

faux metal

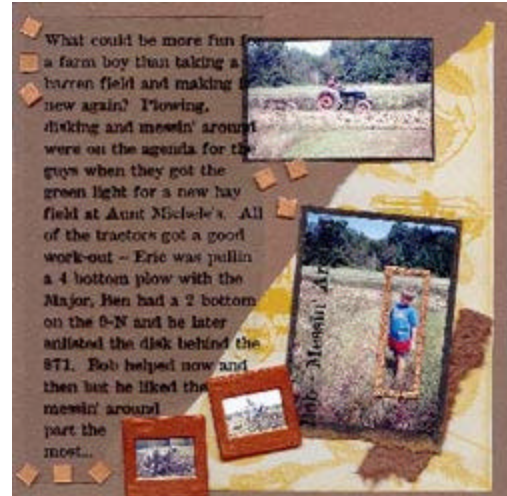
by Veronica Johnson, Lumpy Stuff Diva

Gold, Silver, Bronze & Copper! Metal embellishments are one of the hottest trends around. You love the look but you're not sure you real metal is right for you & your lay-outs. Well, you're not alone! Many people aren't ready for a metal laden scrapbook but want to achieve the rich look it can give. The solution...Faux Metallic Embellishments!!

There are many cool alternatives to get the look of metal with out the bulk or weight of real metal embellishments. Maybe you haven't given much thought to all of the faux metallic embellishment options on the market. Not only do you have conventional choices but the unconventional as you will see.

Here's a list of just some of the faux products available...

- Metallic paper & vellum
- Diamond Dust paper
- Metallic Rub-Ons
- Metallic Markers & Colored Pencils
- Metallic colored Glue Sticks
- Glitter & Sequins
- Metallic colored Slide Mounts
- Metallic Beads
- Metallic Floss, Threads & Ribbons
- Krylon's Metallic Leafing Pens
- Magic Scraps Virtual Metal
- Magic Mesh
- Sarah Heidt Mosaic Tiles
- Metallic Accents
- Skeleton Leaves
- HVAC Tape (ava. in hardware stores)
- Drywall Tape
- Acrylic Paints
- Metallic Stamping Ink
- Metallic Embossing Powders
- UTEE (Ultra Thick Embossing Enamel)



metallic slide mounts & mosaic tiles



virtual metal and metallic paper

Now that you have an idea of what's out there, lets put it to work for you. Some of the items on the list might not sound like they could help you get that great look into your scrapbooks

but wait and see...they will surprise you at their versatility.
Handy little tricks to try...



Metallic Rim Tags ~ These are a great addition to any card or lay-out and you can add them metal-free with a few simple steps. *Pull out those punches & die cut machines...cut 2 graduated shapes ~ the larger out of metallic paper, vellum or Virtual Metal and the smaller of the 2 shapes out of cardstock/printed paper/fabric, etc. Once layered, they look wonderful and the best thing about them??? They can be cut to match your lay-out perfectly! No more running around trying to find that perfect tag when you can make it yourself. *Another option to spruce up those plain tags you have laying around...dig out your metallic leafing pens and run it around the edge of your tag. You have a metal rimmed tag in a matter of seconds!

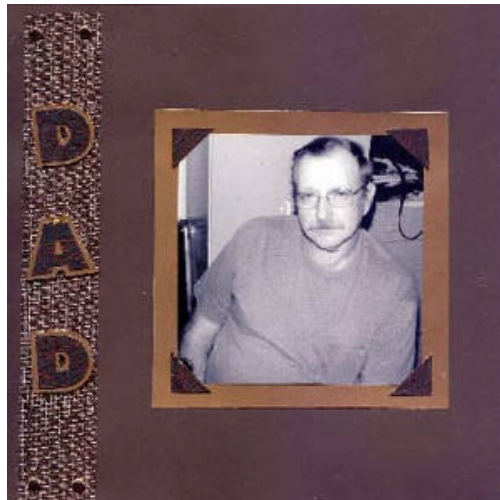
Faux Brads & Eyelets ~ use that same metallic leafing pen that you used on your tags to create an instant brad or eyelet. Just dab it around the whole in a tag or place it where you need that extra little something. Want a more dimensional look? How about adding a ring of crystal lacquer to your faux eyelet or brad. Instantly you have a faux embellishment you can feel as well as see! Another easy faux brad is a dab of hot glue. You can either put the melted glue directly on your lay-out or if you like, you can take a piece of release paper (ex-the white paper from your xyron) and dot several on there. When it's cool, all you need to do is attach it with a mini glue dot where needed!



Faux Alphabets & Tiles ~ These are easy to duplicate with a few stamps, a little ink and some embossing powder! Alphabets are easy to duplicate. Just stamp your favorite alphabet letters, add a bit of metallic embossing powder and there you go! Tiles are almost as easy...stamp your ink onto a sturdy piece of cardstock and pour on the UTEE, melt and add another layer. Immediately after the 2nd coat is melted, press your chosen rubber stamp into the hot UTEE (this does not hurt your rubber stamp). Wait a few minutes and remove the stamp... what's left is the makin's of a great metal tile! Cut it out and

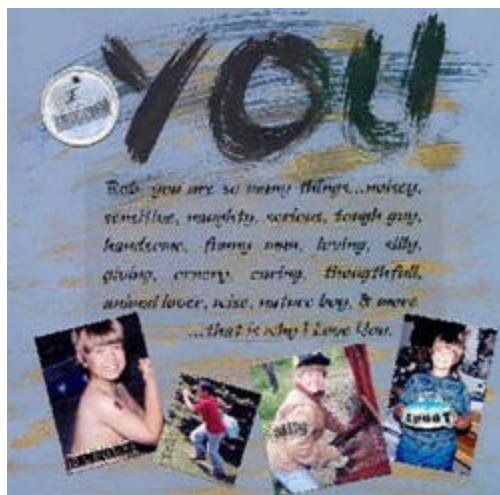


apply to your lay-out or card. As you can see on the examples to the right, Glue Sticks are an awesome way to get a molten metal look on your pages...just melt your glue stick and place your stamp in while still hot.



Well, you get that but **Drywall Tape**? Yep, you heard it right...the stuff you put over cracks in the drywall...it's a super alternative when you don't have any mesh to match your colors. Simply stamp the drywall tape with versamark or metallic ink (I use the same colored ink as embossing powder so if it doesn't get enough powder it's still covered), sprinkle on the embossing powder & heat! I used this same process on the following lay-out.

HIVAC Tape ~ another great hardware find. This tape in it's conventional form is used on heating and cooling ducts but in a scrapbookers hands, it can turn a plain lay-out into a spectacular one! It's thin enough that it can be cut with a die cut machine yet sturdy enough to stand up to embossing. Another great plus of this tape, it's adhesive backed so you don't have to worry about adhering it to your lay-outs or cards!



Acrylic Paints ~ yep, cool new tool in your scrapbook arsenal. You can add it to your background for a splash of molten metal or you can spruce up your borders & titles. I used a dry brush to paint gold metallic streaks on the background and then wrote "you" with black acrylic paint.

Well I hope this gives you a little bit of help getting over the drawbacks of real metals and gets some faux metals into your lay-outs! Good Luck and happy scrappin' :)