures a clean and perfect cut for all your photos. Straightedge scissors offer straight and simple cuts while decorative edge scissors offer many patterns and decorations for your photos. You can experiment with different styles, shapes, and designs. The scissors should fit well into your fingers and you should feel comfortable while using them. Use a particular set of scissors only for scrapbooking to maintain and ensure their sharpness at all times.

Embellishments: Embellishments include stickers and 3-D stickers, die-cuts, borders, buttons, alphabet letters, chipboard elements in various shapes and ribbons.

Scrapbooking tools: A paper trimmer, circular or oval cutters, a die-cut machine with a set of alphabet dies are almost essential for scrapbooking. Cropping tools and templates improve your scrapbooking skills and project your creativeness better. A 12"

paper trimmer is the best for scrapbooking. Cropping tools and cropping templates are essential for cutting your photos according to your desired shapes.

These tools add a professional touch to your scrapbook. An electronic die-cutting machine helps you connect your computer to cut your photos in any shape you desire.

All your supplies should be of archival quality. This ensures a long life for your scrapbook. Archival accessories do not harm your photos and scrapbook. These supplies and accessories help you embark on your journey of scrapbooking with a high confidence level that your projects will last.

10. Scrapbook Cutting, Cropping Tools and Templates

Scrapbook cutting and cropping tools include a photo trimmer, corner-rounding tool with three blade sizes, a craft knife, and scissors. Use these tools with appropriate templates to complete scrapbook layouts efficiently and quickly.

Photo Trimmer: This tool crops photos. Place top edge of photo in line with the trimmer and press the narrow band at the side to hold photo in place. This gives photos a perfect cut.

Corner-rounding Tool: This tool is supplied with three blade sizes to shape photos and papers in perfect circular or oval contours. Templates have different colors to suit respective blades. Such shaping is ideal for wedding or heritage photos and scrapbooks.

Scissors: Scissors should be slim to manipulate delicate cuttings. Some photos could be very small and, in some cases, you might need to cut out a specific part of a big photograph. Other cropping tools cannot cut a clean edge in some photos. Your corner-rounder and photo trimmer are the best cropping tools for big photos.

Craft knife: A craft knife with a sharp blade can help you make exquisite and decorative cuts on photo edges.

Templates could be sizing or cutting templates. Sizing templates help you determine and analyze the correct size. Accordingly, you can use the relevant size of cutting template for your photos. Similarly, oval and circular templates help you cut photos according to your desired shapes.

11. Choosing an Album

Albums can be the sizes we have mentioned before.

The major drawback with 12 x 12 albums is that you cannot print them through standard desktop printers. So, 8½ x 11 albums may prove to be better as you can cut out photos and paste them on larger pages to get a bigger display.

Three-ring albums allow easy rearrangement of photo pages. The huge rings allow a lot of space but there is a restriction on the number of pages within the ring. Post-bound albums do not have any separation between them and allow adjacent pages to remain flat on opening. You can add more pages, if need be. However, adding or rearranging new pages is not an easy job. Page protectors that are used in three-ring albums are equally useful in post-bound albums.

Strap-bound albums have an expandable strap hinge. These albums allow adjacent pages to remain flat without displaying the hinge. However, you have to take apart the album pages to include more pages. These albums need special page protectors.

Stay away from magnetic albums, as these spoil your photos.

12. Packing Your Scrapbook Supplies for a Get Away

A scrapbook retreat can be a weekend retreat just for scrapbookers at someone's home, a scrapbook cruise, a retreat at a local hotel or at any similar place. Irrespective of the place, you need to pack certain essential supplies for your scrapbooking retreat weekend.

Normally scrapbooking retreats list the supplies available at the place. You get a list in their brochures or through their web site. Then, you do not have to carry the same articles and tools.

Instead, concentrate on those items that are not available at the retreat but that could be useful for scrapbooking. Again, if you are going on the retreat with your friends, you can share equipment, tools and other accessories.

Organize and choose the specific photos you need to carry on your scrapbooking retreat. Photos evoking emotions are the best as they help you make a better journal.

Page-kits are groups of coordinated papers and other accessories. The page-kits should support the selected photos. You can make your own page kit. It will help you be better organized during the retreat.

Some retreats offer additional fare in the form of casino, disco, shopping, pool, midnight buffet and the like. You will then, obviously, have less time for your scrapbooking. You can adjust your supplies to suit your time accordingly.

13. Embellishing Your Scrapbook Pages

Embellishments are the simple accessories that enhance the look of your scrapbook pages. These may help to convey the theme or meaning of your scrapbook instinctively. Optimum use of embellishments can change the outlook of your scrapbook. Common embellishments include stickers, borders, die cuts, and punches.

You can purchase these embellishments in many scrapbooking stores. Do not make all your purchases from a single shop. Instead, spread your purchases over different shops to benefit from the best variety. Always focus on quality products for your scrapbooking, as that ensures the safety of your photos.

All embellishments should be **lignin-free and acid-free**. Think of different combinations of colors, borders, and stickers to get a new look for your scrapbook.

Do not always follow the same patterns, as it can make a scrapbook too boring. Go for innovations and daring patterns with the same embellishments.

You can also engrave a cover for your scrapbook, if you are presenting it as a gift on someone's anniversary, birthday or any other special occasion. Some local engravers engrave on scrapbooks too, depending on the type of cover of your scrapbook. You can also try online engraving companies. Some other companies insist on only engraving on albums purchased from their shops. However, the final decision and choice rests with you. You can choose the type of embellishment necessary and proceed with it.

Part-V: Layouts and Styles

14. Planning Your Scrapbook Layouts

Pre-planning is an essential part of scrapbooking. Planning the layout of your scrapbook is essential before you start working on it. Planning helps you to understand and organize all photographs and eventually, you can complete your scrapbook faster.

You can choose and coordinate colors with respective or available photos to garner a better appeal. If your scrapbook is according to a particular theme, choose colors that match with the theme.

Pre-planning helps you allocate specific photos for each of the pages. You can then gather all unrelated photos and decide if they can fit in anywhere. This helps you include the most photos in your scrapbook. You also save lot of time in mounting and are able to complete more pages at one go.

You can also save lot of money.

How to Plan Scrapbooking Layouts

Materials Required

1. Thirty numbered layout sheets in the same size as album sheets.
2. Cardstock in relevant sizes
3. Page keepers for temporary storage of pages. Stay away from acidic album boxes. Page keepers should match the page size you will use in your scrapbook. You can use Ziplock bags or moderate-sized envelopes for short periods.

4. Sufficient photographs that relate to the theme and suitable memorabilia
5. Decorative supplies, like colored photo mounting paper, patterned paper, die-cuts, stickers and the like
6. Good pencils and a pencil sharpener
7. Cropping tools like scissors, templates, circle cutter and trimmer.
8. A large table, idea books and magazines

Procedure

1. Make thirty squares on a planning sheet.
2. Sift through photos and decide which photo will fit where. Think about the journaling that fits in with it.
3. Allocate a photo and accompanied journaling for each square, starting from the first.
4. Stack all photos in order, starting with the first page of photos at the bottom. Continue until you complete all thirty pages.
5. Now, scout through leftover photos and see if they fit anywhere.
6. You can now determine if you need a two-page spread for your photos or if they can fit in within a single page.
7. Now, put the pages in the storage box - starting from the last page first.

8. Add any further accessories that you feel are necessary; cardstock, background paper, memorabilia and decorations.
9. Collect and place all miscellaneous photos on one or two sheets.
10. Make a note for yourself with important jottings and ideas for developing particular pages. You can do this while planning each sheet. You can also make use of idea books and magazines for more ideas.
11. Decide on your mounting paper and place all photos with their respective memorabilia in a similar manner, as you want it to appear in your final scrapbook. Also, lay any die-cuts or stickers that match with the particular page.
12. Next, place a particular layout sheet, preferably starting with the first, into a box with all the necessary supplies for that sheet on top of it.
13. Continue stacking every sheet in a similar manner one above the other in your storage box.
14. Your layout is now ready. Mount all your scrapbook pages at your convenience. You only have to crop the photos and affix in the final pages with the already-planned journaling and memorabilia.
15. This method of pre-planned and fast scrapbooking will inspire you to make many more scrapbooks. It also peps your interest further. You are able to complete them in less time.

