



by Linda Sattgast

Design Beautiful Pages

Lesson 04-01: Minimal Design Creative Team Inspiration

Get inspired by these Minimal Design pages from our Creative Team.

Classic Minimal Examples

This page by Terri is about as minimal as you can get, and it's adorable! What else needs to be added? How could additional elements make this any better than it already is? The picture and the title say it all.

Credits

Template: Design Beautiful Pages

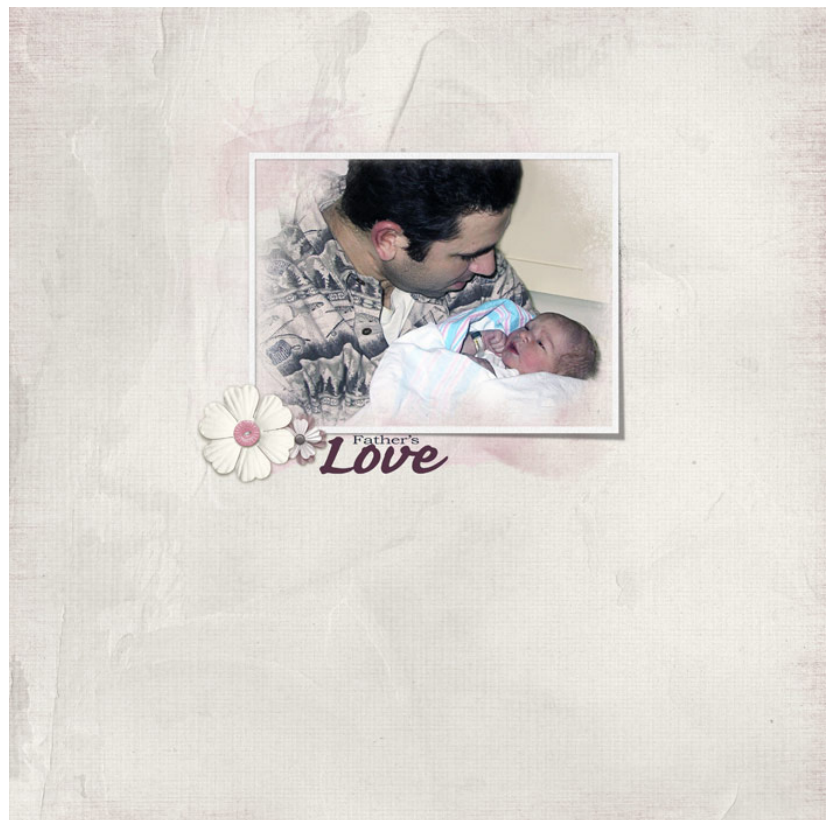
Photo: Harold Fullerton

Page by Terri

Kit: Epic papers & recolored elements

Extras: fotoblendz - FramedMask3_1 Anna Aspnes, ArtPlay Palette Barren Sunrise, word art SummerField-NataliDesigns

Fonts: Caflisch Script Pro Bold, Bookman Old Style Regular



This Minimal page by Kathy Black makes you relax just to look at it. I love how she used a mask for the main photo with a very small stroke outline inside the mask edges.

Notice how she used white to her advantage—all the elements, the type, and the background paper are white or mostly white. It draws the eye right to her beautiful photo, which is also understated. This photo gives you just enough information so you can fill in the blanks yourself, whatever it is that tugs at your emotions the moment you see this image. I don't know about you, but I want to step right into that page!

Credits

Template: Design Beautiful Pages
Photo: Pixabay
Page by Kathy Black
Kit: Simple Joys by Anita Designs
Fonts: Traveling Typewriter



Take a look at the amazing photo on Deborah's page. Everything on the page draws your attention to the photo—the red anchor element behind the photo, the one red rose, and the spare, but perfect title!

Deborah put an extra little decoration in the upper left corner with the folded paper and simple element. The key is that she kept it simple. Having that in the corner gives the page a diagonal flow that goes from the photo to the corner and back to the photo. Very nice!

