

This is a brief list of common scrapbooking terminology you might find helpful as you work in the scrapbooking world.

accordion album	An album made from a strip of paper that has been folded back and forth in a series of “Z” shapes. Its name comes from its resemblance, when opened, to the pleats of an accordion.
acid-free	A product that has a pH balance of 7.0 or slightly greater. Important in scrapbooking to protect photos or materials from being degraded by acid over time.
acrylic album	An album made of clear sheets of acrylic plastic.
altered art	Any existing piece that has been changed or decorated to become a piece of art.
archival-safe	A term referring to materials used in photos and memorabilia, implying that they are chemically stable and permanent. This is not a technical term, and it is safer to look for labels that state “acid-free,” “lignin-free,” and “buffered.”
background & texture paper	Paper that has a pattern printed on it. Close To My Heart produces exclusive B&T Duos®, which are printed on both sides.
base page	The bottom piece of paper upon which the rest of the scrapbook layout is adhered.
blending pen	A pen whose ink is clear but aids in picking up and merging ink colors for a watercolor effect.
bone folder	A tool used to score or crease paper. Though traditionally made from bone, it is now typically made from plastic.
brad	A two-pronged fastener featuring a round or decorative top.
buffered	Having been treated with a neutralizing agent to resist acid production and migration.
cardstock	Sturdy paper, typically of a solid color.
chipboard	Thick, pressed fiber paper, which is considerably sturdier than cardstock. Close To My Heart carries a chipboard line called Dimensional Elements.
craft heater	A tool that blows very hot air. Used to dry ink, fuse embossing powder, etc. Also known as a “heat gun.”
craft knife	A sharp knife with pointed replaceable blades, used for precision cutting.
craft tray	A tray with a funnel at one end so that its contents can be poured back into a container. Often used for embossing powder.
crop	To trim a photo or paper. It is also an event where people get together to work on crafting projects.
die cut	Paper or other material that has been pre-cut into a desired shape.
distress	To artificially create the appearance of aging or wear and tear.
Double Scrubber	A case with a scrubbing pad in the base and another in the lid. Used to clean stamps.
D-ring album	An album with spring-loaded, D-shaped clamps that are threaded through the holes in the page protectors. This kind of album snaps open to add or remove pages.
dry brushing	A painting technique in which a relatively dry brush is used to apply paint to a surface, producing a scratchy look.
dry embossing	To create a raised image by using a stylus to push the paper from behind, often using a stencil of some kind. It is sometimes also called “debossing.”
embellishment	Any scrapbooking accent added to a page to decorate it.
embossing powder	Powder used in heat embossing. When heated, the powder particles fuse to create a shiny, raised image.
ephemera	Written or printed matter that is not intended to be preserved. Examples include advertisements, tags, ticket stubs, napkins, and more.
extender post	A post added to the existing posts of a post-bound album to increase their length, and thus the album’s page capacity.
eyelet	A metal fastener with a hole in the center that forms a cylinder, which is inserted into a hole through a surface and then flattened on the back to secure it.
eyelet setter	A tool used to flatten an eyelet and fasten it to a surface.
flock	Short, loose fibers that can be adhered to create a velvety look and feel.
heat embossing	Creating a raised image by heating embossing powder adhered to the image.
journaling	Written or typed words that give details about, or lend support to what is featured on a scrapbook page.
journaling spot	A piece added to a scrapbooking page specifically intended to hold journaling.
layout	A set of two side-by-side scrapbook pages.
lignin-free	Free from lignin, a chemical substance that breaks down over time, releasing acid and turning paper brown.

Liquid Glass	A clear crystal lacquer used to create a shiny, raised surface. Can also be used as a strong adhesive.
mat	To back a photo or other page element on a slightly larger piece of paper to create a frame effect.
matte	A finish that is not shiny or glossy.
mini album	A scrapbook smaller than the typical scrapbook sizes of 8½" × 11" and 12" × 12". A mini album can be created from any number of materials and does not necessarily have the standard pages of a regular scrapbook album.
monochromatic color scheme	A project made using variations of saturation or shade of the same hue.
overlay	Clear acetate sheet placed over all or part of a page to change its appearance. Often has a pattern or words printed on it. Also known as a "transparency."
paper piecing	Adhering various shaped pieces of paper to create an image.
paper trimmer	A tool used to make straight, uniform cuts in paper.
photo clip	Small metal clip that can be swiveled to secure or adorn a photo. Also known as "photo turn."
photo corner	A small triangle of paper, metal, or other material into which a corner of a photo is slipped. Designed to hold a photo in place without adhering it.
photo mat	A slightly larger piece of paper or other material placed underneath a photo creating a frame effect.
photo storage page	A sheet protector with multiple pockets designed to hold photos.
post-bound album	An album whose pages are held together by metal posts.
red-eye pen	A green-tinted pen used to fix red eyes in photographs.
re-inker	A bottle of ink used to refresh an ink pad. Also, may be used as paint and to dye ribbon and selected embellishments.
repositionable adhesive	Adhesive whose bond is not permanent but will continue to hold after repositioning.
ribbon slide	A buckle or other accent through which ribbon is threaded.
rubber brayer	A rubber roller with a handle used to spread ink.
rub-on	Also known as a "transfer," is a decorative image that may be applied to photos, cardstock, and B&T Duos® papers using an applicator.
scraplift	A humorous term taken from "shoplift" in which a scrapbooker copies another scrapbooker's design, with varying degrees of precision.
self-healing mat (VersaMat®)	A mat that can be repeatedly used as a cutting surface and still maintain its form.
sheet protector	A plastic pocket in which a page can be inserted. Generally has been punched with holes to be held in an album or binder. Also known as a "page protector." Close To My Heart's line of sheet protectors are called Memory Protectors®.
spine expander	Inserts placed between the bound edges of page protectors to maintain proper spacing between pages.
Sponge Dauber	A small tool with a sponge on one end that can be slipped on the finger like a thimble to apply ink.
sponging	A technique where ink is applied using a sponge.
stylus	A tool with rounded ends typically used to score or indent paper, either for folding or dry embossing.
swivel-base ink pad	A type of ink pad patented by Close To My Heart whose pad resides in the lid, thereby keeping ink at the surface of the pad. The lid and base swivel so that when open, the pad is right-side up.
tape roller	A type of adhesive applicator from which double-sided tape is dispensed by rolling on a surface.
waterbrush	A water-filled pen with a brush tip that is used as a paintbrush.
watercolor pencils	Colored pencils whose pigment will smear when wet, creating a watercolor effect.

Notes
