PHOTO OF THE DAY

Digital Scrapper Premier 2023, Volume 5

Lesson 1, Variation 1, Foursquare Paper

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Lesson 1, Variation 1, Foursquare Paper
by Jen White

Give your page an easy focal point by using a foursquare background.

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NOTE: Please complete the lessons in the order they are provided.

For this lesson you will need:
- DSP23-V5-Foursquare-Template.psd from the Class-Files folder. (PSE Only)
- DSP23-V5-paper2.jpg from the Class-Files folder.
- DSP23-V5-paper3.jpg from the Class-Files folder.
- DSP23-V5-paper4.jpg from the Class-Files folder.
- DSP23-V5-paper5.jpg from the Class-Files folder.

Quick Steps for Lesson 1, Variation 1, Foursquare Papers

Step-by-step instructions are below.

• Photoshop Elements: Open the Foursquare-Template, duplicate it, and close the original.
• Photoshop: Create a new 12-inch by 12-inch document and add the Foursquare guide layout.

Option 1, Quick Start Foursquare, Recipe 1

• Add paper3 to the document.
• Add paper2 to one of the corners.
• Duplicate paper2 and move it to the opposite corner.

Option 1, Quick Start Foursquare, Recipe 2

• Add paper3 to the document.
• Add paper 2 to one of the corners.
• Add paper4 to one of the corners.
• Add paper5 to one of the corners.

Option 2, Custom Foursquare

• Use the Rectangular Marquee tool to create clipping masks in each quadrant.
• (Optional) Add a drop shadow to each of the clipping masks.
• If needed, rearrange the layer order of the clipping masks in the Layers panel so the drop shadows are visible.
• Clip papers to the clipping masks.

Step-By-Step for Lesson 1, Variation 1, Foursquare Papers

Prepare the Workspace

• Photoshop Elements Only:
  • Open the Foursquare-Template (File > Open) you saved in Lesson 1.
  • In the Menu Bar, choose File > Duplicate to create a copy.
  • In the dialog box, click OK.
  • Close the original foursquare template file.
• Photoshop Only:
  • Create a new 12x12 inch document (File > New) at 300 ppi with a white background.
  • In the Menu Bar, choose View > Guides > New Guide Layout.
  • In the dialog box, set the Preset to Foursquare. You saved this preset in Lesson 1. Click OK.

NOTE: if you cannot see the guides, make sure View > Guides is checked/activated (PS: View > Extras). Or you can press Ctrl ; (Mac: Cmd ;) to turn guides on and off.
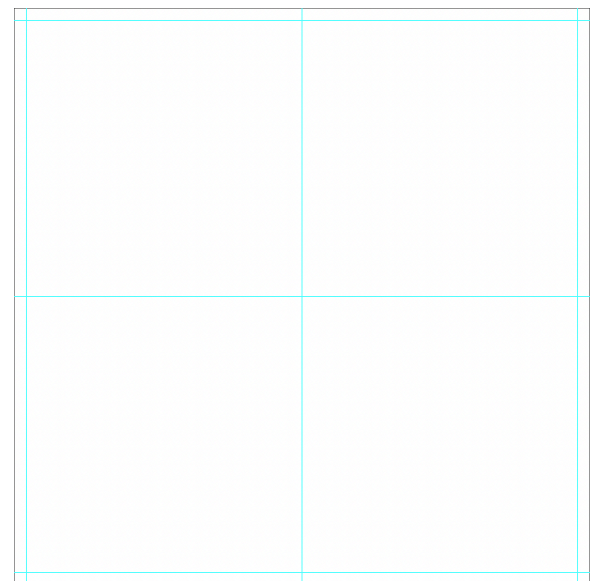
Why Are Guides Helpful?

