



**Jaycee Gaspar**

**1. What motivated you to start making layouts and begin stamping?**

My stamping and card making journey began in December 2015. I have always been a little bit creative, so I was searching for ways to make handcrafted “Thank You” cards for colleagues in my full-time profession. After many YouTube videos and Pinterest pins later, I built the courage to go to a retail store and get my first stamp set, ink, and cardstock. Slowly, I felt compelled to share my card creations on Instagram, then YouTube and connect with many talented people.

**2. How did you fall in love with Altenew?**

I’ll preface the answer to this question by saying that Altenew’s design team and guest designers do wonders for inspiring creativity and showcasing techniques that are easy to replicate in your own space. I have to thank them for showing the vast possibilities with Altenew products. I also admired how some of the card designs were not gender specific and for the first time, I saw that cards did not always have to be binary. The specific card example is the Watercolor Stamping card that [Marika Rahtu created on the Jennifer McGuire blog](#).

I watched many videos on YouTube while exploring the world of stamping. One of things that caught my eye about Altenew products in particular were the layering florals. I already had a complete set of layering reds and greens, and I quickly saw the opportunity to create beautiful, dimensional,

and (most importantly) easy cards. What distinguished Altenew from other brands were the modern designs--nothing felt 'old-fashioned' about the brand nor was it too cartoonish for my taste. As I found my own style and built my collection of stamping materials, Altenew continued to challenge my creativity with new products and stunning designs.

**3. You have constantly wowed us with your incredible coloring skill and the way you balance the elements and designs in your cards! Do you have a favorite technique to do? Please share some tips with us!**

Well, thank you! I am a little methodical so bear with me, please. While I am mentally sketching designs, I think of incorporating and balancing three categories of art: shape, space, and line.

With shape, I typically encompass main elements within an isosceles triangle. I draw this concept from the alluring art of bonsai (more on this in the future). Also, if I have an edgy/wavy floral border, I balance and anchor these shapes with something round or with straight lines.

I define positive space as focal elements (flowers, sentiments, embellishments, etc.) so then negative space indicates placement and composition. I approach this mathematically via the [Golden Ratio](#). The more common idea of placement is the Rule of Thirds which is much easier to understand. If your card front or scrapbook layout is spatially broken into a 3X3 grid, focal elements are placed where two lines of the grid intersect. By placing components off center, you create visual "tension" or "interest."

Lastly, my favorite element to play with is [perceived lines](#). In summary, I will anticipate where the card recipient's eyes are going to wander and create visual 'movement.' I will frame sentiments with focal elements and their implied lines. For example, the lines of an open flower petal will point to the sentiment or the lines of multiple blooms will converge at a central point--creating that firework-looking bouquet that I love.

But after all of that, I break the rules I create for myself at times.

#### 4. Do you have a specific crafting style that you are comfortable with or like to stick to?

Aside from the methods in the previous section, I keep it clean and simple. I embrace empty cardstock space on my cards when I can. So if I were to summarize the style that I like to stick to it would be geometric, monochrome, clean and simple.

#### 5. Can you share a favorite card or DIY project that you made previously using Altenew products?

My most recent favorite is [this greyscale card](#) I made using Paint-a-Flower: Rose. I was heavily inspired by pencil sketches of roses as well as greyscale tattoos of roses and flowers. I wanted to illustrate dreamy, romantic, and fantasy emotions in this half wreath arrangement.

An [older project of mine](#) features a stamp set that I still use for its heartfelt sentiments; Forever in Love Stamp and Die Set has two large rose bouquets ready for coloring and perfect for someone you love.

*Products Used: [Paint-a-Flower: Rose](#), [Warm Grey Mini Cube Set](#), [Forever in Love Stamp and Die Set](#), [Altenew Artist Markers Set B](#), [Jet Black Ink Spray](#)*



**6. This is just for fun! If you can choose only three crafting supplies for the rest of your life, what would you choose?**

Hmm...assuming I already had the basics like adhesive, inks, and cardstocks...I would have to pick: floral stamps, colored pencils, and watercolor. I thought about this question too much, as if it was going to suddenly fall into a deserted island with these three items!