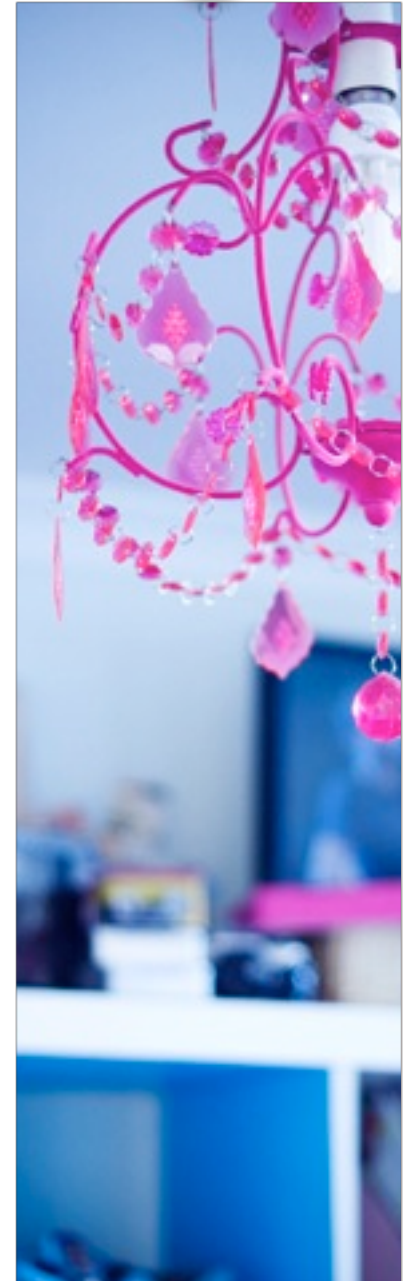




Love Your Pictures
Love Your Pages





STARTING WITH STILL LIFE

This week we are purposefully going to start photographing things that do not move. Inanimate objects never complain, never blink and never get fidgety through a photos session, so you can take as much time as you want. They also won't get offended if the photos don't come out perfectly! Today, focus on things inside your home and find evidence of your personality through your camera's viewfinder. We'll be taking photos of things we love and things that are quite everyday. No need for fancy styling. We'll start simply and keep our eyes open for the best light available in our daily surroundings. Ready to get started?



CAPTURE TRUE COLOR

As scrapbookers, we are drawn to certain colour combinations. You might be a scrapper who prefers lots of white or kraft cardstock with just a tiny bit of embellishment in another colour or you might be someone who loves an abundance of colour on your pages. Whichever you may be, find something that represents the colour scheme that you love and head toward a window.

See how the light in this image is bright in some sections and full of shadow in others? That's the result when you're near a window with bright light and no interior light or flash. It's a natural look, but you'll want to look carefully to make sure the shadows aren't falling somewhere detrimental to your subject.





COMPARE YOUR OPTIONS



I find it much easier and more stylish to photograph my scrapbook pages rather than scan them. Finding the right place to photograph them can make all the difference, especially if you want the images to be somewhat consistent, something that might be useful if you blog or pages. The page above was photographed on the messy studio table with the interior lights on as this was taken after sunset. The page at the left sits in a more organised spot and is lit entirely by the sunshine from the windows at either end of the room. The result of the natural light is a much more accurate image of the colours, though you may like the more retro style of the artificial lighting .



SIMPLE DETAILS.

When you photograph objects, look for little ways you can add movement, like the loop in the headphone cable here.

IT'S NOT ABOUT THE CAMERA
Yes, fancy cameras are lovely fun and offer the potential to do amazing things, but they can also produce results that aren't that amazing at all if you're not really thinking about it. Likewise, a camera doesn't need to be sophisticated to take a great photo with style! This is a photo taken on my phone -- the aged processing is from the Hipstamatic iPhone application, which applies a style over the top of the quite lo-fi phone camera image. Rather than worry about equipment you don't have available right now, embrace what you do have and love it. Over the next few weeks, we will do our best to instill some camera zen, be it a dslr, a point and shoot or a phone.





MAKE ROOM.

See all that white space over on the left of this photo? Try composing an image like that so you'll have a great place for journaling or embellishment on your pages.



Your first photo assignment? Find something in your home that is very much *you*. Something you love or something that says something about your personality. Then take that item and your camera around your home looking for different lighting options. What does it look like near a window? With your on-camera flash? With your regular indoor lamps and such? Try different times of day if it's possible -- so you can compare you images during the morning, afternoon and evening. Take around twenty images or more and share your favourites.



FIND MORE STILL LIFE INSPIRATION [HERE](#).

YOUR PHOTO ASSIGNMENT