

Aquarium Layout



Scrapbooking Simply Simply Safely

By Tammey Brown

Getting Started: Introduction

Welcome to the wonderful world of scrapbooking. What is scrapbooking? It is the art of preserving your photos and memories in an album for safe keeping. This is a great way to create your own history book for future generations and they also make great gifts!

Long gone are the days of randomly sticking cut up photos to pages. Today photo albums and the scrapbooking industry are focusing on preserving your photos, and the story behind them, for years to come.

In the following pages you will learn about the tools and techniques used by scrapbookers around the world. These techniques have come together to make a unique and beautiful layout for your photos.

Digital cameras have opened up so many possibilities for the photo album enthusiast. We can edit our own photos, enlarge them, print them, and store them for later. All without leaving home.

With this advancement, people are taking more pictures than ever before. However, what are they doing with them? There was a story recently in the news about a very famous person that had all of their ideas and family photos stored on their computer and the back-up drive attached to that computer. A thief broke in and stole both. That family is out their whole life history!

It is more important than ever before to preserve our memories and tell our stories. In this super fast paced world where people are working hard and playing harder, it is imperative that we stop and take time for ourselves and record who we are.

Scrapbooks, or personalized photo albums, are an amazing way to accomplish this.

When I show others my albums I always hear; "Oh, I could never make anything like that!" My answer is always that yes, they can. It takes time and a few supplies, but it is more than possible. I focus on the photos and their stories, not on how much fluff and glitter I can stuff on a page.

In these instructions I cover the basic tools needed to work in your albums. I am not a consultant for any

company so I am not limited to any one product or supplier. I will give you honest opinions and experiences on products available and how they work. I have almost a decade of experience behind me and I own an online scrapbooking group with almost 600 members from all around the world.

Scrapbooking is a world wide phenomenon and not as merely a hobby, but because people want to preserve their story and share it with others. They want to look back through and laugh at the good times and remember those that are no longer here.

Photo albums cross ethnic, social, financial and gender based boundaries. Anyone can do it. The young, old, and everyone in between can scrapbook. I encourage those that already know how, to teach those around them.

Today is a great day to learn more about safely storing your precious memories in a photo safe album. Let me teach you how to do that one layout at a time.

I've made many mistakes along the way. I've worked with tools that I regret purchasing and with others that I can't live without. I get honest feedback from hundreds of scrapbookers from around the world every day and we have shared our experiences to make this great resource for you.

It is my goal to get the word out and get everyone to start saving their stories. Hard to believe as it is, someday we will all be looking back at our lives and wondering where the time went. Personally, I want to open my albums and laugh and cry at all I've done and everyone I've shared it with.

Your photo album can be as simple or as busy as you want. There isn't a wrong way, as long as you are using photo safe supplies.

Thank you for giving me this opportunity to share my experience and passion with you.

Tammey Brown

Aquarium Layout by Tammey

This is a really fun layout that resembles the inside of an aquarium!

Supplies Needed:

2 solid 12x12 sheets for your background (This example used orange)

- 2 coordinating 12x12 pattern papers or cardstock
- 3 Photos 4x6" (wide),
- 3 Photos 6x4" (tall), matted
- 6 Pieces cut 3.5x5.5 to mat your photos with
- 2 borders 12w x 5" with wavy top (see instructions)
- 2 borders 12w x 3" with wavy top
- 2 coordinating strips 12w x 1" from same paper as 3" border

2 paper pieced fish (pattern with these instructions) Seaweed as desired (see pattern at end of these instructions)

Small fish stickers or diecuts (optional)

Other aquarium embellishments at your discretion Photo safe adhesive, trimmer (Make sure your trimmer is sharp for clean cuts and to reduce any jagged edges), protective sheets, photo cloth

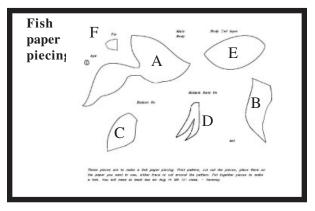
Look at your photos, pick a color to emphasize your subject. In this case you might also want to consider a water theme or coordinating color pallete.

Locate the pattern for the fish paper piecing and print it on photo sturdy cardstock. This will create your fish pattern. Label the pieces and cut them out. Trace them onto the color cardstock you want to use for your fish.

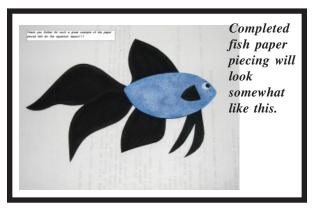
In the example given, the body of the fish was cut from a lighter cardstock. Once the fish is put together, you can apply a light colored chalk around all edges to give it more definition. You will need TWO fish. Turn the pattern over to created the second fish as you need one facing right, and one facing left.