Credits

Template: Design Beautiful Pages
Photo by Masha Wagner
Page by Deborah
Kit: 4th of July by Studio Basics
Extras: Art Journal by Syndee Rogers Nuckles, Time for Mistletoe and Holly by Jady Day, Mommyish Glitter Styles



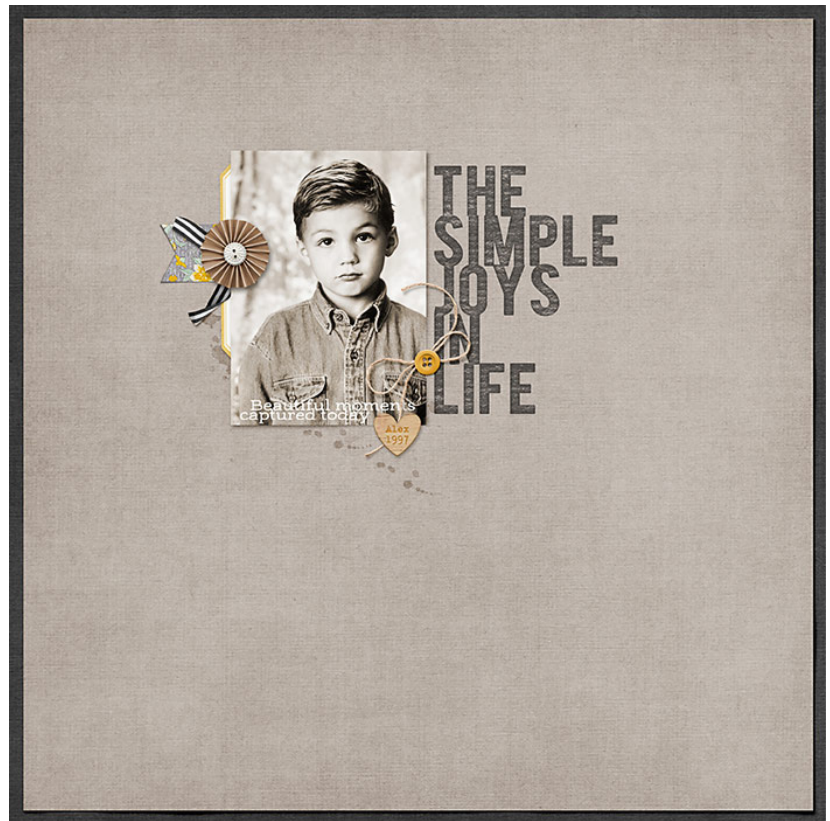
Minimal Plus Small Cluster

This page, also by Deborah, has a great photo. It's not the usual "smile-at-the-camera" image. I don't know this young man, but I'm so drawn to his expression!

The colors used on this page add to the simplicity and beauty of it. The photo looks great in a neutral sepia color, matching the other neutral colors on the page except for the three yellow elements. I love that! The repetition of the yellow color makes it a stronger page.

Credits

Template: Design Beautiful Pages
Photo: Dan Rother Photography
Page by Deborah
Kit: Simple Joys by Anita Designs



This page by Lori has a similar color scheme for the background papers, the frame, and the doodle. The cat's beautiful fur and natural coloring fit perfectly with the brown colors of the page.

In contrast, though, to the previous page, Lori chose to use brighter elements for her cluster and simple title. One similarity to the last page is that she also used the principle of Repetition. Notice how the red and blue colors repeat. This is an easy and effective way to add interest to your page.

Can you identify the key element in her cluster? It's that cute button with the heart on it that communicates love without having to say a word.

Credits

Template: Design Beautiful Pages
Photo and page: Lori Gaudreau
Kit: Epic by JB Studio



Minimal Plus Type

This page by Paula has such a cool photo! I love the rich colors of the exotic Venetian location and the look on the young man's face! All this page has for decoration, besides background paper, is an overlay used as an anchor behind the photo, and the type. It's perfect! I wouldn't change a thing!

Credits

Template: Design Beautiful Pages
Photo and page: Scrapapicture
Kit: Anna Aspnes Art Play Palette Airy
Fonts: Vivaldi



This page by Donna also relies mainly on type. Yes, the lines and light bulbs definitely add interest, but the photo and type are the main attraction. The heavy dark gray mat behind the photo, the little bit of gray grunge, and the title and journaling create an interesting diagonal flow.

I like how Donna made the journaling right justified, and how the title fits so well around the lower right corner of the mat.

Credits

Template: Design Beautiful Pages
Photo and page by Donna Juergens
Kit: Outdoor Dad by Brandy Murray
Fonts: Helvetica, Beyond Wonderland



You can combine the various features of a minimal page. Here's an example by Danica of a Minimal design that includes both type and a few more elements. I love her black, white, and yellow color scheme that fits her beautiful kitty so well!

