

Framing a photo is an easy way to help it stand out on a layout. But have you ever thought about framing a photo with text? Whether you choose meaningful journaling, song lyrics, or a favorite quote as your frame, you'll be surprised at how some well-chosen words can help your photo become the star of the page. Try this simple but effective trick for giving a photo (or a photo collage) the extra attention it deserves!



TIP: Don't be afraid to mix and match different typefaces in your text frame. Try experimenting with different font colors as well!

materials patterned paper (KaiserCraft) • letters, number stickers, other stickers (Cloud 9) • ribbon (BasicGrey) • Century Schoolbook font • 11 x 8½ page by Margaret Scarbrough, Butte Valley, CA

Here's how:

- 1 Open a new document in Microsoft Word.
- 2 To create a placeholder for your photo, insert an empty text box (with any weight of Line) by going to **Insert > Text Box**. Go to **Format > Text Box > Size** to specify a **Height** and **Width** for the box.
- 3 To form the left side of the frame, insert a second text box with **No Line** and **No Fill**. (Note: In newer versions of Word, No Line is called No Outline.)
- 4 Type your first line of journaling; then rotate the words 90 degrees to the left by going to **Format > Text Direction** and selecting the Orientation that reads from bottom to top. (Note: In newer versions of Word, click Text Direction repeatedly to change the orientation.)
- 5 As needed, resize the text box to accommodate the new text direction. Use the square handles to stretch or shrink the box, or go to **Format > Text Box > Size** to specify a Height and Width for the box.
- 6 To form the top of the frame, insert a third text box with **No Line** and **No Fill**. Type a line of journaling, but do not rotate the text box.
- 7 To form the right side of the frame, insert a fourth text box with **No Line** and **No Fill**. Type a line of journaling; then rotate the words 90 degrees to the right so that they read from top to bottom. Resize the text box as needed.
- 8 Move the journaling text boxes into position around the outside of the photo placeholder.
- 9 Delete the photo placeholder so that only the left, top, and right text boxes remain. Print your text frame on cardstock; then cut it out, leaving room for the final line of journaling (which will run upside down along the bottom of the frame), and set aside.
- 10 To form the bottom of the frame, delete the left and right text boxes, and type your final line of journaling into the top text box. Print this line of text on regular printer paper, and leave your Word document open.
- 11 Place the cardstock frame from step 9 on top of the printer paper so that the bottom of the frame directly overlays the bottom line of text you printed in step 10. Tack down with removable adhesive. (Hint: Rotate the papers so that the cardstock frame is right-side up; then hold the papers up to a light so that you can see through the cardstock and ensure proper placement. The bottom line of text should read upside down and exactly fill the open space.)
- 12 Place the adhered piece in your printer exactly as you did for step 10. Print your open Word document onto the adhered piece; then remove the text frame from the printer paper.