15. Creating Layouts for Your Scrapbook

Making scrapbook layouts and mapping them is essential for beginners and professionals alike. Normally, scrapbook layouts spread over two adjacent pages. These two pages should be synchronized and coordinated in respect of colors, photos and events.

Even if the two pages show different events, the shapes and colors used should coordinate to form a perfect presentation. An individual page may be very appealing and display an excellent color combination. However, if this page does not match with the adjacent page, the overall impact appears less appealing.

Where to Start

Photographs constitute the main ingredient of a scrapbook. Everything in a scrapbook centers on photographs. Hence, you have to start planning the layout from your photographs. Photographs have to blend with background paper and with other photos on the same page.

You can either use a solid single background color paper or use patterned paper. It depends on your individual preference. Mapping the layout helps you to analyze available photos and blend them perfectly into the page colors to get an excellent and enviable creation.

Layout also includes various embellishments, journaling, decorations and the like. Collect everything before you start your layout. Choose important and relevant photographs from all those available and place them sequentially. This presentation unfolds events as they

occurred without you having to write about it. This becomes self-explanatory and you do not have to explain the contents of your scrapbook to those going through it.

After finalizing photos, it is now time to plan the journaling. Write notes about the specific photos and choose the most appropriate one for each picture. Also, plan the position of your journaling. You could place it horizontally, vertically, or simply just below the photo. If there is space restriction, avoid journaling in sentences; instead, use just a few words to describe the event.

Next, it is time to decide the accompanying embellishments. If you want to use stickers, place them appropriately around the photo and form an idea of the final impact. If you want to use rubber-stamping, try it out on a rough paper. Always remember that your embellishments should not overshadow your photos. They should act as excellent complementary accessories and enhance the look and beauty within the photo.

You can experiment with your layout ideas on every page, then settle on the most appealing and appropriate ones. The main idea behind scrapbooking is to relive the memories within each of the photographs. It is not essential to create elaborate layouts; plan the layout to speak for itself.

Getting Scrapbooking Ideas

Scrapbooking is not the result of a single day's labor. The final scrapbook is the result of planning, thinking, visualizing and experimenting with many ideas, thoughts and colors.

In your leisure, you can sketch out ideas as they come into your mind. Make no restrictions and allow ideas to flow freely.

Make rough sketches of different possible arrangements of photos. Write out color combinations as you see them around you. If the shape or color combination of any particular thing appeals to you, make a note of it in your sketchpad or book. You can make use of it sometime in a scrapbook. Again, do not become overenthusiastic and include all possible color combinations or patterns within a single scrapbook. It will spoil the total effect altogether.

A sketchbook is only a notepad. It stores a note of all that appealed to you in some context. You can also collect ideas from magazines and other idea books. Look and understand placement of photos and color combinations used to create the impact. You do not have to copy it exactly, but understand which color matches with which color.

You can also learn about placement of photos and the journaling, or titles, accompanying them. Such sketching also saves lot of money and time you would otherwise have to spend making cardboard layouts.

Scrapbooks are not only a display of your photos and your artistic presentation; it is also a family heirloom. You are immortalizing important events and your scrapbooks could go down generations as family heirlooms.

Scrapbooks are not just photos. You can have your first movie ticket, the ribbon you wore in your hair, a dried flower, a button, a scrap of material from your dress. His corsage. The bill from the restaurant, the ideas are endless.

If you have a family and you go through what your children made and you have to make the impossible decision of what to keep or let

go as the boxes are just too numerous, you can always consider taking pictures of little Johnnie's finger prints, and umpteen boxes of cards he gave you over the years, the dead plants, and the empty planters.

Have fun organizing a scrapbook of memories of your child such as the gifts he/she gave. It's precious. But, the big bulky ones can be photographed, and then let go. Yes, it is difficult, but it's the same with a lot of sentimental stuff.

16. Some Examples of Scrapbook Layouts

Scrapbook layouts can accommodate many ideas, events, memories, functions and almost every other happening.

Accordingly, there are innumerable, possible scrapbook layouts. Always make copies of the photos you use in your scrapbooks and do all your experimental cutting and trying different patterns with the copies. Some of your photos may be originals and, if you experiment with them, you will have nothing left if your experiments turn sour.

Common scrapbook layouts include:

Christmas

Christmas scrapbooks can focus on everything associated with Christmas celebrations, from Christmas trees, gifts, Santa Claus, cookies, gifts and more.

- Use different Christmas cards you sent to your relatives and friends (and the ones you received from them too).
- Cut pictures into rectangular and square shapes to make them look like Christmas gifts.
- Collect and present pictures of the Mass on Christmas Eve.
- Include traditional recipes and family favorites on a suitable page of your scrapbook, like a food page. This page can contain photos of habitual table settings and family gatherings before Christmas lunch and dinner. In addition, carving the turkey is an important event for inclusion in your scrapbook.

Homes

If you are making a scrapbook on homes, you have to include many photos of your home.

- Take photos of your home from different angles.
- Include photos of the different homes you have lived in so far.
- You can also include many photographs of the back lanes and backyards as children spend most of their time in these places.
- Start with the map of your city or province, then zero in on your locality and house.
- You can show your first house after marriage, your baby's first house, and so on.
- Include poems about 'Bless This Home' for a creative impact.
- Cut pictures in the shape of a house and use subtle embellishments to create a cozy look.

Summer

This is the ideal vacation period.

- Make a scrapbook highlighting your vacations or other summertime hobbies like cycling and swimming.
- Start with a road map of the place you are going to travel or camp. You can use it as a mat around your holiday photographs.

- Again, cut photos of children in the swimming pool in the shape of drops of water and present in a single page.
- Use other summer photos like those of spring flowers in your garden for mats and backgrounds.
- You can also make ice-cream scoops from acid paper and paste them on various pages among your summer photos in a summertime scrapbook.

Heritage

This scrapbook layout can be perfect for your family lineage. Soft tones with sepia prints provide the ideal background. A dark rose tone or rusty rose acid free sheet with gold toned or brown prints can be the perfect blend.

- Include genealogy quotations to create the perfect atmosphere. Always acknowledge the source of quotes that you use.
- Include photos from the different generations and combine them, using simple ideas like grandchildren holding hands with grandparents and parents or a photograph of hands of the three generations.
- Allow your imagination to take a free flight across the years and present the complete family photograph.
- Take extreme care while mounting such heritage photos. Extensive embellishments can disturb the subtleness of photos and take away the beauty too.

Sports

Sports are common family outings and often children have regular sports meets in school and college.

- Collect all those photos to make a chronological scrapbook.
- Add newspaper clippings about the sports events in one of the pages of your scrapbook.
- Scatter many photos of the event across the newspaper clippings.
- Photos could include prize distribution ceremonies, photos of trophies won, and celebrations thereafter too.

Sleeping

This is an interesting topic for a scrapbook layout. Select pictures of different poses of your family members sleeping. You can include sleeping photos of your pets too.

- Babies sleeping innocently,
 - siblings sleeping together
 - your pet cat snuggling and purring away on your lap
- could each make a great picture.

Apt journaling with sleeping words like floating ZZZ's and lullabies can create the perfect sleeping atmosphere.

17. Explore Your Perfect Scrapbook Style

Scrapbooking is very individualistic and not the same for everyone.

Every person has a separate style of scrapbooking. This is true for all elements of scrapbooking, from:

- planning the layout,
- color combinations,
- themes,
- embellishments,
- presentations and
- journaling. There is no clear definition of scrapbooking.

So, every technique is “correct” and you can use those with which you are most comfortable.

Common Styles of Scrapbooking:

Contemporary: This style of scrapbooking gives you a free hand with accents and patterns. It is a clean way of presenting your photos with few lines on everything. You can try using few strong words that bring out the true picture behind the photos in the scrapbook.

Classic: Classic style of scrapbooking is being very traditional in your display. Normal colors in use include burgundy, navy and forest green with accents of black and white. Straight cropping with crisp and clean journaling adds further to the elegance of this scrapbooking style.

Topical: This style of scrapbooking focuses on a specific event or topic. It could be a celebration like Christmas or birthdays, or anything else like pets, vacations and school days.



Include all that you feel is important and relevant to the topic.



Playful Charm: Normally, in this style of scrapbooking, you should use dotted, checked, striped, or patterned paper. Colors may be bright or muted tones. Additional embellishments could be three-dimensional to enhance this style.

Chronological: This is a presentation of events in order of their occurrence. This is a perfect way of maintaining a record of every day of your life, year after year.

