

Designing in *Thirds*

love this picture



Class by Jenifer Juris, Linda Sattgast, & Jen White

Design Beautiful Pages

Lesson 02-01: Jenifer's Designing In Thirds Page

Let me walk you through the design choices that I made when I created this scrapbook page for Designing in Thirds.

Ok, so first of all, I knew I wanted to scrap this specific photo. The kit I was using was all about family and this was my most recent family photo and I wanted to use it. Sometimes I scrap a page first and then add a photo that goes with it and sometimes I start with the photo. In this case, I started with the photo.



This kit has so many great papers, it was really hard to choose. I usually spend some time looking through a kit before I start scrapping so I can look through the papers and see which ones I might want to use and how I might use them before hand. When I was browsing this kit, I wanted to try almost all of them! But it did come down to two combinations: The orange triangles with the matching orange paper.



OR the plaid paper with the blue trim. This was a tough choice because I really liked them both. But because I had looked through the kit ahead of time, I knew that some of the elements I wanted to use had teal and I didn't want to limit myself to only orange choices. So, I went with the plaid paper and the teal trim.



When it came to placing elements, I wanted to keep things pretty simple. I knew I wanted to use the paint and circular word art in some way. As you can see, I ended up placing them here behind the photo to help create an anchor. This anchor also ended up being part of my cluster that I added the teal flower to.



I also decided to add a piece of paper behind the photo and that gave me a place to put some word art.



Then, I felt like the page was naked on the top end so I decided to place some paint in the top left corner. And then, I added some washi tape to help bring out the colors from the bottom to the top. Then I added a title and some journaling.

And while this is a pretty simple page, it offers great visual impact that allows my photo to shine!



Credits

Family Page

Page and photo: Jenifer Juris

Kit: Family Time by Meg Designs

Fonts: Veteran Typewriter, Money Penny White

Lesson 02-02: Jenifer—Watch Me Scrap

There is no manual segment for this video.

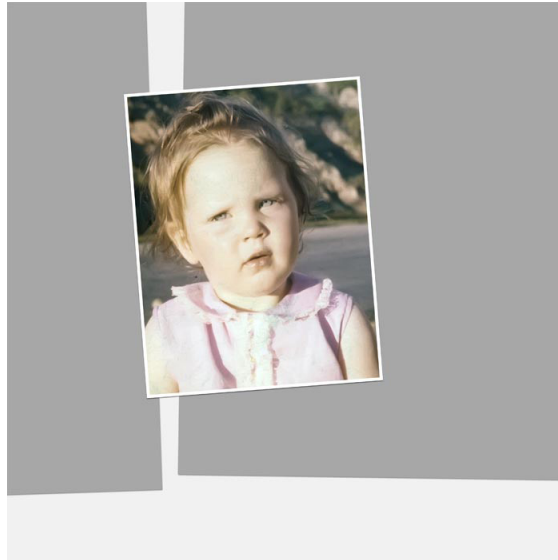
Lesson 02-03: Linda's Designing InThirds Page

Choose A Template And Photo

I chose template #10 to design my page. I love the unusual division of the page into thirds with the papers angled and a photo straddling both papers.

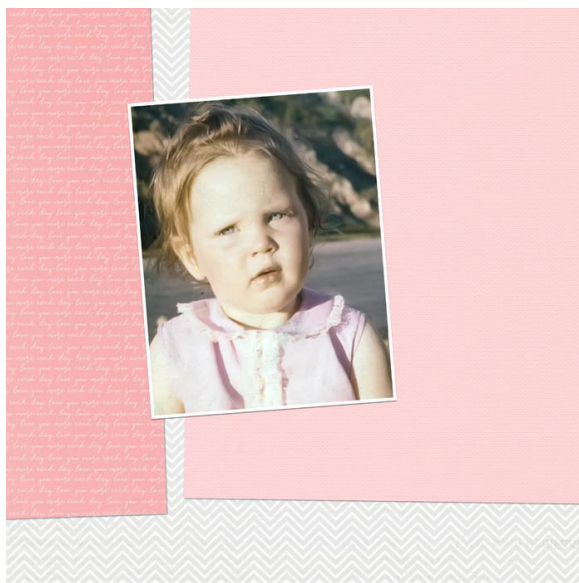
I chose a photo taken many years ago of my younger sister. It has a vintage look with the color slightly off.

