

Scrapbooking 101: Tips For Getting Started

by Angie Randall, Editor-in-Chief
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(NAPSA)—Despite the rising popularity of scrapbooking (there are an estimated 32 million scrapbookers in the US today), I talk to people every day who feel intimidated about taking up this great hobby. While scrapbooking has become a \$2.5 billion industry, it's certainly possible for



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individuals to enjoy this great activity without breaking the bank. I've compiled a few tips to get you going: from what tools you'll need, to how to set up an efficient and cost-effective workstation.

Design your scrapbook space for flow. I recommend one long table, or two in an "L" shape. Put all your most important tools such as scissors, trimmers, adhesives, and so on within easy reach. Everything else can go under the table or even on a wall organizer, if you decide to make your work-space in one permanent location. It might be a good idea, however, to keep your work-space mobile so it can adapt to the changing needs of your family. Lightweight and portable Lifetime® folding tables can be a great option for keeping your scrapping space flexible.

Get the right tools. Your starter supplies could cost as little as \$30 or as much as \$150, depending on the types and quantities of products you select. Use this checklist:

- An album with sheet protectors. Decide what size album you want to put your layouts in. They come as small as 2" x 2" or 12" x 12" and larger.



Scrapbooking is simple and fun with the right tools and an organized workspace.

- Cardstock and patterned papers. Have extra white and black cardstock for matting pictures.

- Scissors and a paper trimmer to cut, size and crop photographs.

- Adhesive. Wet adhesives include glue sticks, glue pens and liquid glue. Dry adhesives include tapes and transfer adhesives such as glue-dots or mounting tabs.

- Pens. You'll want a variety of pens for the "journal" portion of your pages. This is where you write about your photographs and experiences.

Note: be sure that all products you buy are approved for scrapbooking, otherwise you could end up with acid migration which, over time, can ruin your photographs.

With these tips, and some of your great photographs, you'll be ready to start the process of laying out your first page—without intimidation and without breaking the bank.

- Ms. Randall has compiled additional tips, project and layout suggestions and information about a contest to win your own "Scrapbook Space of a Lifetime" on www.lifetime.com.