Romantic: Use of floral patterns in warm and soft color backgrounds create a romantic style. You can also use lace and velvets to add to the look. Embellishments in ornate and scripted forms best suit this scrapbooking style.

Thematic: This style of scrapbooking essentially focuses on a particular theme. You want to showcase any particularly memorable theme and event in your or another's life. You can capture all your thoughts on such a theme and complete your scrapbook with relevant photos and notes.

Naturalist: This scrapbooking style relates to everything natural and therefore is best represented with earthy colors and appearance. Pages are normally in speckled and monochromatic colors with subtle earth tones. The best naturalist look of

scrapbooking comes through use of natural fibers like textiles or jute on handmade papers with sanded or torn edges.

Further, layouts may be complex, intermediate, or quick.

Quick style, as the name suggests, has simple smooth edges with an appropriate title.

Intermediate offers slight diversions with few added embellishments and presenting photos with a slant.

Complex brings in many complicated patterns with photos cut into different shapes and journaling with exclusive themes.

Scrapbooking style is constantly evolving and you can use or try different styles in your different scrapbooks. You do not have to stick to any particular style and can adopt anything. You can also try more innovations by juggling your styles. The basic focus in your scrapbooking is total personal satisfaction with your presentation.

Irrespective of your style of scrapbooking, it is imperative for you to choose those photos that aptly describe the theme or event. Use archival supplies like acid-free papers, albums and quality adhesives. Store all your supplies in a safe environment and away from direct light.

18. How to Make Lumpy Scrapbook Pages

Lumpy scrapbook pages are scrapbook pages containing three-dimensional accessories like eyelets, decorations with fibers to form bows and veils, and use of ribbons for extra embellishments.

Always use acid-free fibers for decorations like forming braids, tying ballet slippers, or just lace it around a matted photo.

You can also use fibers to hand-stitch through your scrapbook pages. These three-dimensional accessories add to the charm of your scrapbook pages. It is also fun working with three-dimensional accessories. Wrap fibers around printed cardstock to make a perfect looking border. You can also combine nail heads and buttons with colored fibers to create an exclusive look.

Attach a paper strip to one side of your layouts. Select fibers and yarns that complement the page color. Lay fibers and weave them together at a few spots. Use nail heads at different locations through the paper covering differently colored fibers. You can use buttons and glue dots to create a different impact.

Making a wedding veil is simple too. Attach this to the wedding photos of the wedding scrapbook. You only need a small piece of ivory tulle, a few silver beads and some flowers. Use your imagination to make the veil and attach it to that exclusive photo.

Fibers can create a hanging or dangling effect like a hanging journaling box. It is very simple too. Just gather fibers in three different colors and wrap them together, using heart punches or even glue dots. Use a nail head to gather the fibers above the hearts to create the hanging. You can write your journaling inside.

How to Care for Scrapbooks with Lumpy Pages

Always store your scrapbooks with lumpy pages in an upright position. Do not stack them together or with other albums.

Use a very high-quality scrapbook if you intend adding lumpy elements to your scrapbook pages.

Use sheet protectors to protect the ordinary pages opposite the lumpy pages. These sheet protectors also keep off fingerprints and smudges from your photos.

Do not overload lumpy scrapbooks with many pages. Instead, use such accessories on only a few pages.

Part-VI: Journaling

19. Why and How to Journal in a Scrapbook

Journaling is the verbal description of the photographs in your scrapbook. If you do not journal the photos, there will be no difference between your scrapbook and a photo album. Your photographs speak out through your journaling. Those small notes and expressions enliven the emotions and feelings produced from viewing the photos.

Normally, journaling consists of mentioning the date, day, time, place and something special about the photo. You could include any memorable incident relating to the photo. Journaling need not be long descriptions; just a short note can express your thoughts.

You have to give equal importance to your photos and journaling within each page of the scrapbook.

Journaling makes the photos self-explanatory. You do not have to explain every person and incident in the photo to the viewer.

Sometimes, you meet many people on your outings or at functions. Although they may be in your photos, you could forget them if you do not add apt journaling. Journaling can be in your handwriting or computerized. Although handwritten notes have a greater appeal, you can make use of computerized journaling to make up for any illegible handwriting.

How to Journal Your Scrapbook

There is no hard-and-fast rule for journaling your photos. You can use any creative way to express your thoughts. Some prefer writing at the top of the photos while others prefer writing at the bottom.

You can write as a curve along the shape of the photos too. You can use sticker letters to match the theme of the scrapbook. Ideally, it is best to use a marker color that matches the color of the paper. Journaling should appear as a constituent element of your scrapbook and not stand out as something unexpected.

Three simple journaling features can add to the effect:

1. Journaling should pour out from the heart and not appear as just a recording of the event. It should make the viewer feel as if the event is occurring right in front of them.
2. Excerpts from poems and famous quotations can express your feelings better than random thoughts.
3. Do not experiment with many fonts in your scrapbook. Use just one or two fonts for each layout.

20. Ideas to Improve Your Scrapbook Journaling

Journaling imbues life into your photos on scrapbook pages.

Photos, by themselves, cannot tell the story behind them.

Journaling can give details of the date, time, weather, or any funny incidents related to the photo. Nevertheless, you are often at a loss to journal your scrapbook.

The following journaling ideas can help you with more ideas:

- Ask your children, spouse and friends to tell something about their favorite memories from birthdays, Christmas, vacations or similar anecdotes. Keep a record of these small sayings and use them appropriately on the scrapbook pages.
- Always write from your heart. A simple technique is to look at the photos on your layout and close your eyes. The actual scene flows past your eyes. Just evoke all your memories of that particular photo and give yourself a free hand to pen your feelings. Do not place any restrictions and be natural. Use adjectives and adverbs freely.
- Make it a habit to collect quotes and poems from any source like magazines or the Internet. Delve into this collection to locate suitable quotes to explain any particular photo. This helps overcome your inability to express your feelings at a particular time.
- If you want to, you can use hidden journaling to keep certain information private. You may want to share few anecdotes about the photos with your children once they grow up but

they might be too small to understand them right now.

Hidden journaling helps you.

- Use song lyrics in your layout to explain the photos in your scrapbooks. Music is an integral part of your life and it can traverse all boundaries. Use catchy jingles for a title of your scrapbook page. The lyrics in any song evoke special emotions within people, often associated with the contents of the page.
- It is best to journal in your own handwriting. It helps the viewer connect immediately to the situation. Scrapbooks normally translate into family heirlooms. This can add the personal touch to your scrapbooks. Your family and generations after you can enjoy and connect to you through such handwritten journaling on scrapbooks.
- Make use of the different fonts to match the emotion expressed in every photo on each page of your scrapbook. However, restrict yourself to using only two or three fonts for a single page. Excessive use of different fonts can reduce the charm of your page, as they distract attention of the viewer from the main theme of the page.
- A simple technique to help your journaling abilities is to make a list. If working on a recipe page, list your favorite recipes and mention why you love them so much. The rest just continues from such lists.

21. Handwritten vs. Computer Journaling

Handwritten Journaling

Handwritten journaling adds the personal touch to your scrapbooking. It includes you within the scrapbook pages and proves to be a lasting legacy for many generations coming after you. Many people however, resist handwritten journaling because their handwriting is poor.

Nevertheless, you can include handwritten journaling in few ways:

Write evenly and maintain perfect spacing between words. Although this could prove daunting at first, you will slowly improve and be surprised at the quality that can achieve with your handwriting.

Hidden journaling is another simple way to overcome your poor handwriting. Write on a piece of coordinating cardstock and put it inside a pocket on the page. You could present it as folded papers or in matchboxes too. In this way, your handwriting is on the page although not everybody can see it. Only those pulling out the cards can view it.

Try to include a single handwritten page within your scrapbook if you are very apologetic of your handwriting. This could be the closing page or a dedication page. The details on this page could be simple but very informative; the scrapbook creation date, dedication, who created the scrapbook and similar facts. Even this single handwritten page can add a lot of interest.

You can opt for a combination of handwritten and computer journaling for your scrapbook pages. Small texts like dates or

quotes can be in your handwriting while the major text on scrapbook pages can be through computerized printing.

Computer Journaling

Computer journaling is a different concept altogether. You type your journal onto the computer and print it on acid-free paper through your printer. You then cut these printouts to the desired sizes and glue them at appropriate places on the scrapbook pages.