Locate the seaweed pattern and print it on cardstock. Use the printed copy as a pattern for making additional seaweed. You can also chalk the edges of your seaweed to give it more dimension.

NOTE: Use a cotton swab or other chalk applicator to apply the chalk lightly to the outside of the fish and seaweed. Chalking adds texture and depth without adding bulk to your layout. There are many types of chalk on the market, make sure you are using one that is photo safe.



Locate file at the end of these instructions and print on sturdy paper to create a usable pattern.



Use photo safe adhesive to put your paper piecing together. It works much like a puzzle.

A - Start with large body

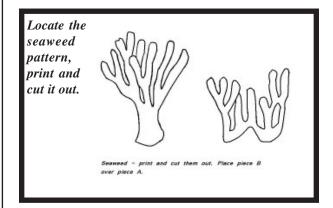
F- Adhere small fin & eye

B- Adhere large tail fin

C- Adhere other fin

D- Add front fins

E- Adhere body over all other pieces



This seaweed is made up of two pieces. Print template on desired color cardstock or use it as a pattern to trace around. (You could also use printed and colored coloring pages or images in place of the paper piecings)

Place the 5" wavy border at the bottom of your layout on both pieces of background paper In this case the 5" border is the blue piece at the bottom of the layout labeled 'A'. Adhere border in place using double sided, photo safe tape.

Place the 3" wavy border over the 5" border, lining it up with the bottom of the page. In this example the second layer is orange and labeled 'B'. (See photo at right) Adhere border in place using double sided, photo safe tape.

Place a one inch strip at the top of right and left page. This element is labeled 'C' on the layout example.

Place photo mats (3.5 x 5.5") as shown. (See middle photo at right) In this example, the photo mats are yellow and the edges are inked. To accomplish this, gently rub the edge of the paper against the top part of the ink pad. This is called inking and will leave color around the edge of your item. Don't worry if it is not perfect or exactly even. The uneven texture will give your item character.

Trim your photos to 3.25 x 5.25 and use photo safe adhesive to adhere your photos to the photo mats.

NOTE: Do NOT trim or crop photos with any heritage value or Polaroids. Polaroid photos have a chemical in the photo that is dangerous and corrosive to your layout. Instead create a copy of the photos you wish to use and trim those.

Adhere seaweed to the bottom of the layout using photo safe, double sided tape. Now place paper pieced fish on your layout. Move them around until they are pleasing to you. Adhere them into place.

You can add more seaweed, small fish, or any other aquarium related elements you choose.

Do the same for the right hand page as shown in this photo.



The 5" (light blue) wavy border is placed first, then the 3" (orange) wavy border is adhered to the bottom of the page over the top of the 5" border. This gives the impression of waves or movement at the bottom of the layout.



Notice the strip at the top of this page.

***Be sure to answer the who, what, when, where and why of your layout. Write names for the subjects in your photos. You might remember who they are now, but the next generation will never know if you don't tell them. To journal on this layout either use one of the photo boxes or write on the page utilizing either a top or bottom border.



Right side page completed.

Once all elements are on the page, other small embellishments may be added as desired.

NOTE: Although there is not a designated journal box on this layout, journaling is still one of the most important elements of any page. Use a photo mat or a border to do your journaling on. You could also use a large starfish or fish diecut to journal on and add that to the bottom of the layout.

Journaling is where you tell the story behind your photos. Be sure to include the who, what, when, where and why to your layout. Be sure to include the names for the subjects in your photos. You might remember who they are now, but the next generation will never know if you don't tell them. You could also use one of the photo boxes to journal in if desired.

Journaling is a very important part of any layout. Without it, you just have a pretty picture book. Always be sure to include in your layout the story behind your photos.

Completed aquarium layout shown below. The yellow rectangles are photo mats. You will need to trim your photos to 3.25 x 5.25 to fit on these photo mats. Once you have the page elements in place, embellish your page as you desire. You can use stickers, small printed clipart, stamped images, or any other aquatic life elements to adorn your page. The example below has small fish diecuts and extra seaweed diecuts scattered throughout the layout.

