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Paper Edgers for Scrapbooking



Paper Edgers

Years ago, decorative-edged scissors were the only tools available to neatly cut patterned and shaped borders. Recently, manufacturers have begun to introduce bordered punches, sometimes called edgers. These easy-to-use tools are great for adding interest to what would otherwise be a plain piece of paper.

These tools are, in essence, punches. You simply stick your paper into the punch and it will create a patterned border along a 2- to 4-inch edge, depending on the size of your tool. Several manufacturers make edgers. The main thing to look for when purchasing such a product is the pattern. They come in all sorts of patterns so you will have lots of options to choose from. (CONTINUED BELOW)

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Another thing to consider is size. As mentioned, you can find them in a variety of sizes, typically anywhere from 2- to 4-inches. A smaller edger will work just as effectively as a larger one, since you work your way along the paper regardless of the size of the punch. You start by punching somewhere along the center of the paper's edge, then use the printed guidelines on the punch to match up one side of the paper. Continue to punch and use the printed guidelines until you reach the end of the paper, then repeat the process on the other side of the paper. The advantage of a larger punch, however, is that you will not have to repeat the process quite as many times.

Many come with a locking mechanism to make storing easier and more compact. This is a relatively new feature that many manufacturers are beginning to offer. The simple feature is actually quite nice to have.

A couple of popular manufacturers that offer border punches include EK Success and Martha Stewart. Regardless of what manufacturer you choose, the products are relatively inexpensive, incredibly versatile and simple to use.

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