Computer journaling has its own benefits. You can overcome illegible handwriting. Further, you can use the spell check to correct all spelling errors.

Typewritten text is normally smaller than handwritten texts so you can include more in a page. You can use different fonts, alphabet sizes and play around with other ways of handling your text like alignment and fitting text to suit page size.

Computers offer many tested and proven fonts. Use varied fonts to express your feelings but do not use many different fonts; it makes your page look messy and overshadows the beauty and feelings expressed through your photos.

Although you can experiment with stylish fonts, ensure that your fonts are legible. Legibility is of prime importance when choosing any font. You chose computer journaling to overcome your poor illegible handwriting, or to be more artistic or because it is faster. 😊

You can purchase computer software with backgrounds and fonts and fun graphics and even lovely photo frames.

We know how much fun scrapbooking is. There is software on the Internet that you can buy, download, and get started with beautiful

creations. Our own software is due to launch sometime before the end of February 2007. www.youscrap.com

22. Making Time for Your Scrapbooking

Scrapbooking can be a hobby, your passion or you just do it for fun. Anyway, allocate specific time for scrapbooking. Taking time from your normal routine could prove very taxing and, sometimes, cumbersome too.

These simple tactics help you find time for your scrapbooking:

Make a 'To Do' list: List all jobs for the day and cancel them once they are done. This leaves you with more time for fun, like your scrapbooking-related activities.

You can use your television viewing with your scrapbooking activities. Watch your favorite show on television while you crop some photos too.

Do not view scrapbooking as a single job: Break it into smaller pieces. Then, you can easily fit them in between your normal chores. Decide on the layout one day, and you can choose photos another day. Look for and choose apt quotes and poems next time and choose embellishments and accessories on some other day. Then, you will notice that you are proceeding faster with your scrapbooking.

Another simple way is to **do to this hobby while you are alone.** It could be while your children are at school or when they are in bed at night.

Build up on your attitude and do not fall in the vicious circle of chores, family and work. Set aside some time every day for your leisure activities. Indulge in scrapbooking during your hobby time. You feel relaxed and are able to include more activities within a day.

It truly helps with managing stress. Finding time for yourself and your own projects is very important for your quality of life.

Organize all your scrapbooking supplies at an easy-to-locate place. Alternatively, spread them on a dedicated table or workspace. This way, you do not have to take out things every time you start your scrapbooking. You can leave things as they are and proceed from where you left the next time you sit to scrap.

Form groups with other scrapbooking friends and maintain regular schedules of meeting at any suitable place to spend time scrapbooking. Such regular interaction helps you carry on scrapbooking and produce more innovative ideas. Sharing works!

23. Preserving Your Scrapbook

A scrapbook traps your memories within its pages. Photos need protection from the common elements of nature like light, dust and air.

Follow these tips to preserve your scrapbook:

Buffered and acid-free paper is the best for your photos. Buffered paper contains an alkaline substance, like calcium carbonate or magnesium carbonate. This prevents any acid from migrating to the paper or causing damage to your photos. Acid is normally present in paper and it makes paper brittle and dry over time. Your paper slowly reduces to dust. So, you need to shield your photos and paper from the acid present in air or any other source.

Heat can accelerate the process of decay. Heat destroys paper and can reduce photos to ashes. Always keep your scrapbook and photos away from direct heat like sunlight.

Ideally, scrapbooks should be in cabinets or similar storage places and never in a garage or attic.

Humidity is a cause for worry. High humidity levels can cause mold growth, which can damage your photos. Similarly, fluctuating humidity levels are equally harmful. They cause contracting and expanding of paper due to the absorption and drying of moisture.

Pay attention to your local climate. You should be extra careful about preserving scrapbooks from humid weather.

Dust is another major cause of damage to your photos. Dust can cause scratches on photos and destroy the look of scrapbooks. Keep

photos in a safe place like acid-free albums or within protectors to maintain them dust-free.

Photos are printed on light-sensitive paper. So, light from any source - including ultraviolet light - can cause chemical reactions on your photos and they gradually fade away.

The best way to shield your scrapbooks from the effect of light is to store them closed on shelves, away from sunlight. You can also use protective photo sleeves to store photos. This protects them from dust too. Black and white photos have a longer shelf life.

Encase your photos in acid-free page protectors to prevent any destruction occurring while handling them. The natural oil of your hands is highly acidic and you could transfer it to the photos while handling them.

Some common plastic materials, like Mylar, are safe for your photos. However, PVC (Polyvinyl Chloride) that is present in materials release fumes that destroy photos prematurely. A simple technique of detecting PVC in plastic is by the smell.

Your paper should be lignin-free to shield your photos from any damage. Lignin is a naturally occurring substance in plant cells and therefore, is present in paper. This lignin reacts with heat and light and makes paper acidic. This turns paper yellowish and gradually destroys it.

Part-VII: Choosing a Scrapbooking Theme

24. Choosing a Scrapbook Theme

The very first step in scrapbooking is to decide a theme for your scrapbook. This sets the tune for developing your project. Then, you can decide on the photos, layout, and embellishments. These help to create the scrapbook you want.

Some of the themes could be:

Holiday Themes: Holidays are usually busy, but you need to give yourself time to enjoy them. Common holiday seasons include family gatherings at Thanksgiving and Christmas, Easter and other family holidays. Collect photos of all vacations and journal them appropriately to make a good scrapbook.

Heritage Themes: Family heritage is an important linkage. Time flies and generations pass by. Heritage preserves this linkage. Collect information about your ancestors, their photos and explore the family lineage. Document small facts about all the family members and preserve them in your scrapbooks with apt journaling, mementos and anecdotes. It will help the generations after you to understand the family lineage. Use a preprinted family tree page and place all members appropriately.

Wedding Themes: A wedding is an important occasion in every person's life. These occasions are very busy and the bride and groom may forget various details. You can make a scrapbook for them by encompassing all details within it. You would therefore be presenting a scrapbook that could speak the thoughts and feelings

of the newlyweds. The couple is sure to cherish this scrapbook at the beginning of their new life together and forever.

Birthday Themes: Birthdays are annual celebrations. You can use this theme to develop a birthday scrapbook for your child. You can include photos from every year. Additionally, you can also include miniature creations of the gifts, presentations, cakes and other things. Your children would be happy to go through such scrapbooks after they grow up. It will keep memories fresh. Most children do not remember much before they are 5 years old. They won't remember how hard you worked to throw that beautiful second birthday party. Get it on video if you can. Take pictures, then create a beautiful scrapbook. They may not remember, but that scrapbook will let them know that you were there; you cared.

Family trip themes: Family trips are happy occasions. You can make a scrapbook using this theme. Collect all memorabilia and photos of your trips like tickets, plans, schedules, information and pamphlets. You can also accumulate flowers or leaves gathered during trips and press them between pages to preserve them.

Include these in your scrapbook with adequate preservatives to cherish and think about your trips undertaken long ago. These help keep memories very fresh.

Pet Themes: Pets are part of your family. Make a scrapbook about your family pet or pets. You could start from the time you brought home your pet cat or dog. Also, include other cute photos taken during your outings to the beach, zoo and their antics too.

Baby Themes: This is a very common theme. Make a scrapbook of this theme, starting with your pregnancy. You can include pictures

of yourself at different stages of pregnancy. The birth of your baby, hospital photos and the homecoming are important occasions. You can include baby food labels, small playthings and things for your baby in the scrapbook. Continue with the scrapbooking over the growing years of your child. You can scrapbook your own baby shower or a special loved one's baby shower, and present it to them as a loving, handmade, caring gift.

25. Wedding Scrapbook Album

A wedding scrapbook album can help retain all your memories of the event. Just going through these scrapbook pages can evoke many tender memories of the day. A wedding scrapbook album helps you continue with more scrapbook pages as you both proceed in your married life. It is a continuing process and you can preserve this for many generations to come.

The very first step in a wedding scrapbook is to decide on the layout. Choose a cardstock and spray it lightly with water. Crumple every page into a ball. Open to find wavy paper for scrapbook pages. Brush lightly with colors to intensify the wavy impact. Allow them to dry and even them out lightly, then start with your scrapbooking.

Next, gather all photos from your courtship days up to your engagement, showers, wedding and honeymoon. Include wedding invitations, newspaper announcements and honeymoon destination brochures too. Also, collect engagement party invitations, rehearsal dinner and bridal shower memorabilia.