In Lesson 1, you used the guides to help you stick to a loose representation of a foursquare design. In the variations for Lesson 1, however, you'll use the guides for precise placement of papers, elements, and photos.
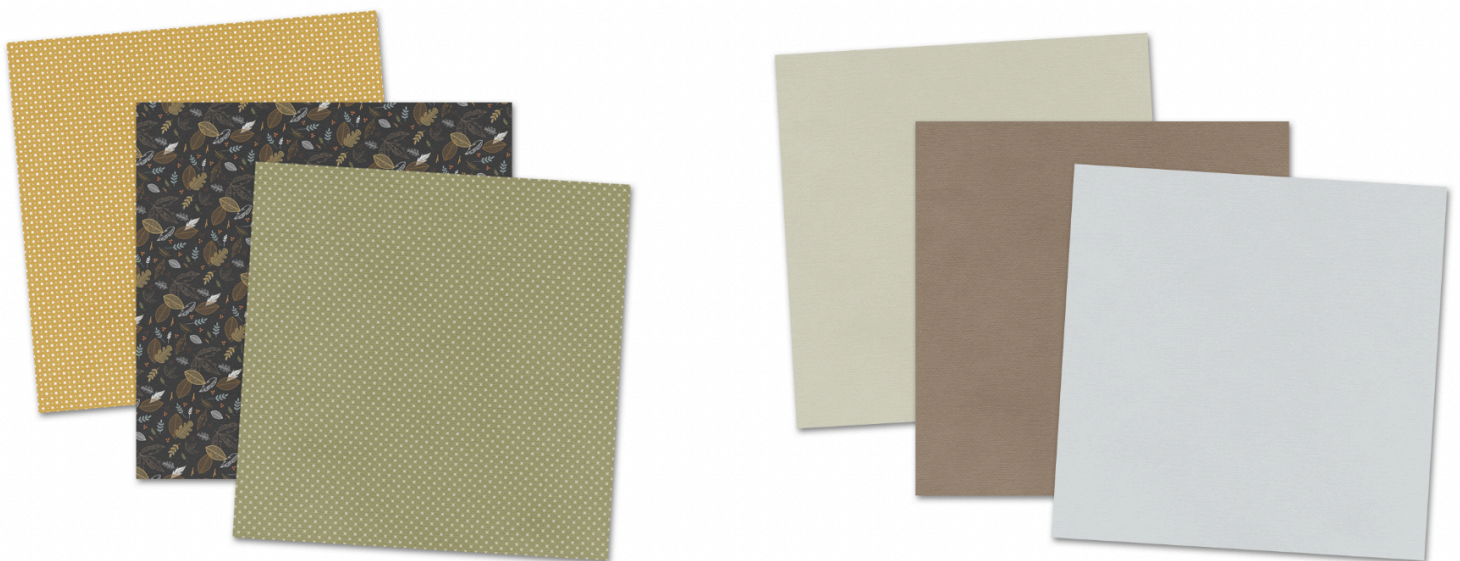
How To Choose Good Papers

NOTE: I have provided 4 papers for you to follow along with me during this lesson. But below, I'll provide tips on how to pick papers for your own pages.

Tip #1: Use papers from the same kit, because those papers have been made to go together.

Tip #2: From within a kit, papers with repeating patterns paired with plain or textured papers, will work best.

Tip #3: Papers that have borders, papers with super large patterns, and papers with a pattern or design that doesn't repeat won't work as well for this.

Tip #4: When it comes to colors, you'll want to use contrast to help reinforce the foursquare design. Think lighter shades contrasted with more saturated or darker shades. If all four squares of the background have the same light shade, it will be hard to see the foursquare background design.
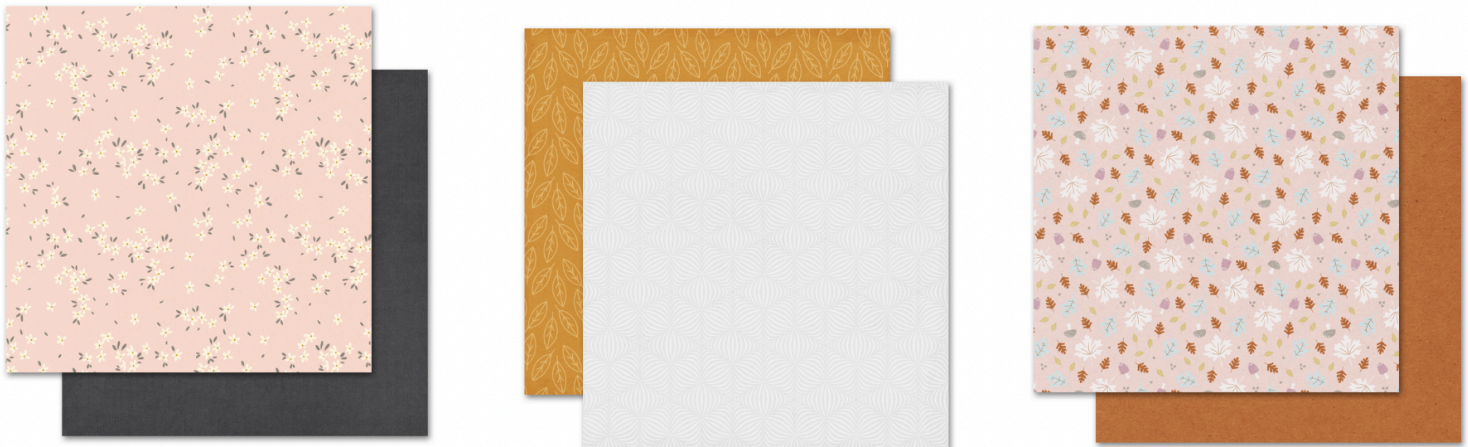
Paper Recipe #1: Classic 2 Papers Design