You always have the option to turn a vintage photo into black and white to get rid of any color cast, but I decided to wait and make that decision later, especially since the kit I was using had soft pretty colors that went well with the vintage colors in this photo.



Choose Paper

Once I have my photos in place, I usually decide on the background paper next. Not everyone works in that order, but that's the way I've always done it. I usually move a boatload of papers onto my page to see which ones will work best. Here are the papers I chose for the background and the right and left angled papers.

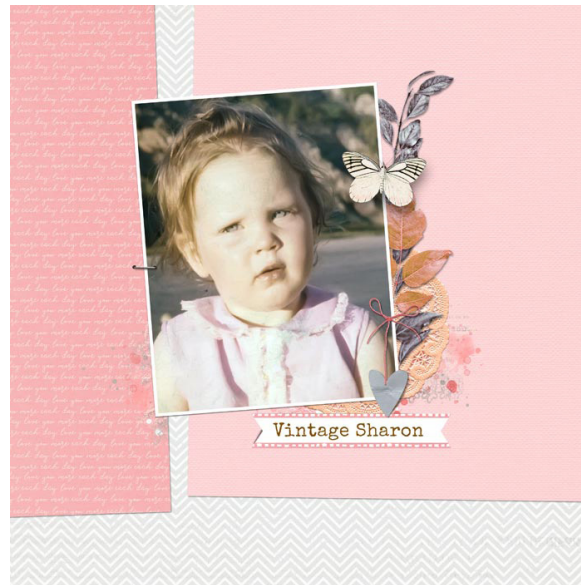


Choose Elements And Create Clusters

Next I created a cluster using the rule of Proximity by placing my first cluster of elements along the side of my photo. This connected the elements visually to my photo by being close enough that viewers will see the photo and elements as a unit or group.

This kit has some very pretty paint blends, so I decided to add them on the left and right side under the photo and elements.

I clipped the one on the left to the paper so it wouldn't be visible between the two papers. That's because in real life paint can't float above a 3D object, and paper, even though it's thin, is a 3D object.



I could have stopped here—remember, you're not required to use copious amounts of elements on a page—but I had so many pretty elements that I wanted to add more.

My placement of elements and photos determines the flow of the page. Most of the time a flow will either be diagonal or circular or triangular, though there are other options. I decided to use a triangular flow. I placed a cluster of elements on the left with proximity to the edge of the page. In other words, these elements aren't just floating somewhere. They're attached to the outer edge of my page.

I put another smaller cluster of elements on the opposite side of my page and along the lower edge of the paper on the right.



Now that I had the main idea of the page put together, it was time to do some tweaking, maybe make some small incremental changes that would slightly improve the page. I decided to:

- Hide some of the cluster layers next to the photo
- Increase the size of the ribbon
- Place a date in the lower right corner aligned with the cluster
- adjust the size of the gray corner mask and reduce its opacity.
- Add a custom shadow to the leaf element
- Make the title word strip a little smaller
- Place the butterfly so it became part of the triangular flow that led to my sister's face.
- Added a few lines of journaling.

The only other thing I tried was turning the photo into black and white. I toggled back and forth to see which one I liked the best, and I finally decided, though either one would have worked, to stay with the original vintage colored photo because the colors so perfectly matched the kit.



Credits

Vintage Sister

Photo: Vintage

Page by Linda Sattgast

template: QwikLearn/Design Beautiful Pages

Kit: Beloved by Katie Pertiet

Staple by Linda Sattgast

Fonts: Special Elite Regular, Myriad Pro Regular

Lesson 02-04: Jen's Thirds Page

Jen White chose a favorite photo and a complementing template. See how she puts it all together and the decisions that were made along the way.

