

Scrapbooking Advice and Tips for the Green Scrapbooker

So many people are talking about “going green”, and you may be looking for some [scrapbooking advice](#) on how you can reuse, renew, and recycle. Scrapbooking is a hobby that allows you to be as creative as you want to be, so you’re not limited to what you can buy at the scrapbooking store. Just take a look around your house to find a veritable treasure chest of scrapbooking supplies!

Whether you want to [start scrapbooking](#) and are looking for [scrapbooking tips for beginners](#), or you’re a scrapbooking expert looking for more ideas, here are a few Earth-friendly [scrapbooking tips](#) you can use:

Organizing your Supplies: Here are some [scrapbooking advice and tips](#) on reusing household containers to store and organize your scrapbooking supplies.

- Wash out jars or cans and use them to store brushes, ribbon, buttons, or any other scrapbooking embellishments and tools.
- Cut out one of the long sides of shipping or mailing boxes and use them as vertical paper trays.
- Plastic grocery bags can be used to hold leftover scraps of fabric, ribbon, paper, or even cardboard. Next time you need an extra bit of embellishment for a page layout, check your scraps bag!
- Egg cartons, especially sturdier clear plastic ones, can be used to store and separate small buttons or other embellishments that can be lost easily.

Embellishments: Here are some [scrapbooking tips](#) for reusing everyday items for embellishments and for [scrapbooking page ideas](#).

- Gift wrapping, bags, and ribbon – the next time you receive a wrapped or bagged gift from someone, save the wrapping, ribbons, and/or bags for your scrapbooking pages.
- Logoed tags – the next time you purchase any famous brand clothing or accessories, keep the tags with the brand logos. You may need to create a page about shopping, an interest in handbags, or a favorite sports team.
- Labels on cans, jars, or bottles – there are lots of different ways you can incorporate these creatively into your layouts – for instance, keep those Campbell’s soup labels for a Warhol-esque, pop art theme.
- Greeting cards – the poems and graphics on your old greeting cards are perfect to use, especially for [heritage scrapbooking](#).
- Old clothes – if you have any old, worn shirts or pairs of jeans, rip them up into fabric scraps.
- Maps and travel brochures – cut out states, cities, or countries to use as page backgrounds, or use the information in a travel brochure to document vacations.

Homemade Tools: looking for [scrapbooking advice](#) on DIY tools? Here are some great ideas for using what you already have to make your own scrapbooking tools.

- Old toothbrushes can be used to create a speckled effect when painting.
- Use wooden kabob skewers or straightened paper clips for poking holes, whether for hand-stitching or inserting a brad.
- Egg cartons have yet another use – paint palette!
- Cardboard tubes (from paper towels or toilet roll) can be dipped into paint to create circles.
- Cosmetic sponges can be used for any number of things, like painting and wiping away excess glue or glitter.

Scrapbooking, in of itself, is a very “green” hobby because there are so many ways you reuse, renew, and recycle in order to create wonderfully imaginative scrapbook pages. While you can still buy new scrapbooking supplies, try getting yourself in the habit of using what you already have – you’ll not only save time and money, but you may also be pleasantly surprised at the results. The **scrapbooking tips** listed above are only a few of the hundreds of ideas, because you’re only limited by your own imagination!