



Anchoring a Focal Point with Two Papers

by Julie Singco

Draw viewers into your page by anchoring a focal point with two papers. It's a quick and easy way to highlight the subject of your scrapbook page.

For this tutorial you will need:

- Two coordinating papers, provided
- Photoshop Elements or Adobe Photoshop

Important Links:

- Find this [tutorial on our blog](#).
- [Terms of Use](#)
- Website: www.DigitalScrapper.com
- [Facebook Business Page](#)
- [Facebook Community Group](#)
- [YouTube Channel](#)
- [Instagram](#)
- [Contact Us](#)

©2020 Digital Scrapper

See What Others Are Creating

- Join & visit our [Community on Facebook](#).
- Search and post using hashtag #DST and/or #FocalPoint.

Understanding Focal Point

- What is a Focal Point?
 - The place on the page where your eye is drawn.
 - The most important part of your page, usually a photo.
 - All other features of the page stem from that one place.
- Why is a Focal Point necessary?
 - It captures the viewer's attention.
 - It emphasizes what your page is about.
 - It controls the eye's movement.

Can you find the focal point in these scrapbook pages?





Understanding Anchors

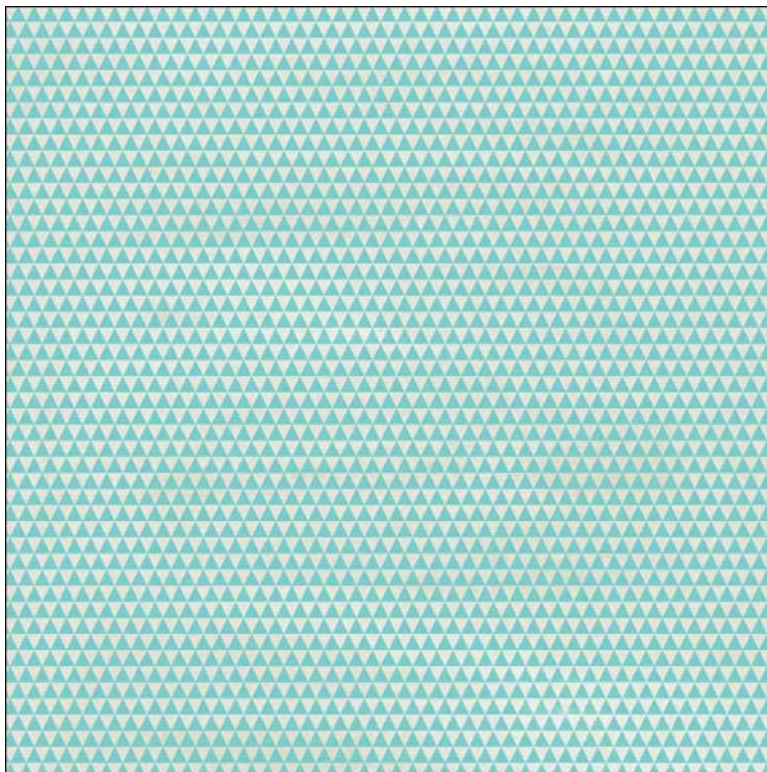
- What is an Anchor?
 - Anything placed behind your focal point to pull the page design together.
 - Examples include: paint, grunge, washi tape, paper strips, and small 3D elements.
- Why is an Anchor Necessary?
 - It acts as a foundation for your focal point.
 - It ties together all the elements of the focal point.
 - It leads the viewer's eye right to the focal point.
- Anchors used in the 3 pages shown below include:
 - Let's Go page: paper strips and paper mats
 - Life is Good page: paint, swirly lines and a strip of paper.
 - Sweet Dreams page: scatter of small stars and the edges of the 3 overlapped papers.



This tutorial shows one way to anchor a focal point using two papers.

Step 1: Stack Two Papers

- Open the paper11-BeachyKeen-StudioFlergs.jpg file (File > Open) from the downloads.



- Open the paper5-BeachyKeen-StudioFlergs.jpg file (File > Open).
- Get the Move tool.
- On the document, hold down the Shift key and click and drag the plain paper onto the patterned paper.

NOTE: Holding down the Shift key while adding something to a document ensures that the item will land in the center of the document.



Step 2: Reposition the Top Paper

- In the Layers panel, the top paper layer should be active.
- Press Ctrl T (Mac: Cmd T) to get the Transform options.
- In the Tool Options, set the Angle to 40°. (PS: Set the Rotate to 40°.)
- On the document, click and drag the paper up and to the right.
- Click the checkmark to commit.



Step 3: Add drop shadow

- In the Layers panel, the top paper layer should be active.

Photoshop Elements Only:

- In the Menu Bar, choose Layer > Layer Style > Style Settings.
- In the dialog box, set the Lighting Angle to 120°.
- Click directly on the word Drop Shadow to open the settings.
- Set the Size to 5, the Distance to 8, and the Opacity to 50.
- Click OK to close the Style Settings dialog box.