Meeting the Family

Meet the family. Galen and Kelsey, our middle son and daughter-in-law, are on the left, and Paige and Carter, our oldest daughter and youngest son, are on the right.

As you might have guessed, that's my hunk and me right smack dab in the middle.



Choosing a Template

A beautiful family photo always deserves a big beautiful entrance. A template designed in thirds is the perfect start for such a photo. I'll be using template number 16 which is part of this month's class.

The orientation of the template obviously needs to be changed, but that's what's great about templates. You can make them into whatever you need them to be.

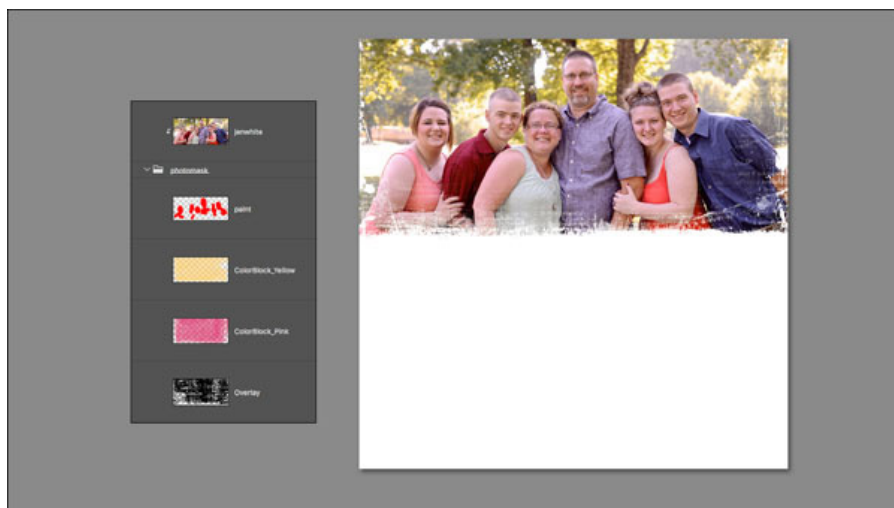


Remaking the Photo Mask

After rotating the entire template and clipping the photo to the clipping mask, I decided I wanted a grungier look.

I ended up totally remaking the photo clipping mask from a combination of paint, grunge and overlays from the kit I was using.

I show how to do this in my instructional videos on masking.



Adding and Adjusting Elements

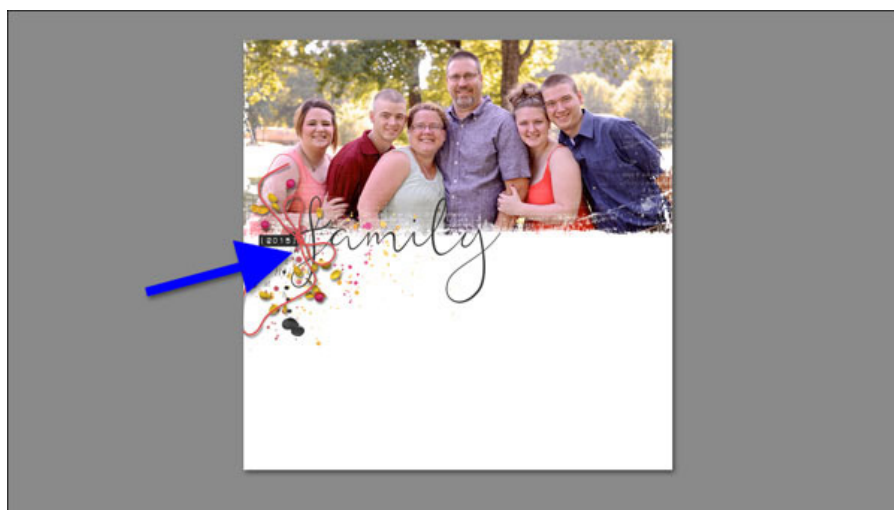
Next I added a title in my current favorite font and few low profile elements to form a messy cluster.

I knew I didn't want anything that would distract from the photo, but I like elements that draw your eye around the page.