Don't forget the pre-wedding day; getting the necessary items and invitations as well as the practice wedding before the actual event. Also collect mementos from bridesmaids' luncheon, pre-wedding get-togethers, bridal showers, imprinted napkins of wedding, table decorations and ceremony programs, guest sign books, and similar others.

Buy the best materials for your wedding scrapbook like acid-free papers, stickers, punches, mats, rubber stamps, permanent ink

pens, die-cut shapes and scissors. Arrange all photos and mementos chronologically and provide apt journaling too.

Journaling is the essence of scrapbooking. It brightens the photos and provides the necessary meaning and relevance to the photos.

Also, make beautiful embellishments like veils, flowers, and heart-shaped cuttings of photos decorated with beads, bows and ribbons.

Adhere to the theme of the wedding scrapbook. Use the color scheme of the wedding invitation cards or the theme or color that was at the wedding. Your scrapbook can then become a memento of the wedding.

If you are making the scrapbook for a gift, the ideal time would be to give it to the newlyweds a month or two after their marriage. By then, they would be back into the normal routine and this gift would transport them back to the memories of their special day. Or you can plan on giving it to them for their first anniversary.

26. Scrapbooking Your Family History

The simplest way to preserve your family heirlooms, photos, and memories is to document them into a heritage scrapbook. This protects your family lineage for future generations. Photos form the core of all heritage scrapbooks. Such photos need not be of people alone, it can be your ancestral house, old towns, villages, automobiles, and similar others. Of course, photos of family events like your grandparent's wedding, Christmas dinner at your ancestral house, and similar others are priceless.

Gather as many photos as you can from attics, old albums, relatives, and other sources. Additionally, collect simple mementos like old letters, report cards, birth and death certificates, family recipes, a pocket watch, a lock of hair, a family quilt, or any clothing items like your grandma's wedding gown or veil, and others. You can scan the bigger items and include in your scrapbook.

Next, use labeled file dividers to segregate photos by family, life stages, persons, or any other theme. Store all photos in an upright position in a cool and dry place.

Starting the Scrapbook

Select around three to five photos for a single page and around seven photos for a two-page spread. Use a graphic editing program to repair scratched, torn, or faded photos. Select appropriate background patterns and colors.

Before cropping any photos make copies so that you do not lose the single photo or memento. Using photo corners is better for heritage photos as affixing with glue can harm the photos. Do not be in a

hurry to affix, think of appropriate journaling with relevant dates and time and any special embellishments like a veil to support every photo. Use deacidification spray in everything before scrapbooking.

27. Make a Family Recipe Scrapbook

A family recipe scrapbook becomes a storehouse of all the favorite recipes of your family. You can use a 6x6 or an 8x8 scrapbook. You can try writing recipes on index cards or on paper too. Collect family recipes from your mother, mother-in-law, aunts, and other family members. It would be very innovative to include the photograph of the recipe submitter with a title like Aunt's Special or Mom's Best Dish.

You can plan layout for your family recipe scrapbook by presenting a recipe on one page and shopping list on the adjacent page. Otherwise, you can affix a photo of the recipe submitter with little details on the left page and write the recipe on the right page. It is still better to place the shopping list on a separate page so that you can remove it and take it to the grocer's for shopping. Always keep a lot of room for expansion in recipe scrapbooks. Include converter and measurement charts.

You can arrange all the different recipes starting from appetizers and starters, proceeding to specific menu items, and culminating in desserts. You could also include a special section of family favorites. Otherwise, you can arrange recipes according to specific occasions like Thanksgiving, Christmas, birthdays, and others. If possible, include a photo of every recipe in your family recipe scrapbook.

28. Baby Scrapbooking Thoughts

A scrapbook for your baby can start from your pregnancy.

Photographs of baby showers during pregnancy could mark the beginning. This way, you can have a scrapbook for your baby even before its birth.

The birth of your baby no doubt, brings in many ideas for scrapbooking too. However, you could be too busy then to take some time off for scrapbooking. The best way out would be to put your ideas in simple keywords and transform these later.

Some common keywords for baby showers include invitations, cake, presents, guest, cards, and similar others. You then proceed to events in the hospital. Relevant keywords include nurse, doctor, visitors, birth of baby, and homecoming. Now with your baby growing fast over the months, appropriate keywords include the firsts, crawling, walking, bath, pacifying, haircuts, birthday, and others.

Take many photos of your baby over the months and maintain a list of the events occurring every month until the first birthday. The photos should show your baby in different postures and in different moods like smiling, crying, sleeping, bathing, and others.

Use pink and yellow ribbons, stickers, and background papers for your baby scrapbook. Every little thing about your baby is important and an event in itself. You do not have to add many accessories like embellishments as baby photos are very cute and speak volumes for themselves.

29. Recollecting Your Love Notes

Creating a love album for that special person in your life is an excellent feeling. This album or scrapbook holds memories of all the lovely time you spent together within its pages. You can include all your photos, other mementos, and keepsakes to make your scrapbook exclusive.

A small accordion style album helps preserve the intimacy within the scrapbook pages. Journaling in such an album occupies prime position. Every photo is a living anecdote. You can include song lyrics, few special words, a quote, or a poem to journal these photos. This reflects the warm intimacy of your relationship.

Normally, many prefer red backgrounds for love scrapbooks. Nevertheless, silver, pale blue, golden, or cream colors also work fine. Otherwise, you can add embellishments in these colors on a red background. Provide a very apt and personal title for your love scrapbook like 'The Ten Most Wonderful Things about You' or 'Things I Love about You'.

Collect special items like dried flowers, love letters, cards, concert tickets, restaurant menus, and similar memorabilia from the early days of your courtship. Include these into relevant pages. You can further add to these pages by including special occasions like the time when he proposed or your engagement party.

If you want to present this scrapbook on any special occasion like your wedding anniversary, include a special letter for your beloved.

30. Christmas Memories

Christmas is among the most memorable celebrations. Your

Christmas memories are the fondest and often, you forget to take photos of these memorable events as they occur.

The best way to collect Christmas photos for your scrapbook is to start from the time you cut and bring home the Christmas tree. Be sure to take photos of the tree before, during, and after cutting. You can include details of where you got the tree from, who had cut the tree, and how you brought it home. You can also include a description of the weather on that day.

Similarly, trimming the tree is another special event. Your photos could range from trimming the tree, fixing various gifts and decorations, hanging the star, and angels, and finally pose with the completed Christmas tree for a family photograph.

Christmas entails a total makeover of the house. Take photos of the entire house with all types of decorations inside and outside and the special lightings at nights. Similarly, Christmas photos could include traditional ceremonies like going around caroling, baking cookies, hosting parties in the neighborhood, and similar others.

Appropriate journaling for these photos include a popular carol or a short recipe for the homemade cookies. Also, include letters and lists for Santa Claus. Before mailing any letters to Santa Claus, keep a copy of them for including in your scrapbook.

Photos of Christmas Day morning, special lunch and celebrations with relatives and friends are equally important.

31. Halloween Scrapbooking Fun

Halloween scrapbooking is genuinely exciting and interesting. The photos on Halloween could look real bizarre and ghostly. This makes Halloween scrapbooking exquisite and exclusive too. Try innovative techniques for implementing your Halloween ideas.

Black is the ideal background for a Halloween scrapbook. This adds to the weirdness of Halloween photos. There are so many photos and ideas on Halloween that it might become difficult to choose the appropriate ones for inclusion in your scrapbook.

You can decorate your house with eerie decorations like paper skeletons hanging from curtain rods, bleeding taper candles, candy box containing small skulls on the center table, and similar others. Treat every photo as a unique one and present in a very strange manner in your scrapbook. Include a spooky title with different quotes on ghosts.

Include lighter items and moments like a Halloween candy shared amongst friends, or all the time spent on thinking and designing a Halloween room. Do not forget to take photos of the house decorated for Halloween.

Start from the outside through the lawn with scary lightings and then proceed inside the house. You can have frightening music with shrieks and shouts. Pin up small notes of the music on your scrapbook pages for others to visualize the music and scenes with it.

Make small paper dolls and dress them in spunky and weird costumes to create the Halloween mood.

