

Create and Design a Trading Card

**OBJECTIVE:**

To create a personal trading card

**GET TO KNOW WHAT YOU'RE DESIGNING:**

Often referred to as "bubble gum cards," trading cards are typically printed on cardstock paper and contain a color portrait of a featured individual (normally a sports figure) on the front, with personal information, life highlights, and career statistics on the reverse side. With this assignment, you will emulate a sports trading card, but one devoted entirely to you.

**PROJECT OVERVIEW:**

Trading cards are as American as apple pie and Chevrolets, and are most commonly associated with baseball, our nation's favorite pastime. But while usually linked with athletic teams, trading cards can also be used in a number of fun and creative ways. In this project, you will use your desktop publishing software to create your own personal trading card that you can share with friends and family.

**STRATEGIES AND DESIGN TIPS TO FOLLOW:**

1. Use your imagination and determine what team you'll be playing for. That is, what organization you will be representing—a sports team, community group, charitable organization, etc.
2. Write down information about yourself—vital statistics and facts such as date and place of birth, hair color, height, and so on. Also write down other highlights of your life; for example, "Spring 2007: Made High Honor Roll; Summer 2007: Worked at bowling alley." The key is to let your trading card show that you are an interesting person.
3. Obtain samples of real trading cards to use as a guide as you design your own.
4. If possible, use a digital camera or scanner to generate a photo of yourself to include on the trading card.
5. Carefully read through all parts included in this project. Before beginning any work on your computer, use a blank sheet of paper to sketch the layout and design of the document you will be creating.

Project #21: Create and Design a Trading Card *(continued)*



INSTRUCTIONS:

1. Using your desktop publishing software, create a new document.
2. Save the file as **"Trading Card"** to the "Publish It!" folder.
3. Set up your document using the "Page Setup Instructions" provided on the next page.
4. Complete the "Content and Design Steps to Follow" provided below.
5. Proofread your work carefully for accuracy, design, and format.
6. Resave the file.
7. Print a copy of the document. Refer to the "Suggested Printing and Finishing Instructions" provided below.



CONTENT AND DESIGN STEPS TO FOLLOW:

1. Before creating your trading card, decide what team or organization you belong to. Some examples include a sports team, a school organization, or a community group.
2. Include the following on the **front side** of your trading card:
 - A headline title depicting the name of the organization
 - A digital photo of yourself (if a photo is not possible, use a graphic image as a substitute)
 - Your name
3. Include the following on the **back side** of your trading card:

• Full name (plus nickname, if applicable)	• Academic and/or extracurricular activity highlights
• Anticipated year of graduation	• Athletic achievements
• Vital statistics (height, hair color, date and place of birth, etc.)	• Hobbies and/or favorite pastimes
• Education (elementary, middle/junior, high schools)	• Fun facts about yourself
	• Appropriate graphic image relating to you
4. Add additional text and/or graphic elements to help enhance the look and appearance of the front and back sides of your trading card.
5. Format the size, style, and placement of the text and other elements on the document so that it projects a professional design.
6. Go to Step 5 in the "Instructions" provided above.



SUGGESTED PRINTING AND FINISHING INSTRUCTIONS:

1. After printing, use scissors to trim both sides of the card.
2. Glue, tape, or staple the sides of the trading card together.

Project #21: Create and Design a Trading Card (continued)



PAGE SETUP INSTRUCTIONS:

- # of pages:** 1
- Dimensions:** 8.5 x 11 inches
- Margins:** .5 inches on all sides
- Orientation:** Portrait
- Other:** Using the rectangle tool, draw a rectangle measuring 2.5 inches wide by 3.5 inches tall, giving it a 1 pt. border. Position the rectangle to the left of the page. Place the contents of the front side of your trading card in this rectangle. Copy and paste the rectangle, and place it to the right of the page, making sure the boxes do not overlap. Place the contents of the back side of your trading card in this area.