2 Papers:
-1 Light Paper (Solid OR Small Pattern)
- 1 Dark Paper (Solid OR Small Pattern)

Here are two examples of this foursquare design where I used two papers. The first is 1 patterned paper with 1 solid or plain paper. The other is 1 small pattern on both a light and dark paper. Both of these are great examples of what using the 2 papers recipe can look like.
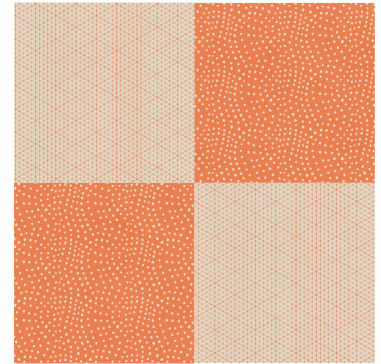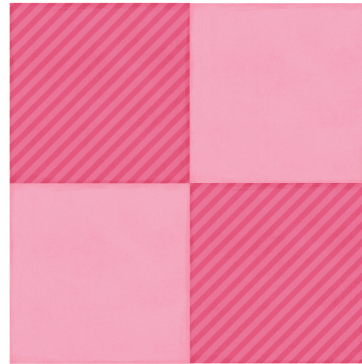
Paper Recipe #2: Boho 4 Papers Design

4 Papers:
- 1 Light Paper with Small Pattern
- 1 Light Paper with Medium Pattern
- 1 Dark Paper with Small Pattern
**- 1 Dark paper with Medium Pattern**

Here are two examples where I used 4 different papers from the same kit. I made sure to use 2 papers with a medium pattern in both dark and light and 2 papers with a small pattern in both dark and light. This recipe might be the hardest to pull off, but with the right paper choices, it's doable. This recipe is also very easy to make ugly, so make sure you're following all of the tips when picking 4 papers from within the same kit.
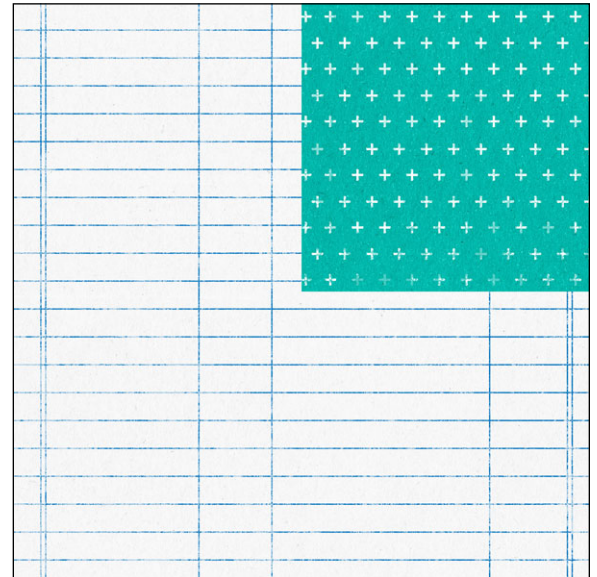
Option 1, Quick Start Foursquare, Recipe #1

- Open paper3 (File > Open).
- Get the Move tool.
- In the Tool Options, uncheck Auto Select Layer, but check Show Bounding Box. (PS: Check Show Transform Controls.)
- On the document, hold down the Shift key, and click and drag paper3 onto the working document.