32. A Father's Day Gift

A scrapbook on your Dad can prove to be the best gift for Father's Day. This scrapbook can prove to be the ideal way of expressing your feelings, thoughts, and love for your Dad. Scrapbooks can last for generations and can be a treasured part of your family heirloom. Before designing a scrapbook for your Dad, decide on the layout. This decides number of pages in your scrapbook and the style in which you want to present it. The best purchases for your scrapbook pages include archival quality pages that are acid-free, lignin-free and have no PVC.

You can design the scrapbook on any appropriate theme like charting your dad's life from infancy, your perception of Dad since your childhood, or the important lessons you learned from your dad.

Start by collecting all available photos according to your chosen theme. Restrict yourself to a maximum of five photos on a single page. This helps provide sufficient space for journaling. It is not necessary to include all available photos. You have to choose the best and most appropriate ones.

Shape and mat photos appropriately. If you want to add extra importance to any photo, use double or triple matting. Express your feelings and emotions explicitly to fill your scrapbook with the warmth of your love for your dad.

33. Happy Graduation

Graduation is an important event in every person's life and preserving memories of graduation ceremonies and events associated with it is a very good experience. The graduation scrapbook should ideally concentrate on the main graduation program.

You can either assemble a scrapbook or purchase a readily available scrapbook. Newspaper clippings about the graduation ceremony, awards function, report cards, achievement and award certificates, congratulatory cards from friends and family members, mementos from seniors, parties and other revelries form the core photos and matter for your scrapbook on your graduation.

A graduation scrapbook is not necessarily an exquisite work of art. It is just to preserve the memories of the big day in the fresh and young graduate's life. You could also organize a graduation party welcoming all your young graduate friends.

Provide them with all essential supplies for scrapbooking like scrapbooks, adhesives, acid-free and lignin-free papers, necessary embellishments, and essentially appropriate photos. You can either ask them to bring in their supplies or arrange for such supplies at the party itself.

Allow them a free hand and help them decide layouts. Then, they can arrange photos about:

- their infant school days,
- friends through school,

- events and happenings from that period

..... eventually culminating on the graduation day ceremony. An apt title could be 'My Academic Journey' or 'The Best times of My School Days,'.

You can end the scrapbook with a short write-up of yourself.

34. Summer Vacation

Summers are ideal vacation periods and you can make many scrapbooks with summer vacation themes. Summer vacation scrapbooks should have sufficient space for experimentation, expansion, and allow lot of room to express your creativity.

Start by accumulating all essential supplies for your summer vacation scrapbook. Buy a spiral-bound scrapbook, as this becomes flat on opening and helps you arrange photos and mementos on the adjacent pages.

Popular mementos for your summer vacation scrapbook includes beach sand, pressed summer flowers, lists of ice-cream cone flavors, sports scores, family outings, beach pebbles, photos, ticket stubs of functions and events, postcards and maps of places you vacationed.

You can also write reviews of the movies and concerts you attended and add them as a journal at pages with related mementos.

Make an index page and page of contents. Allow space for inclusion of extra pages. Otherwise, you could select a specific summer vacation theme like summer photos, beach sand, and the like. You have to accumulate photos related to your theme. Arrange photos and provide apt journaling to breathe in life in to your photos.

Allow your child to have a free hand in designing this scrapbook to unleash the creativity within. You can provide the necessary guidance for your child's summer vacation scrapbook. Allow the children to work at their will as this alone brings out their spontaneous emotions.

Part-VIII: Digital Scrapbooking

35. The World of Digital Scrapbooking

Digital scrapbooking is scrapbooking with digital files. This is the most modern way of keeping your scrapbooking instincts alive. You can keep all your personal memories fresh and alive as they occur.

The main strongpoint of digital scrapbooking is that it does not incur huge costs in the form of scrapbooking supplies.

The computer and the Internet offer innumerable opportunities for scrapbookers to experiment with new scrapbooking ideas. Image editing software helps you manipulate page elements without finalizing on any particular layout until you are satisfied. You can tear and set right any of the photos in any manner you want.

You can also download many free kits for use in matching backgrounds with photos and other embellishments.

You can combine digital and traditional scrapbooking. You can take printouts of all finished layouts and store them in scrapbook albums. You can share your digital scrapbooking with other Internet friends through CD-ROM collections, e-mails or online galleries.

Digital scrapbooking does not cost you as much as traditional scrapbooking. You can re-use scrapbooking elements as many times as you want, so the cost of supplies is very low. Sometimes, it is nil. Digital photography is fast becoming the order of the day. This prompts many to opt for digital scrapbooking too. Computerized programs offer all necessary tools for your scrapbooking.

Part-IX: Verses, Quotes, and Sayings**36. Scrapbooking Verses, Quotes
and Sayings for Various Occasions****Good Friends**

* The better part of one's life consists of his friendships. - *Abraham Lincoln*

* Close Friends are the ones:

you contact when there is good news

you alert when there is a need for prayer

you confide to when there is a burden to be shared

you involve when special plans are being made

thank God for whenever you count your richest blessings!

- *Roy Lessin*

* Friendship consists in forgetting what one gives and remembering what one receives. - *Alexandre Dumas the Younger (1824-1895)*

* He who loses money loses much; he, who loses a friend, loses much more; He, who loses faith, loses all. - *Eleanor Roosevelt*

* Hold a true friend with both hands. (*A Nigerian Proverb*)

* It is a good thing to be rich and a good thing to be strong, but it is a better thing to be loved by many friends. - *Euripdes*

* Many people will walk in and out of your life, but only true friends will leave footprints in your heart. - *Eleanor Roosevelt*

* True friendship is a plant of slow growth. - *George Washington*

* When friends gather/meet hearts warm. - *Scottish Proverb*

Babies

* Babies are always more trouble than you thought - and more wonderful than you ever dreamed. - *Charles Osgood*

* Babies are such a nice way to start people. - *Don Herold*

* Baby face, you've got the cutest little baby face. - *Art Mooney*

* A baby is God's opinion that the world should go on. - *Carl Sandburg*

* Baby Love - *Diana Ross and the Supremes*

* A baby's got to do what a baby's got to do! *Tommy - Rug Rats*

* Before I got married I had six theories about bringing up children; now I have six children and no theories. - *John Wilmot*

* Born in the USA - *Bruce Springstein*

* Born to be Wild! - *Steppenwolf - 1968 release*

* Children are one third of our population and all of our future. - *The Promotion of Child Health, 1981*

* For this child I prayed, and the Lord has given me my petition, which I asked of Him. - *1 Samuel 1:27*

* Good Night Moon, Good Night Air, Good Night Noises Everywhere- *Margaret Wise Brown*

* Here I am!! Gotta love me!! - *TV show Dinosaurs*

On the day that you were born the angels got together, and decided to create a dream come true. So, they sprinkled moon dust in your

hair and golden starlight in your eyes of blue. - *Carpenters, Close to You*

* People who say they sleep like a baby usually don't have one. - *Leo J. Burke*

* Practically Perfect in Every Way - *Mary Poppins*

* Shake rattle and roll - *Buddy Holly*

Where are you going, my little one, little one? Where are you going, my baby, my own? Turn around and you're two, turn around and you're four, Turn around and you're a girl/boy walking out of the door. - *Harry Belafonte, Alan Greene and Malvina Reynolds*

* Yes sir, that's my baby - *Gus Kahn 1925*

Birthdays

* It's hard for me to get used to these changing times. I can remember when the air was clean and sex was dirty. - *George Burns*

* Maturity begins when we're content to be right about something without finding it necessary to prove that someone else is wrong. - *Barbara Johnson*

* Sweet Little Sixteen - *Chuck Berry*

"I wouldn't mind being middle aged if I knew more people who were 100." *Dean Martin*

Christmas

* Although it's been said, many times, many ways, Merry Christmas to you!!! - *Mel Torme*

- * Every mother's child is gonna spy, to see if reindeer really know how to fly. - *Mel Torme*
- * Every time a bell rings an angel gets his wings. - It's a wonderful life - *Zuzu*
- * Have a Holly Jolly Christmas ... Oh! By golly have a Holly Jolly Christmas this year. - *Burl Ives - Rudolph the Red Nosed Reindeer*
- * I will honor Christmas in my heart, and try to keep it all the year. - *Charles Dickens*
- * I wish we could put up some of the Christmas spirit in jars and open a jar of it every month. - *Harlan Miller*
- * I'll be home for Christmas, if only in my dreams. - *Kim Gannon, Bing Crosby*
- * I'm dreaming of a white Christmas - *Irving Berlin - sung by Bing Crosby* (first featured in the movie "Holiday Inn")
- * Let there be Peace on Earth and let it begin with me.
Let there be Peace on Earth the Peace that was meant to be.
As God as our Father ... Brothers all are we.
Let me walk with my Brother in perfect harmony.
Let Peace begin with me; let this be the moment now.
With every step I take let this be my solemn vow.
To take each moment and live each moment in peace eternally.
Let there be Peace on Earth and let it begin with me. - *Written by Sy Miller and Jill Jackson - 1955*
- * Jolly old St. Nick - the time you're here seems so quick
- * Hark the herald angels sing - *Charles Wesley*

* Not a creature was stirring ... not even a mouse. - poem "A visit by St. Nick" by Clement Clark Moore

* Our hearts grow tender with childhood memories and love of kindred, and we are better throughout the year for having, in spirit, become a child again at Christmas-time. - *Laura Ingalls Wilder* (1867-1957 writer of "The Little House on the Prairie" books)

* Santa's on his way - *Mel Torme*

* The stockings were hung by the chimney with care ...in hopes that St. Nicholas soon would be there.

