

# Making a Color Contrast Box

Designer Tutorial by GregJA

<http://scrapbits.art-shopette.com>

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Scanning 3-D elements and then extracting them is a popular technique designers are using to create elements for their scrapbooking kits.

Sometimes when you are scanning items, you plan to use them as-is and without changing the background. Then there are times when you plan to extract the scanned item from the background and do something else with it.

When you are planning to do an extraction, it's best to scan it using a contrasting color for your background. While it isn't necessary to do this, your extraction will go so much faster if you do!

**In this tutorial I share with you how to make and use a Color Contrast Box to scan elements for scrapbooking purposes.**

## You Will Need:

- Cardboard shirt box or other box that will fit over your scanner bed without letting light in. A box that is 3-6 inches deep is best. If you want your scans to have a seamless background use a box with no folds or connecting parts in the bottom of it.
- Cans of spray paint in high contrast colors

## Instructions:

1. Take your box outside where there is plenty of ventilation and paint the inside of it so the bottom of the box is completely covered. Make sure when you are painting, you move your hand back and forth in a smooth motion. Spray in a solid stream so you have no drips or paint puddles and cover the surface thoroughly.
2. After the paint is completely dry, place your box over the element you've placed on your scanner bed and scan your item. If your box doesn't cover the scanning surface completely, drape a dark colored cloth over it to prevent any light leakage.

Sample of Scanned Item Using a Color Contrast Box.



I have a color contrast box in black, one in white, one that's bright green, and one that is brown, because I didn't paint the inside of it.

Visit <http://scrapbits.art-shopette.com> to pick up scanned items for creating art for your customers! They are quick, and easy to do because the scans are accomplished with contrasting colors!

**REMEMBER:**

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