NOTE: Holding down the Shift key while adding something to a document ensures that the item will land in the center of the document.
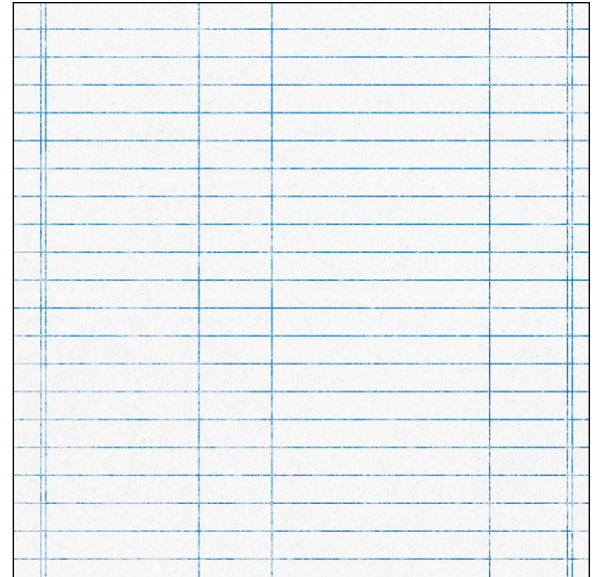
- Open paper2 (File > Open).
- On the document, click and drag paper2 onto the working document.
- On the document, click and drag the paper2 layer to snap it into one of the corners.

- Press Ctrl J (Mac: Cmd J) to duplicate the paper2 layer.
- On the document, click and drag the duplicated paper into the opposite corner.
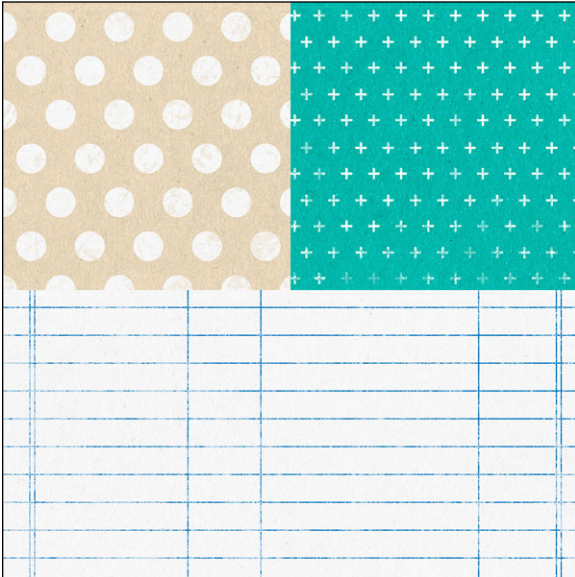
NOTE: This gives us that classic look we get with Recipe #1.
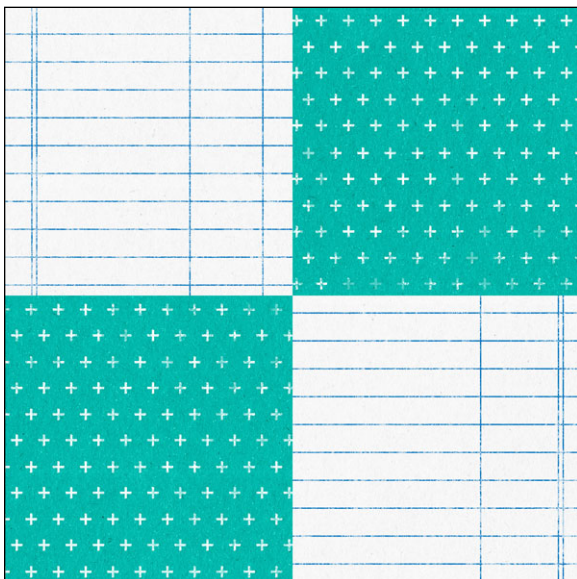
Option 1, Quick Start Foursquare, Recipe #2:

- In the Layers panel, click and drag the duplicate paper layer to the Trash icon.
- Open paper4 (File > Open).
- On the document, click and drag the paper onto the document and into one of the remaining corners.

- Open paper5 (File > Open).
- On the document, click and drag the paper onto the document and into the last corner.

NOTE: This is meant to keep a clean, exact graphic look. I'll show you how to add shadows below, but keeping the squares unshadowed is perfectly fine.


Option 2, Custom Foursquare
NOTE: This custom foursquare option is very useful when you only want to use a specific part of the paper.

- In the Layers panel, click and drag all of the paper layers to the Trash icon.
- Get the Rectangular Marquee tool.
- In the Tool Options, click on the New Selection icon. Set the Feather to 0 and the Aspect to Normal. (PS: Set the Style to Normal.)
- On the document, click and drag from outside the top-left corner until you create a selection that matches the guides of the top-left quadrant.
- In the Layers panel, click on the Create a New Layer icon.
- Click on the Foreground Color Chip to open the Color Picker.
- In the Color Picker, choose a medium gray color.
- Click OK to close the Color Picker.

