

# Travel Challenge - Preparing for a Crop

## Goals for this Challenge

- Set yourself up with a great strategy for attending events
- Figure out the best ways to pack and unpack

Too much stuff equals too little production. **Avoid “Paralysis by Analysis”** – the less you pack the more you’ll get done.

## Step 1 – Gather information

Before you can prepare efficiently, you must have some basic information:

- What is being provided by the crop host?
  - What are your friends bringing? Tools and equipment that can be shared don’t need to be duplicated. Who has the easiest transport system?
- What tools can be left at home and used to “finish up” projects?
  - How many hours will you be....Cropping? Shopping? Dining? Sleeping?

## Step 2 – Decisions, Decisions

- Is your motivation for this crop “photo-based” or “project-based”?

### Project Based:

- If your plan is to complete specific projects rather than scrapbook pages (like card-making or a mini album), you will likely need specific products. Think these projects through by gathering the basic pieces for the project. If the project includes photos, then move on to the “photo based” options.

### Photo Based:

- Choose your photos
- Sort them by layout, or at least by number of pictures you will need to complete the layouts. This requires choosing the number of layouts first!!! Don’t take ALL the photos - only take what you need for this event/project.
- Gather the memorabilia
- Put the photos and memorabilia together
- Seriously...don’t take ALL the photos.



### Step 3 – Create a List

Creating a list will help you pack everything you need as well as helping you repack everything at the end of the event. I like a list that has one column for “out” and one for “back.”

If you want to get really detailed, [create a list like Janna’s](#) – her list is arranged by room.

### Step 4 – Gather Supplies

- If you’ve completed all the previous steps of the challenge, this should be an easy step. You’ll be able to pull together the right themes, colors, etc. in just a couple of minutes. If you haven’t completed the challenge, you may have to “hunt” through your stuff for the things you need. Once you’ve gathered everything, you can integrate into your *4 Section System* when you get home, so you’ll be moving forward with organizing.
- Label your tools with your name/initials so you won’t lose them at the event.

### Step 5 – Pack it up

- Pack in reverse. Think about how you will arrange yourself at the crop.
- Layout a packing table, the same way you would lay clothes out when you’re packing for a trip.
- When you put things into your tote, be sure the things you need to “set up” your cropping space are packed last so they’re on the top.
- Keep an empty Paper Storage Box/Paper Handler just for going to crops – it makes it easy to pack up the papers you need, and only takes a small amount of space in your crop tote or on your table.

## Challenge #8 Checklist

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- Find a tote you want to use for going to crops – exclusively for crops, if possible.
- Create a packing list of crop “must haves”. These are the things you will take every time. Spend some time thinking about how to pack these items and how they will be used. Keep the list in your tote so you can use it every time you pack. If you find that there are things you always take but never use, cross them off the list.
- Decide how much you can do in an hour at a crop. Add 20% to that amount just in case you are able to skip eating and sleeping. This should include the number of “pages” or quantity of projects you can reasonably accomplish. Use this list as your guide for packing to go to an actual crop. Adjust based on actual experience.
- Post your progress on the GOC [FaceBook group page](#) and let us know how you’re doing.
- When you complete this challenge, celebrate with reward #8!



# Products Tiffany talked about in Class #8:

The ScrapRack is a perfect “Store-it-all” for craft supplies. And it’s portable, too!



Fab Files



Paper Handlers – 3 sizes



Craft Binder



Ditto Tool Tote



EZ2Organize line



Lois 2.0





