

Challenge #4 – Tools of all Types

Stamps, Punches, Dies, Embossing Folders...

Goal for the Challenge



Establish a system for sorting, storing, and organizing your stamps, punches, and cutting/embossing systems that enables you to get the most use out of them with the least frustration.

The Challenges of Organizing these items

The different shapes and sizes of these products make it difficult to bring them all together. The little Cricut cartridges, wood-mounted stamps, Sizzix dies, etc.; all seem to require a different method of organization. Or do they? We think not! They only require a different method of storage.

Are you Nancy Notsomuch or Gloria Gottalot?

- Nancy's have a few, of a variety of different things. If you're a Nancy, you like the stuff you have, but you're not likely to accumulate large amounts. You're more likely to use the products available at your LSS when you're there to crop.
- Gloria's LOVE all these fun "toys" and feel almost like collectors. If you're a Gloria, you're very likely to continue to add to your collection. Your cropping pals rely on you to have a huge variety of tools/toys to share.
- If you're somewhere in the middle, you can choose either method of storage. Base your decision on where your hobby will go in the future.

What are the methods?

Nancys – You'll integrate product representations and, in some cases, the actual products right into your *4 Section System*.

Glorias – You'll create a standalone catalog to keep with your *4 Section System*.

Nancy Notsomuch

Representation: You'll create representations of each thing and put the representation into your *4 Section System*.

As an example: If you have a stamp of a "gift box", it will work in many categories; Birthday, Christmas, Hanukah, Wedding, Baby, Graduation, etc. In this case, the stamp

would go into 6 categories, so you would make 6 impressions of that stamp.

Number, Label, and Integrate

1. Number the stamp, die, embossing folder, or punch.
2. Create an impression of each item (multiples if necessary).
3. Write the number on the impression(s).
4. If multiples, separate the impressions, and put one impression into each of the six categories where it belongs.
5. Store the stamp/die/embossing folder/punch in its proper place in numerical order.

Why are we numbering?

- Numbering things like stamps, punches, dies, etc. prevents constantly “re-arranging” to “fit” more products into the storage, area.
- Numbering allows you fast, easy access when you need to find something and makes it really easy to put things away in their proper place.

Gloria Gotalot

Create Your Catalog, Label and Store

Creating a catalog that’s an actual “stand alone” catalog of your stuff is the way to go if you’re a Gloria. Your catalog is going to follow the *4 Section System* (it’s actually only 3 sections because you don’t have the Rainbow section). The catalog can easily be transported to crops, classes, and even on shopping trips. You’ll buy products that complement rather than duplicate what you already own.

Glorias: Step 1 – Decide your catalog format

- You can use either a 12x12” format or an 8.5x11” format.
- You’ll need paper, page protectors, hole reinforcers, tabbed dividers, etc.

Glorias: Step 2 – Gather

- Start with one type of products, bring those together and work in small groups of products.

Glorias: Step 3 – Storage Decisions

- How and where are you going to store your sorted items?
- Get those items together: boxes, ScrapRack pages, drawers, shelves, etc.
- Prepare an “Organized Only” space for your sorted items.

Glorias: Step 4 – Create your “Codes” List

Here are a few examples of coding:

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Get Organized Challenge Handout – All Types of Tools



- WB – Woodblock
- WBK – Woodblock Kit
- AU – Acrylic Unmounted
- SU – Stampin’ Up

- CTMH – Close to my heart
- SZ – Sizzix
- CC – Cricut
- PN – Punch

- PK – Punch Kit
- SP – Spellbinders

Glorias: Step 5 – Start the Process

- Fill one storage container with products (stamps, punches, etc.)
- Number each item in the container.
- Label each container.
- Go through the container and add each item to your catalog, indicating the item number & location next to the impression.
- Start a catalog page even if you only have 1 thing that fits that category.

Challenge #4 Checklist

- Catalog 20 things a day for the next 7 days – 140 items over the course of the next week.
- Sort 4” of paper
- Sort one box or another year of photos.
- Sort one more container of other supplies.
- Post your progress on the [Facebook Group](#) or send us an email.
- When you complete this challenge, celebrate with reward #4

I can’t talk about tools without hearing my dad say – “Right tool, right job” – in our case it’s more right tool, right type of crafter. Choose the organization tools you’ll use based on the type of crafter you are.

Past Blog Posts

[Organizing tools with the Die, Stamp & Supply organizer.](#)

[Organizing unmounted stamps in ScrapRack pages.](#)

[Why the Double-Sided Stamp, Store & Go Bag is perfect for wood mounted stamps.](#)

Notes:



Products Tiffany talked about in Class #4:

Embossing Folders – See [all our embossing folder storage options](#).



Desk Top – [Desk Maid – 15” Die, Stamp & Supply organizer](#).

[ScrapRack Pages – Flippin’ Storage Pages](#) and other basic storage pages.

[Fab Files – 4x6 or 5x7](#)

Dies – [See all our die storage options](#).



Shelf Storage – [3” Flippin’ Storage Binder](#)

Desk Top – [Die, Stamp & Supply Organizer](#).

[Die-Namic Storage](#)

Punches – [See all our punch storage options](#)



[Punch Packs](#) – available in 1”, 1.5” and 2” depths.

[Over the Door storage – COPS – Clearly Organized Pocket System.](#)

[Desk Top Organizers – The Desk Maid - 4 Level Supply Stadium.](#)

[Wood mounted stamps – See all our wood stamp storage options](#)



[Shelf Storage – The 6 Level Stamp & Supply Stadium, Desk Maid.](#)

[Portable Storage – Double-Sided Stamp, Store and Go Bags.](#)

[Over the Door – 20 pocket COPS – Clearly Organized Pocket System.](#)

[Acrylic Stamps – See all our acrylic stamp storage options.](#)



[Shelf Storage – 3” Flippin’ Storage Binder](#)

[Portable Storage – Denise Buddy Bag & Medium Die & Stamp Pockets.](#)

[Desk Top – Desk Maid – Die, Stamp & Supply Organizer with Die, Stamp & Stencil pockets.](#)

[Stencils and Templates – Stencil Options and Kiwi Lane template options](#)



[Fab Files & tabbed Fab File Divider Pockets, 6x6 and 12x12](#)



[ScrapRack Pages](#) – a variety of sizes – with a [ScrapRack](#) or [12x12 Craft Binder](#).



[Mobile Organization](#) – put your [Die, Stamp & Supply organizer](#) in a [Companion Cart](#).

[Basic Tools](#) – See all our [basic tool storage](#).



[Portable tools](#) – [The Ditto Tool Bag](#) and [Lois 2.0 Tote](#).



[Desk Maid](#) – [Die, Stamp & Supply Organizer](#)



[Desk Maid](#) – [Tool Tower](#)