* There seems to be magic in the very name of Christmas - *Charles Dickens*

* There's no place like home for the holidays...

Tiny Tots with their eyes all-aglow will find it hard to sleep tonight. - *Mel Torme*

Fourth of July

* I pledge allegiance to the flag, of the United States of America, and to the Republic for which it stands, One nation, Under God, Indivisible, with Liberty and Justice for all. - *Francis Bellamy* (1855 - 1931), a Baptist minister. (In 1954, Congress, after a campaign by the Knights of Columbus, added the words 'under God' to the Pledge.)

* One Flag, One Land , One Heart, One Hand, One Nation Ever More - *Oliver Wendell Holmes*

* Summer blasts off fireworks, fuses them with red, sets them off to sizzle in a star - sky overhead. - *M Livingston*

Heritage

- * The future ain't what it used to be. - *Yogi Berra*
- * It's like deja vu all over again. - *Yogi Berra*
- * Life isn't a matter of milestones, but of moments. - *Rose Kennedy*
(mother of the 35th President JFK)
- * Like sands through the hourglass, so are the days of our lives.
McDonald Carey "The Days of Our Lives" -TV soap-opera
- * Memories / The Way We Were - *Barbara Streisand* - lyrics
- * Memories are perhaps the best gifts of all. - *Gloria Gaither*
- * Old Friends - - *Simon and Garfunkel* - lyrics
- * Old time rock and roll - *Bob Seager*
- * Somewhere over the rainbow - *Judy Garland*
- * We had joy, we had fun, we had seasons in the sun. - *Westlife*
- * We want to live in the present, and the only history that is worth a tinker's damn is the history we make today. - *Henry Ford* (1863-1947, American Industrialist, Founder of Ford Motor Company)
- * We are on a life long mission, to explore strange new worlds, to seek out new life and new generations, to boldly go where no one has gone before. - loosely based on Star Trek -- *Gene Rodenberry*

Halloween

- * Abandon all hope ye who enter here - *Dante's Divine Comedy*
- * Are you a good witch, or a bad witch? - *Billie Burke* - *Glinda the Good Witch of the North* - Wizard of Oz

- * Double, double toil and trouble, fire burn and caldron bubble. - *William Shakespeare - Macbeth*
- * From ghoulies and ghosties and long leggety beasties and things that go bump in the night, Good Lord, deliver us! - *A Cornish prayer*
- * Ghosts and goblins, Spooks galore, Scary Witches at your door. Jack-O-Lanterns Smiling Bright, Wish you a Happy Haunting Night.
- * The Great Pumpkin rises up from the pumpkin patch and gives toys to good little girls and boys. - *Linus - Charlie Brown TV special*
- * I'll get you my pretty and your little dog too!! - *The Wicked Witch of the West - Wizard of Oz (1939)*
- * Jeepers Creepers - Where 'ja get those peepers? - *Al Donohue/Johnny Mercer*
- * Just tell them Boris sent you. - *Monster Mash - Bobby Pickett*
- * *Monster Mash - It was a graveyard smash. - Bobby (Boris) Pickett*
- * *Something wicked this way comes - Ray Bradbury (b.1920 -writer of science fiction, The Martian Chronicles and Fahrenheit 451)*
- * To understand the reason...why we carry on this way
And we're lost in this masquerade - *George Benson*
- * *Toto, I have a feeling that we're not in Kansas anymore. Dorothy (Judy Garland) when approaching the Land of Oz)*
- * *Trick or Tweet (bird costume - Tweety bird)*

Scrapbooking

- * Life brings simple pleasures to us every day. It is up to us to make them wonderful memories. - *Cathy Allen*

* Treat your friends as you do your pictures... place them in their best light. - *Jennie Jerome Churchill*

Virtue is insufficient temptation. - *George Bernard Shaw* (1856-1950)

New Year's Day

* There is nothing like a dream to create the future. - *Victor Hugo*

Love/Romance

* And they called it puppy love. - *Jackson Five*

* Are the stars out tonight? I do not know if it's cloudy or bright.
Cause I only have eyes for you [dear]. - *Billie Holiday, Ella Fitzgerald*

* As time goes on I realize
Just what you mean to me
And now, now that you're near
Promise your love
That I've waited to share
And dreams of our moments together
Color my world with hope of loving you - *James Pankow, Chicago*

* Butterfly Kisses - *lyrics*

* Cherish is the word I use to describe All the feeling that I have
hiding here for you inside. - *The Association lyrics*

* Coming together is a beginning; keeping together is progress; and
working together is success. - *Henry Ford*

* Good company through the journey of life makes the way seem
shorter. - *Izaak Walton*

* A groovy kind of love - *Mindbenders*

* Heads UP! - (throwing the bouquet or garter)

* Hand in hand together forever. - *Annie*

* Honey you, are my shining star and don't you go away. - *The Manhattans*

* How do I love thee? Let me count the ways.

I love thee to the depth and breadth and height

My soul can reach, when feeling out of sight

For the ends of being and ideal grace.

I love thee to the level of every day's

Most quiet need, by sun and candlelight.

I love thee freely, as men strive for right.

I love thee purely, as they turn from praise.

I love thee with the passion put to use

In my old griefs, and with my childhood's faith.

I love thee with a love I seem to lose

With my lost saints. I love thee with the breath,

Smiles, tears, of all my life; and, If God choose,

I shall but love thee better after death. - *Elizabeth Barrett Browning,*

Written in 1850

* A Hug is the perfect gift--one size fits all and nobody minds if you exchange it. - *Ivern Ball*

* I love you more today than yesterday, but only half as much as tomorrow. - *Pat Upton*

* In this world of ordinary people, I'm glad there is you. - *Carmen Mcrae*

* Let me call you sweetheart I'm in love with you.

Let me hear you whisper that you love me too.

Keep the love light burning in your eyes so true.

Let me call you sweetheart. I'm in love with you. - *Beth Slater*

Whitson and Leo Friedman (1910)

* A life without love, no matter how many other things we have, is an empty, meaningless life. - *Leo Buscaglia* (1924-1998 American Expert on Love, Lecturer, Author)

* Love brings us closer to perfection. It is the sun that lights up our lives and warms that of others. - *Brigitte Bardot*

* Love is an act of endless forgiveness, a tender look which becomes a habit. - *Peter Ustinov* (1921- British Actor, Writer, Director)

* Love is the only force capable of transforming an enemy into a friend. - *Martin Luther King Jr.*

* Love lifted me. - *Kenny Rogers*

* Love means never having to say I'm sorry. - *Ali McGraw* in *Love Story*

* Love soft as an easy chair, Love fresh as the morning air.

One love that is shared by two, I have found with you. - *Barbara Streisand* - Evergreen lyrics

* Ooh I need your love babe, Guess you know it's true.

Hope you need my love babe, just like I need you.

Hold me, love me, hold me, love me.