- Press Alt Backspace (Mac: Opt Delete) to fill the selection with the foreground color.
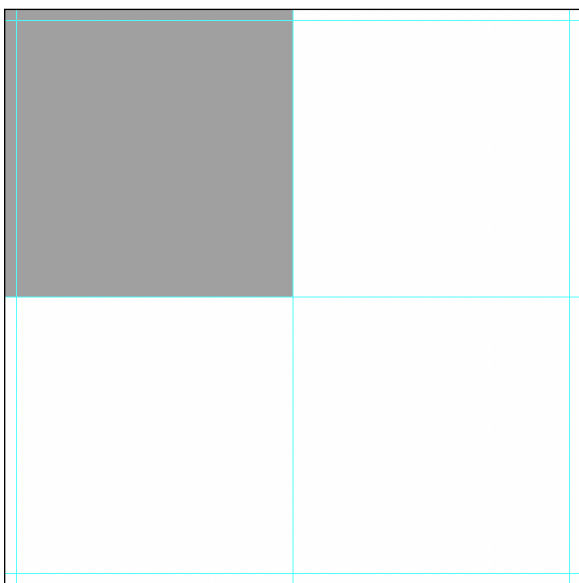
- Press Ctrl J (Mac: Cmd J) three times to duplicate the square 3 times.
- Get the Move tool.
- In the Layers panel, click on the first duplicated square to activate it.
- On the document, click and drag the first duplicated square into one of the other corners.
- Repeat this for the other two duplicated square layers so that all four squares on the document have a gray square.
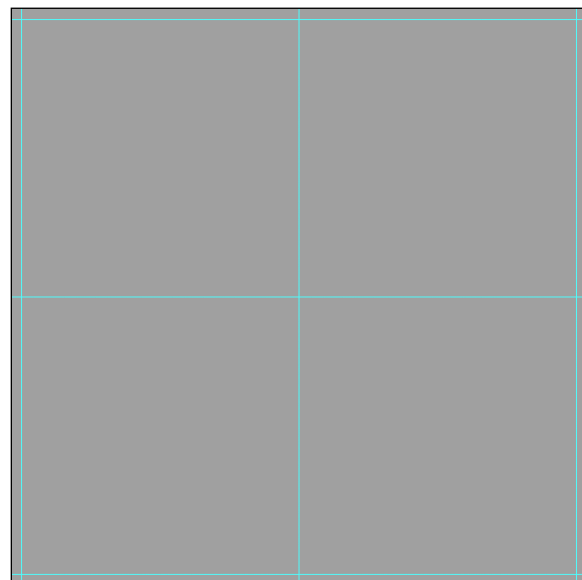
NOTE: Now you can clip papers to each square instead which allows you to use whichever area of the paper you prefer.

To Use a Shadow or Not Use a Shadow, That Is the Question
- Do not use drop shadows on the clipping masks if you want the graphic look for your background.
- Use drop shadows on the clipping masks if you do not want the graphic look.

Adding a Drop Shadow (Optional)
- In the Layers panel, click on the topmost clipping mask layer to make it active.
- **Photoshop Elements Only:**
  - In the Menu Bar, choose Layer > Layer Style > Style Settings.
  - In the dialog box, set the Lighting Angle to 120°.
  - Click directly on the words Drop Shadow to open the settings.
  - Set the Size to 15, the Distance to 10, and the Opacity to 50.
  - Click OK to close the Style Settings dialog box.

- **Adobe Photoshop Only:**
  - In the Menu Bar, choose Layer > Layer Style > Drop Shadow.
  - In the dialog box, click on Reset to Default.
  - Set the Blend Mode to Multiply, the Opacity to 50%, the Angle to 120°, the Distance to 10, the Spread to 0, and the Size to 15.
  - Click OK to close the Layer Style dialog box.
- In the Layers panel, Right click (Mac: Ctrl click) on the name of the topmost clipping mask layer and choose Copy Layer Style.
- In the Layers panel, click on the clipping mask layer just below the topmost layer to activate it.
- Hold down the Shift key and click on the bottommost clipping mask layer to make the other 3 clipping mask layers active.
- In the Layers panel, Right click (Mac: Ctrl click) on the name of any of the selected layers and choose Paste Layer Style to paste the drop shadow to these layers.
- In the Layers panel, click and drag the top-left clipping mask to the top of the Layers panel.
- Click and drag the bottom-left clipping mask into the second position.
- Click and drag the top-right clipping mask into the third position.