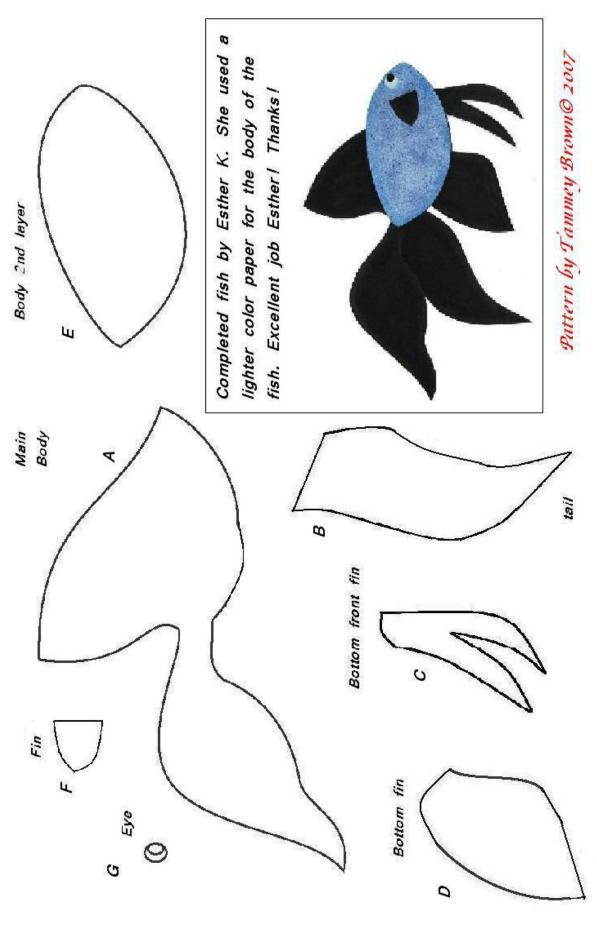
Once all elements are adhered to the page, use a photo cloth to gently wipe all photos. The cloth wipes away any dust, fingerprints, pet hair, embossing powder or other contaminants that may have settled onto your photos. These will all degrade your photos over time.

Slide your completed layout into the protective sheet and into your album.

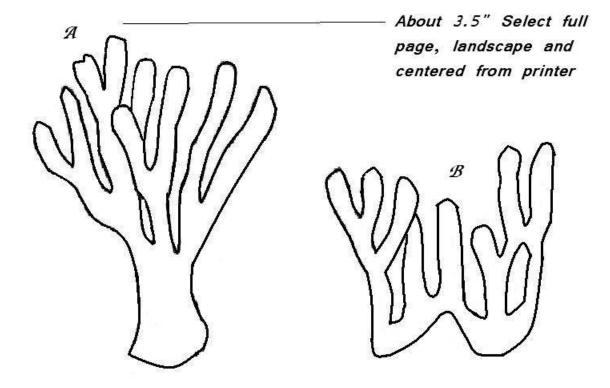
Be sure to store your album in a safe place away from possible flooding or extreme fluctuations in temperature.

End of instructions





Print this pattern using landscape and print to one page. Cut the pieces, place them on the paper you want to use and either trace around them or cut around the pattern. Start with A and then place the other pieces as shown. You can use a brad or wiggly eye instead of the eye shown.



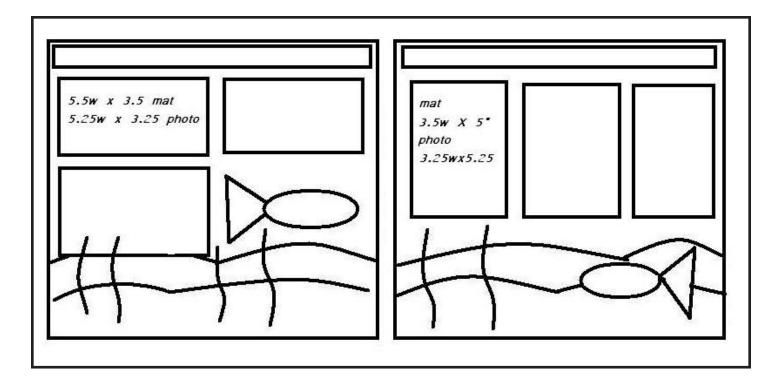
Seaweed - print and cut them out. Place piece B over piece A.

Pattern by Tammey Brown@ 2007

Print out and cut the above seaweed pattern (or any pattern you desire) on colored, photo safe paper to create the seaweed for the bottom of your layout. An easy way to find a fun pattern is to search through coloring books online or at the store.

The example at the right is showing how the seaweed was used in this layout.





All sketches, layouts, photos and instructions in this instructional are original works created by me or I have permission to use them. This auction is for the purchase of this instruction only. Once purchased the buyer may print and use these instructions for their own personal use only. The end product may differ slightly due to skill level, supplies available and tools used by the purchaser.

These instructions are easy to follow and understand. Someone new to making layouts can accomplish this detailed layout following these instrucctions.

In this instruction you will get:

- * Very simple and easy to use, step by step instructions to complete this layout
- * Clear color photos showing how to put this layout together
- * Any hints or tips from the author that may help in the creation of this layout

These directions are just a suggestion for how you might create the layout using these page elements. There is no guarantee that your layout will look exactly like mine when you've completed it due to the various tools, supplies and skill levels involved. If you have any questions on how something was made for this layout and I did not cover it in the instructions, please contact me.

Thank you and happy scrappin' Tammey Brown Tammeys@yahoo.com

Other layouts by Tammey Brown









