

Scrapbook Albums

Types:

There are so many ways to enjoy & display your photos. This is just a sample of your options when it comes to memory keeping:

Framed photos

Traditional Scrapbook Album

Mini-Album

Regular slip in Photo Album

Digital Photobook

Pocket Style Albums

You may decide to incorporate several different types of albums and displays into your photo library. You also might start using one style & later decide something else works better.

Sizes:

Some of the most popular sizes of traditional scrapbook albums are:

12x12

9x12

8x8

6x8

6x6

Think about the types of photos you are working with. Is the album a specific project or ongoing family stories/categories? Is this a stand alone album or part of a bigger collection?

Think of sizes you have seen other people use, what appeals to you? What do you like the look of? How many photos do you want on a page or layout? Will there be a lot of journaling or just the basics of who, what, when & where?

Think about who will be looking through the finished album? Small children may need help with the larger albums as they are fairly heavy when full.

I started with the 12x12 albums but realized that they were too big & bulky for my taste. I now scrapbook in the 8x8 size for most of my pictures. I still prefer the square format but love the smaller size because they are easier to handle. I also use 6x8 albums for specific projects.

Styles:

The most popular styles of albums are Post-bound; Strap-Hinge & D-Ring Binder.

The post-bound & strap-hinge are a little harder to move the pages around in but the pages sit closer together. The binders are easier to change or add pages later but have quite a bit of separation between your layouts. Your choice will depend on what is most important to you.

I personally prefer the strap-hinge – they are easier to get apart than the post-bound but still keep my double page spreads together & looking cohesive in the album. A lot of people prefer the ring binders so they can move the pages around with ease.

Single or Double Pages:

One last thing that will help you decide on the type & size of album is if you prefer to do single or double page layouts.

Think about flipping through a completed album – do you mind if the pages facing each other don't match? Or if they are about different events or topics? This is absolutely a matter of personal preference but something to think about.

So that is an abbreviated description of the most popular albums but there are so many other options.

When you are new to memory keeping, just go with what appeals to you & remember that this is a hobby that evolves over time and you can always change your mind.