NOTE: If you don't put the clipping masks into the order shown in the image, you will not be able to see all of the drop shadows.

- From here, you can finish the page.

Page Design Option #1
- The focal point of the page should be the place where the four papers intersect.
- Place one square photo, a title, and elements just off of the center point.
- Make sure the intersection is covered.
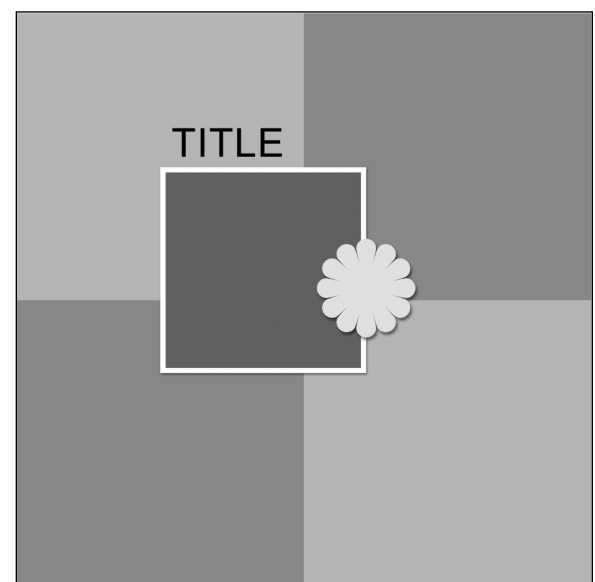
Page Design Option #2

- The focal point of the page should be the place where the papers intersect.
- Place two rectangular photos on the center point and add elements between them.
- Make sure the intersection is covered.
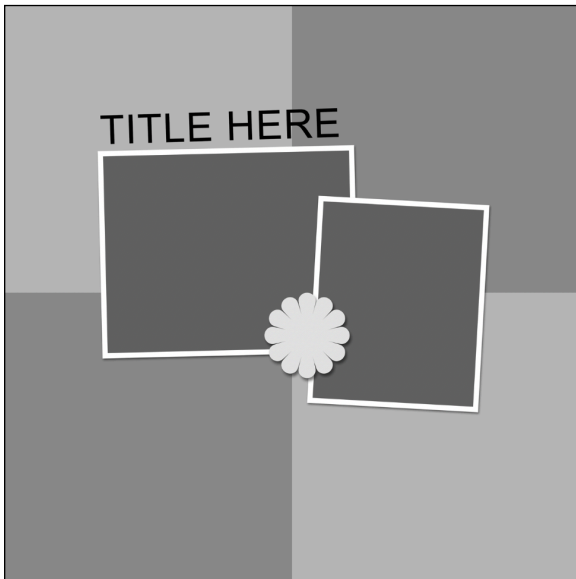
Page Design Option #3

- The focal point of the page should be where the papers intersect.
- Place one round photo on the center point.
- Add a sticker title offset in one quadrant and elements offset in the opposite quadrant.
- Make sure the intersection is covered.

True Love

PHOTO OF THE DAY

SMILE

DESI & RILEY
11-15-2022

HELLO TODAY
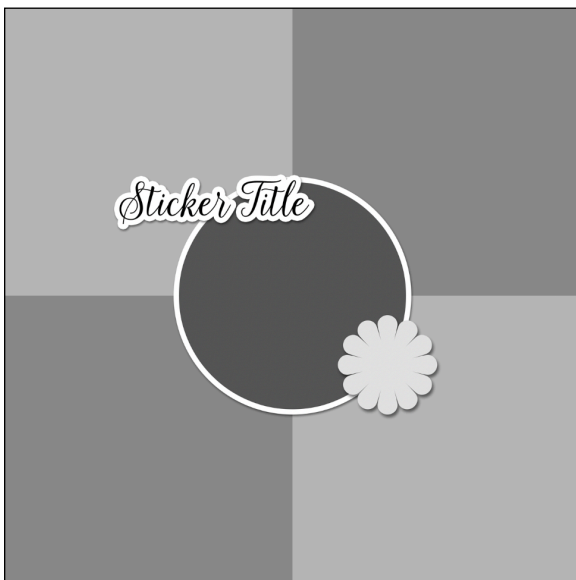
Credits:
Page & Photo: Jenifer Juris
papers: Digital Scrapper
Kits: Storytellery Feb 2019 and Storyteller Sept 2021 by Just Jaimee
Fonts: Happy Baby, Black Star