Ain't got nothin' but love babe, Eight days a week. - *Beatles*

* A rose is a rose is a rose

- * One word frees us of all the weight and pain in life. That word is love. – *Sophocles* (BC 495-406, Greek Tragic Poet)
- * Somewhere out there, If love can see us through, Then we'll be together, Somewhere out there, Out where dreams come true. - *An American Tail*
- * Spread love everywhere you go: First of all in your own house. Give love to your children, to your wife or husband, to a next door neighbor. Let no-one ever come to you without leaving better and happier. Be the living expression of God's kindness, kindness in your face, kindness in your eyes, kindness in your smile, kindness in your warm greeting. - *Mother Teresa* (1910-1997, Albanian-born Roman Catholic Missionary)
- * There is no remedy for love than to love more! - *Henry David Thoreau*
- * There is only one happiness in life, to love and be loved. - *George Sand*
- * There was love all around, but I never heard it singing, no, I never heard it at all, Till there was you. - *Meredith Wilson* - Music Man lyrics
- * The very essence of romance is uncertainty. - *Oscar Wilde*
- * We can do no great things; we can do only small things with great love. - *Mother Teresa*
- * We've only just begun to live. White lace and promises, a kiss for luck and we're on are way. - *The Carpenters*
- * What is love? Love is chance, a sudden glance, a poet's lance, a dreamer's dance. - *Anonymous*

* What therefore GOD hath join together, Let not man put asunder -
Mark 10: 9

* When in love ... They are kind to each other's hopes. They cherish
each others dreams. - *Thoreau*

* Whoever lives true-life loves true love. - *Elizabeth Barrett
Browning*

* A woman has got to love a bad man once or twice in her life, to
recognize a good one and be thankful. - *Marjorie Kinnan Rawlings*

* You are my sunshine, my only sunshine,
you make me happy when skies are gray.
You'll never know dear, how much I love you.
Please don't take my sunshine away. - *Jimmie Davis lyrics*

* You are so beautiful to me. - *Joe Cocker*

* You are the sunshine of my life - *Stevie Wonder*

* You can't hurry love... no you just have to wait. - *Diana Ross and
the Supremes*

Thanksgiving

Blessed are the poor in spirit, for theirs is the kingdom of heaven.

Blessed are the meek, for they shall inherit the earth.

Blessed are they who mourn, for they shall be comforted.

Blessed are they who hunger and thirst for justice,
for they shall be satisfied.

Blessed are the merciful, for they shall obtain mercy.

Blessed are the clean of heart, for they shall see God.

Blessed are the peacemakers, for they shall be called children of
God.

Blessed are they who suffer persecution for justice' sake,
for theirs is the kingdom of heaven. - *Matthew 5:5-12*

* Don't Worry ... Be Thankful - *Bobby McFerran* "Don't Worry Be
Happy"

You prepare a table before me in the presence of my enemies.
You anoint my head with oil; my cup overflows.
Surely goodness and love will follow me all the days of my life,
and I will dwell in the house of the LORD forever. - A psalm of
David. Psalm 23:5-6

Graduation

You can't learn in school what the world is going to do next year. -
Henry Ford

I have never let my schooling interfere with my education. - *Mark
Twain*

The wit of a graduate student is like champagne - Canadian
champagne. - *Robertson Davies*

When you hire people that are smarter than you are, you prove you
are smarter than they are. - *R. H. Grant*

There are three schoolmasters for everybody that will employ them
- the senses, intelligent companions, and books. - *Henry Ward
Beecher*

The world of the 90s and beyond will belong to managers or those
who make the numbers dance, as we used to say, or those who are
conversant with all the business jargon we used to sound smart.
The world will belong to passionate, driven leaders -- people who

not only have an enormous amount of energy but who can energize those whom they lead. - *John Welch*

The trouble with learning from experience is that you never graduate. - *Doug Larson*

Education is a private matter between the person and the world of knowledge and experience, and has little to do with school or college. - *Lillian Smith*

If there are no stupid questions, then what kind of questions do stupid people ask? Do they get smart just in time to ask questions? - *Scott Adams*

No matter how smart you are, you spend much of your day being an idiot. - *Scott Adams*

Education would be much more effective if its purpose was to ensure that by the time they leave school every boy and girl should know how much they do not know, and be imbued with a lifelong desire to know it. - *William Haley*

They say that we are better educated than our parents' generation. What they mean is that we go to school longer. It is not the same thing. - *Richard Yates*

Graduation is only a concept. In real life every day you graduate. Graduation is a process that goes on until the last day of your life. If you can grasp that, you will make a difference. - *Arie Pencovici*

It is indeed ironic that we spend our school days yearning to graduate and our remaining days waxing nostalgic about our school days. - *Isabel Waxman*

Mother's Day

The hand that rocks the cradle is the hand that rules the world. -

W.R. Wallace

Mama was my greatest teacher, a teacher of compassion, love and fearlessness. If love is sweet as a flower, then my mother is that sweet flower of love. - *Stevie Wonder*

It seems to me that my mother was the most splendid woman I ever knew... I have met a lot of people knocking around the world since, but I have never met a more thoroughly refined woman than my mother. If I have amounted to anything, it will be due to her. -

Charlie Chaplin

The future destiny of a child is always the work of the mother. -

Napoleon Bonaparte

Most mothers are instinctive philosophers. - *Harriet Beecher Stowe*

"A mother is a person who seeing there are only four pieces of pie for five people, promptly announces she never did care for pie." -

Tenneva Jordon

The mother's heart is the child's schoolroom. - *Henry Ward Beecher*

God could not be everywhere, and therefore he made mothers. -

Jewish Proverb

I remember my mother's prayers and they have always followed me. They have clung to me all my life. - *Abraham Lincoln*

My mother was the most beautiful woman I ever saw. All I am I owe to my mother. I attribute all my success in life to the moral,

intellectual and physical education I received from her. - *George Washington*

More Ideas

Use the Internet and search these terms:

The Year You Were Born (You'll find free information for what happened the year you were born.)

For instance, if you were born in 1954

In 1954 (the year you were born)

- Dwight Eisenhower is president of the US
- Nautilus, the first atomic powered submarine, launches
- Senator Joseph McCarthy begins leading televised hearings into alleged Communist influence in the Army
- Roger Bannister, a 25 year old from England, breaks the 4 minute mile with a time of 3:59
- Supreme Court rules unanimously that racial segregation in public schools is unconstitutional
- Hurricane "Carol" hits the Long Island - New England area killing 60 and injuring 1000
- Senate condemns Joseph McCarthy for contempt of a Senate elections subcommittee during his Army investigation hearings
- Playboy magazine issue features Margie Harrison, the first playmate
- Howard Stern, Oprah Winfrey, Christie Brinkley, John Travolta, and Jerry Seinfeld are born
- New York Giants win the World Series

- Cleveland Browns win the NFL championship
- Detroit Red Wings win the Stanley Cup
- Lord of the Flies by William G. Golding is published

Or, perhaps 1978:

In 1978 (the year you were born)

- Jimmy Carter is president of the US
- US Senate votes to turn over the Panama Canal to Panama on December 31, 1999
- Israel and Egypt reach a peace settlement at the Camp David Accords
- The US and mainland China announce that they will restore full diplomatic relations
- Members of Jim Jones' People's Temple commit mass suicide in Guyana
- Pope John Paul II becomes the first non-Italian pope in centuries
- Ted Bundy is captured in Florida
- The first computer bulletin board system is created
- Garfield debuts in newspapers
- Ashton Kutcher, Kobe Bryant, Usher, Clay Aiken, and Nelly Furtado are born
- New York Yankees win the World Series
- Dallas Cowboys win Superbowl XII

- Montreal Canadians win the Stanley Cup
 - Saturday Night Fever and Grease are the top grossing films
 - "Night Fever" by the Bee Gees spends the most time at the top of the US charts
 - Diff'rent Strokes and Mork & Mindy premiere
-

If you are doing a wedding book or a birthday book or talking about a relative for your family tree, you can get some great ideas of what was going on in the world from the search Engines and finding sites that you can put into the search box

Just type in something like "What was happening (when you were born)?"

You'll be amazed what you can find.

You can:

- go for walks in the park,
- watch people feed animals,
- try making up something that rhymes
- tell the cute things that kids do
- find jokes in magazines, or interesting stories, articles, or even book titles.

You can search for popular sayings in the search engines, such as:

- ? What was popular in 1950
- ? What was popular in 1960
- ? What was popular in 1970

Use your imagination to get topics that you plug in and get information from your favorite search engines. You can use www.google.com, www.yahoo.com, www.altavista.com or www.askjeeves.com

Ask your questions and find all kinds of free information on the Internet to get ideas for your scrapbooking project.

You can search for quotes, inspirational, funny, and famous quotes.

Have fun!

Ryan and Jan Sawyer

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