



Inspiration Sheet - Focal Point Clusters for Card Fronts

Things to consider when creating a cluster of elements for a focal point.

A cluster is a visually-pleasing way to create a focal point for a card front. What is nice about making clusters is that once they are put together you can plop them onto a basic card base without having to add much more effort to the card front. The natural layers that occur when making a cluster of elements for a focal point adds an artistic and interesting WOW to your card.

Things to Consider When Creating Clusters

- What are the elements you want to use?
- What type of cluster do you want to create?
- How will you tie the elements of the cluster to the card front?

WHAT ARE THE ELEMENTS IN A CLUSTER?

Elements that Create Clusters

1. Choose a **BASE** to support the cluster. (Pick 1)
 - Any punched/die cut shape (square, circle, rectangle)
 - Large detailed die cut like a leaf, flower, or design
 - Tag
 - Banner
 - Doily
 - Distressed paper (crumpled or textured with an embossing folder)
 - Vellum
2. Choose a **SECONDARY SHAPE** for the greeting image for the card. (Pick 1)
 - Smaller punched/die cut shape than the BASE.
 - Smaller tag or banner
 - Die cut words
3. Choose punched/die cut **GREENERY PIECES** to layer in an around. (Pick 2)
4. Choose coordinating **ACCENTS** to add interest. (Pick an odd number)
 - Torn strip of cardstock or Designer Series Paper
 - Ribbon layered under the SECONDARY SHAPE as a strip or in a nest, or tied in knot/bow
 - Smallest punched/die cut shapes like flowers, hearts, arrows, stars, leaves
 - Foil or Glimmer paper strips
 - Punched/die cut detailed edge strips of coordinating cardstock (scalloped, laced, stitched)
5. Choose coordinating **EMBELLISHMENTS**. (Use 3 of 1 type)
 - Rhinestones or pearls
 - Sequins
 - Enamel Dots

NOTE: It's all about balancing the type and quantity of elements. Trust your eye!

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WHAT TYPE OF CLUSTER?

In order to simplify thinking about creating clusters let's categorize them into three types. For all types of clusters keep in mind the things that make them interesting are: Mixed shapes, odd numbers of elements, different heights on the layers, and using multiple kinds of textures.

Types of Clusters

1. Basic Shape
2. Tag
3. Flower
4. Open Frame



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HOW TO TIE THE CLUSTER TO THE CARD FRONT?

Since the cluster itself is a beautifully layered compilation of elements, the card front where it gets attached just needs to support the theme of your cluster design. What you add to the card front whether it is Designer Series Paper or stamped images needs to coordinate with the cluster but not compete with it. You can create distance between the cluster and the card front by adding a layer of vellum between them if needed.

Card Front Ideas

- 4" x 5-1/4" piece of coordinating Designer Series paper
- 3-3/4" x 5" piece of cardstock embossed with an embossing folder
- 4" x 5-1/4" piece of cardstock stamped with coordinating images
- 4" x 5-1/4" piece of cardstock stenciled with decorative mask and blending brush



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Product List



**2 3/8" (6 Cm)
Circle Punch**
[161354]
\$22.00



**1-3/4" (4.4 Cm)
Circle Punch**
[119850]
\$22.00



**2" (5.1 Cm) Circle
Punch**
[133782]
\$22.00



**Petal Park Builder
Punch**
[160576]
\$22.00



Paper Florist Dies
[161284]
\$37.00



**Tailor Made Tags
Dies**
[155563]
\$22.00



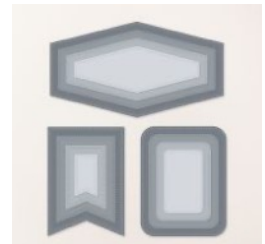
**Gorgeously Made
Bundle (English)**
[161203]
\$50.25



**Masterfully Made
12" X 12" (30.5 X
30.5 Cm) Designer
Series Paper**
[161192]
\$12.50



**Timeless
Arrangements
Bundle (English)**
[161526]
\$54.00



**Nested Essentials
Dies**
[161597]
\$34.00



**Basic Pattern
Decorative Masks**
[150697]
\$8.00



**Inked & Tiled
Cling Stamp Set
(English)**
[161158]
\$27.00



**Vellum 8-1/2" X
11" Cardstock**
[101856]
\$10.00



Bough Punch
[157711]
\$22.00



**Layering Leaves
Photopolymer
Stamp Set
(English)**
[161277]
\$24.00



**Textured Floral
Bundle**
[161232]
\$52.00



**Darling Details
Bundle**
[161371]
\$54.00



**Dainty Delight
Dies**
[160674]
\$36.00



**Wonderful
Thoughts Bundle
(English)**
[161494]
\$53.00



**Glorious Gingham
6" X 6" (15.2 X
15.2 Cm) Designer
Series Paper**
[163170]
\$10.50