



# Exploring 4-H at Home



Environment & Healthy  
Living

**Pillar:** Environment & Healthy Living

**Project:** Scrapbooking

**Activities:** Greeting Cards



CANADA  
4-H Saskatchewan

**Scrapbooking**

Reference and Activity  
Guide

# Card Making Tips

Since card making is so different for everyone, instead of a tutorial we are going to share some tips for card making along with some pictures of cards made by Kalyne Martin, the North West Regional 4-H Specialist.

There is no right or wrong way to make your own cards so get creative and share your results on the Exploring 4-H At home page and with the hashtag [#exploring4hathome](#)

## **Tip 1 – More expensive isn't always better**

When you shop for supplies start at your local dollar store. Things like paper, glue, glitter and gems tend to be a lot less expensive and work just as well as the costly alternatives at the craft shop.

## **Tip 2 – You don't need 'ALL THE THINGS'**

When you first start out and do research you will see that the world of scrapbooking is full of papers, glues, embellishments and a million other supplies. Start with just a few basics to find which things you use most and prefer. After you have picked out the few things you use most often, then buy more products in those categories. That way you don't end up with an entire room full of supplies that you never use (speaking from experience here 😊)

## **Tip 3 – Do some research?**

Not everyone has a vision for how their cards will turn out, and that's okay! There are great websites out there with layouts for cards and pairing ideas for colors and patterns. If you are unsure where to start, Pinterest has many great ideas!

## **Tip 4 – A printer can be your best friend!**

Is there a picture you want to add to your card but you just can't draw? (I understand that!) Find these pictures on the computer by searching for coloring pages of that thing (Example: Daisy coloring page) and print that picture off on plain printer paper (or scrapbook paper if you aren't coloring it), cut it out and prepare it for your card! Easy as that and you don't need to be able to freehand anything!

## **Tip 5 – Watch videos online for different techniques**

When you come across a picture of a card and you aren't exactly sure how to do the same thing, try looking for instructional videos online! Many scrapbooking professionals (Like Anna Griffin and Tim Holtz) have videos online that show you exactly how to do any of these techniques (lots of them will also try to sell you products, refer to tip 1; many dollar store products do similar things for less!).

## Tip 6 – Add your own spin

No matter if you've come up with the design yourself or started with a template you found online, remember to make it your own! It does not have to look exactly like the picture. Use the tools you already have and make decisions based off your preferences (or those of the person you are gifting the card to!). There is no right or wrong way to make cards and each one should be unique to you!

## Tip 7 – Practice makes perfect better

The more time you spend making homemade cards, the better (and faster!) you will become at making them. Looking back at some of the very first cards you made once you've made 100 (or 1000!) can make you cringe but remember that everyone starts out as a beginner and even the very first card is something to be proud of!

## Tip 8 – Share it with friends!

If you have a group of friends that you think will enjoy your new hobby, hold a digital scrapbooking event (or in person once we can all meet again!) and teach them the tricks and techniques you've learned and see what creative ideas your friends have! This is a great way to inspire others while you [Learn To Do By Doing!](#)

Here are some examples of cards that Kalynne Martin (North West Specialist) has made over the years. Some are simple and quick designs, while others took time and planning to make sure they were just right! Learning new things is half the battle and part of the fun!