Photoshop Only:

- In the Menu Bar, choose Layer > Layer Style > Drop Shadow.
- In the dialog box, click on Reset to Default.
- Set the Blend Mode to Multiply, the Opacity to 50%, the Angle to 120°, the Distance to 8, the Spread to 0, and the Size to 5.

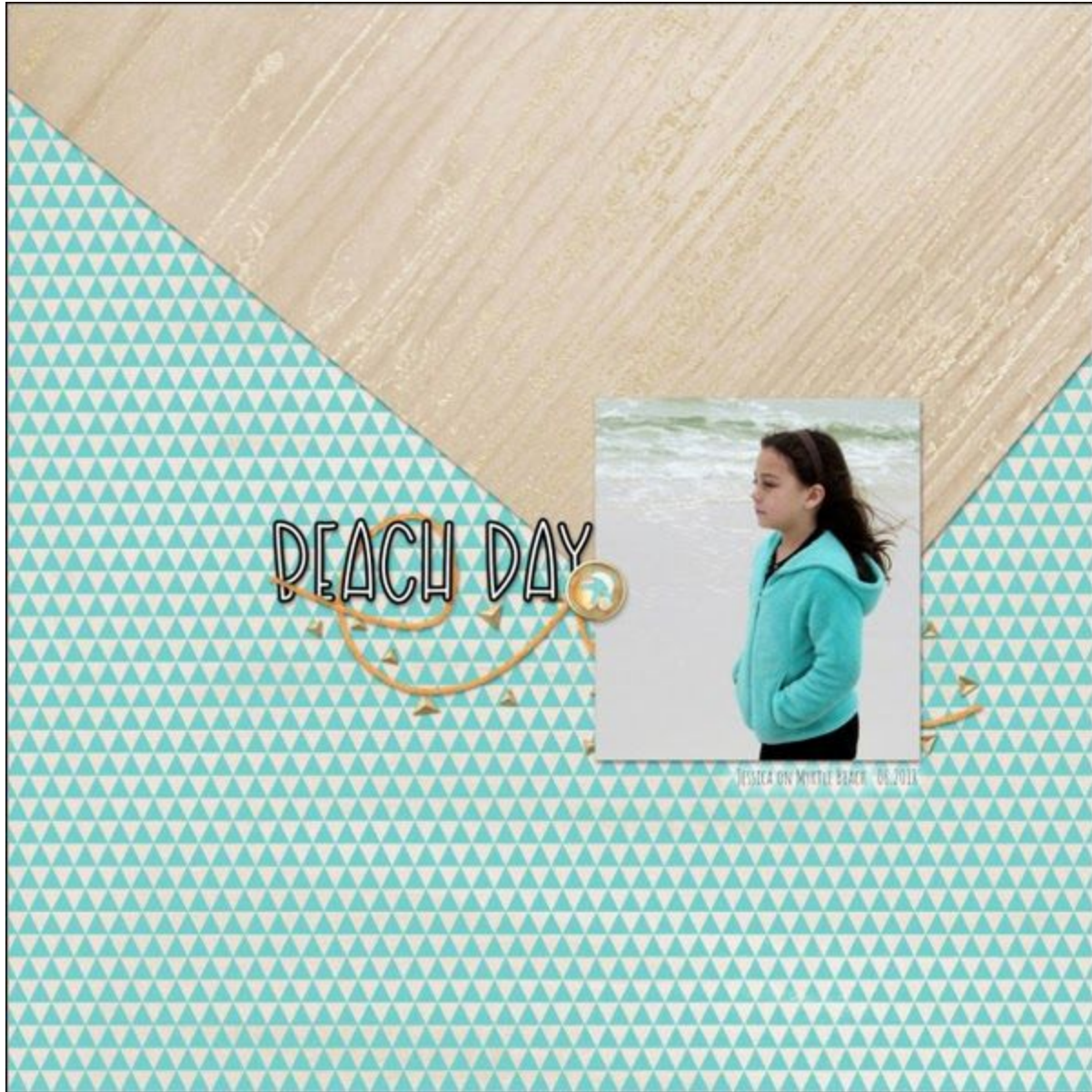
- Click OK to close the Layer Style dialog box.



Step 4: Add More Details and Save

- The corner of the paper is an anchor for the focal point of this page. Finish your project by adding desired elements around the focal point.
- Save the document (File > Save As) as a layered PSD file with a unique name.

In my completed project, the photo is the focal point. The corner of the paper is anchoring the focal point. I love how the edges of the paper lead your eyes right to the focal point.



Credits:

Page & photo: Beach Day by Julie Singco

Kit: Beachy Keen by Studio Flergs

Fonts: Sailboat, Amatic SC

Here, the Hello Flair is the focal point of my card. The corner is anchoring my focal point.



Credits:

Card: Hello by Julie Singco

Kit: Heart of Gold by KimB Designs



Experience the delight of designing beautiful pages you love with [Design Beautiful Pages](#) by Linda Sattgast. **Use Coupon Code DBP25** at checkout to save 25%* off the full price of the class.

*Cannot be combined with any other discount.