Credits

Template: Design Beautiful Pages
Photo and page: Danica Staples
Kit: Press Pause by Blue Heart Scraps
Fonts: Andalusia and Courier



Here's another combo Minimal page by Penny. It starts with a great photo, adds journaling and a title closely attached to the photo, and is a bit more generous with elements.

Again, notice the repetition of red, yellow, and black. There are at least three of each of those colors. Repetition is a simple way to add pizzazz to your page!

Credits

Template: Design Beautiful Pages
Photo and page by Penny Dennis
Kit: Summer Field by Natali Designs
Fonts: Canter & Optima



Expanded Minimal

And finally, let's look at two examples of Expanded Minimal pages which have larger photos but still contain plenty of white space.

In this page by Vynette I love the close focus of the photo that zeros in on the potter's hands! Vynette did a great job with her supporting colors of gray and blue that match the photo. And, finally, there's a bit of type as well.

Credits

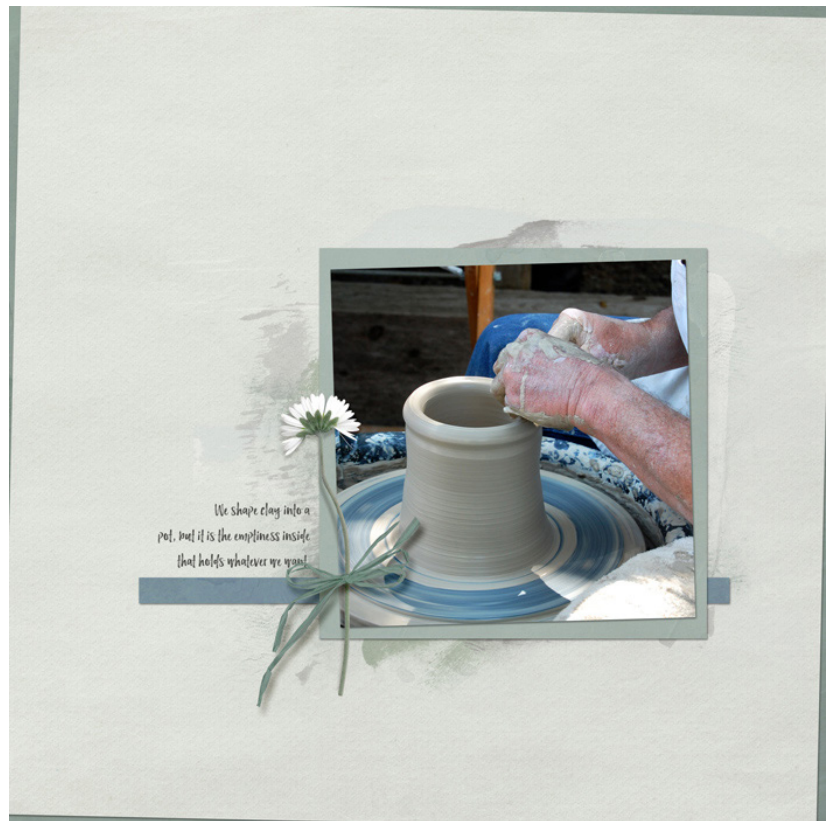
Template: Design Beautiful Pages

Photo and page by Vynette

Kit: Anna Aspnes Art Play Palette Airy

Extras: Jennifer Ziegler Mojave (bow)

Fonts: Hello Lucky



Vynette also created this Expanded Minimal page with just a photo, a journaling strip, and a stroke outline, but what a great page! I really like the fun filter effect she used on her photo.

Credits

Template: Design Beautiful Pages

Photo and page: Vynette

Paper: Kim Broedelet Memory Keeper

Extras: Waterlogue app

Font: Amplify



CT Page Principles

Here are a few important principles demonstrated by these Creative Team pages.

- Start with a great photo. That's the number 1 principle!
- Keep the background simple. While patterned paper can be used, it's not as fool proof as plain textured paper.
- Use color as a tool to make your page extra special, whether it's sticking to monochromatic colors or using repetition on brighter colors for special effect.
- Use the Minimal style to feature a beloved pet! Did you notice that three of these pages were about pets?

Now that you've been inspired by the Creative Team, it's time for you to make your own amazing Minimal Design pages!