

Scrap Your Day

Album Prompt #07 :: October 2008

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Each month on the 25th, along with snapping pictures all day, you can download an album prompt. You don't need this before you start snapping -- it's for the crafty part of the project. Each album prompt will include some ideas to help you put your pages together, but they also purposely leave a lot up to your imagination. That way, your personal style will shine through and the resulting book will be very much your own.



Depending on the size of your album pages and the size of your photo prints, you may or may not be able to use this sketch as shown. Even if the layout doesn't fit quite like this, you can still use some of this month's tricks to pack tons of photos into a two page layout. In the 15x7 format, you can easily include about a dozen photos, and you might bring that total down a little bit in a smaller album or up a bit in a two page 12x12 format. If you prepared your album with the notes from the getting ready prompt, you'll already have background papers attached. They aren't shown in the sketch -- you work right over the top of them. Leave gaps between photos to show the background here and there, and otherwise just know this is why we kept the backgrounds simple! I love pretty papers but I don't think we need to spend hours agonizing over our choices when we're going to put the photos over the top. The pictures and the story will end up more important anyway, so let's spend our time with that.

Tricks to try this month:

Find your empty space: These sketches always look very crowded, with the emphasis on including photos and words from the full day, but if you keep the ideas from this month's photo challenge in mind, you'll find a little extra empty space in the photos themselves. Use that space to add additional photographs, journaling blocks or embellishments.

Cut it down: Look at the different options afforded by the off-centre composition when it comes to cropping. The two wide rectangles at the top of the sketch, for example, could involve cropping to show the subject of the photo or just the empty space. You can use the empty space just like patterned paper, and layer it with lettering or your favourite embellishment. The medium-sized boxes in this sketch could be full photos printed at a smaller size or a regular size print cropped down to just the subject.

Go hybrid: If you're a paper scrapbooker but want to give your photos a little digital kick, pick a brush or two and add them to the empty space of the photo. Brushes with lines will give you more space to write or go for pretty swirls for something that will go with pretty much everything or find something that is a perfectly themed match to your activities for today!