My eye was stoping at the yellow bow, however, because it was an introduction of an additional color.

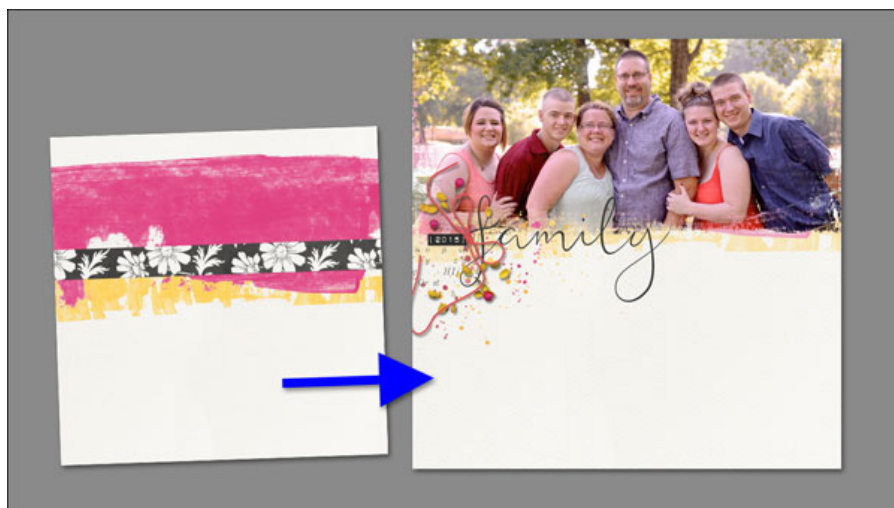
Changing the color of the bow to coral to match my daughter's dress helped to continue the flow around the page.

I also slightly changed the color of some of the paint splatters.



Picking a Background Paper

With the many colors in my photo, I figured that a plain white-ish paper would look best for the background of my page. One of the papers in this kit came with a painterly grunge on it, which was a bonus. I gave it a little recoloring and I was on my way.



Journaling the Story

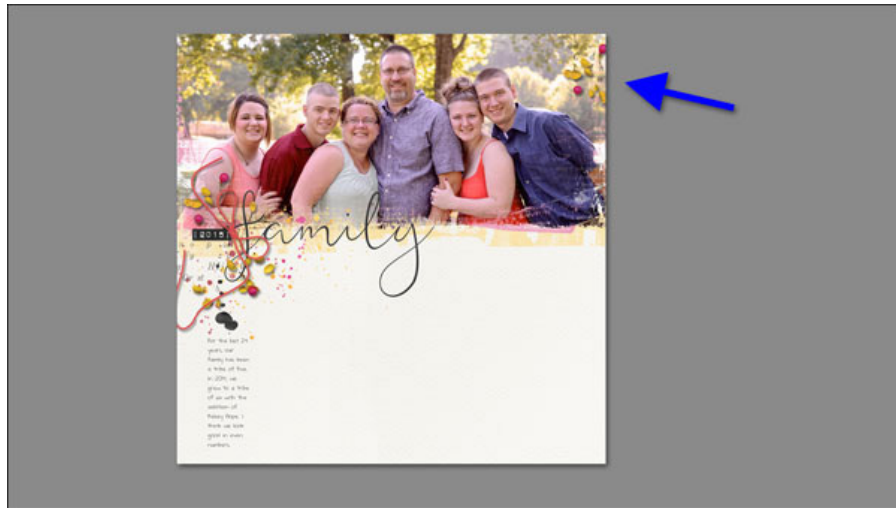
To carry my eye down to the story, I added additional grunge that provided downward movement.

A few spaced out sentences was a nice way to take the design all the way down to the bottom of the page.



Balancing Things Out

After a final assessment of the finished page, I decided to add additional balance to the page by placing a small element cluster in the top right corner of the page



Credits

Page: Family by Jen White

Photo: Angela Gearhart

Template: QwikLearn | Design Beautiful Pages

Kit: XOX by Brandy Murry

Fonts: featherly, DJB ANNALIST 2011