Photo Frame Keepsake
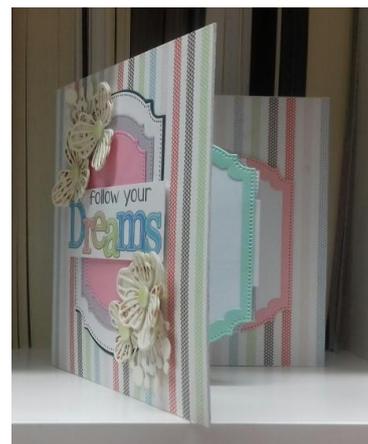

What you will need to complete this project:

A4 base card
Scraps of coloured card
Heavy weight backing paper
Decorative quote or sentiment
Embellishments
* Nesting dies

How to recreate this project:

* You may not have dies of the shape or size you would like to use for this project so I have reproduced the shape, as best I can, & created templates for you to use - which I have attached to the end of these project notes.

Cut a 6.2cm strip from the width of your card to produce a piece measuring 14.8 x 29.7cm, score & fold this in half to create a square 14.8cm (approx. 6") card base. Retain the off cut to use later.

Using either the templates I have provided, or your dies cut out four 6.7 x 9.7cm shapes in your chosen base card colour, & then nest this die with the next smallest from the set & using four different colour card scraps, cut out four frames/or use the frame template I have included.

Put these aside for a moment & cut out the layered panel to decorate the front of the card with: I cut out the larger panel with a die & then drew around the die to produce a 'faux nestie' which was only slightly bigger than the die cut, as I felt my example needed 'lifting' from the background a bit more.

I used the largest three dies from my set, but that depends on which set you choose to use, but I have included the templates for this too if you want to use those.

Now from the strip you cut from the main card initially, trim the width down to 4cm but retain the length. Fold in half & then fold both edges back to the centre fold to create a 'w' or 'm' shaped piece & put aside for the moment.

Cut your heavyweight backing paper to fit the inside of the card fully, I found it easier to do this in two pieces because the weight of the paper interfered with the central fold of the card, so I avoided this by cutting the paper up to the fold, but not into it.
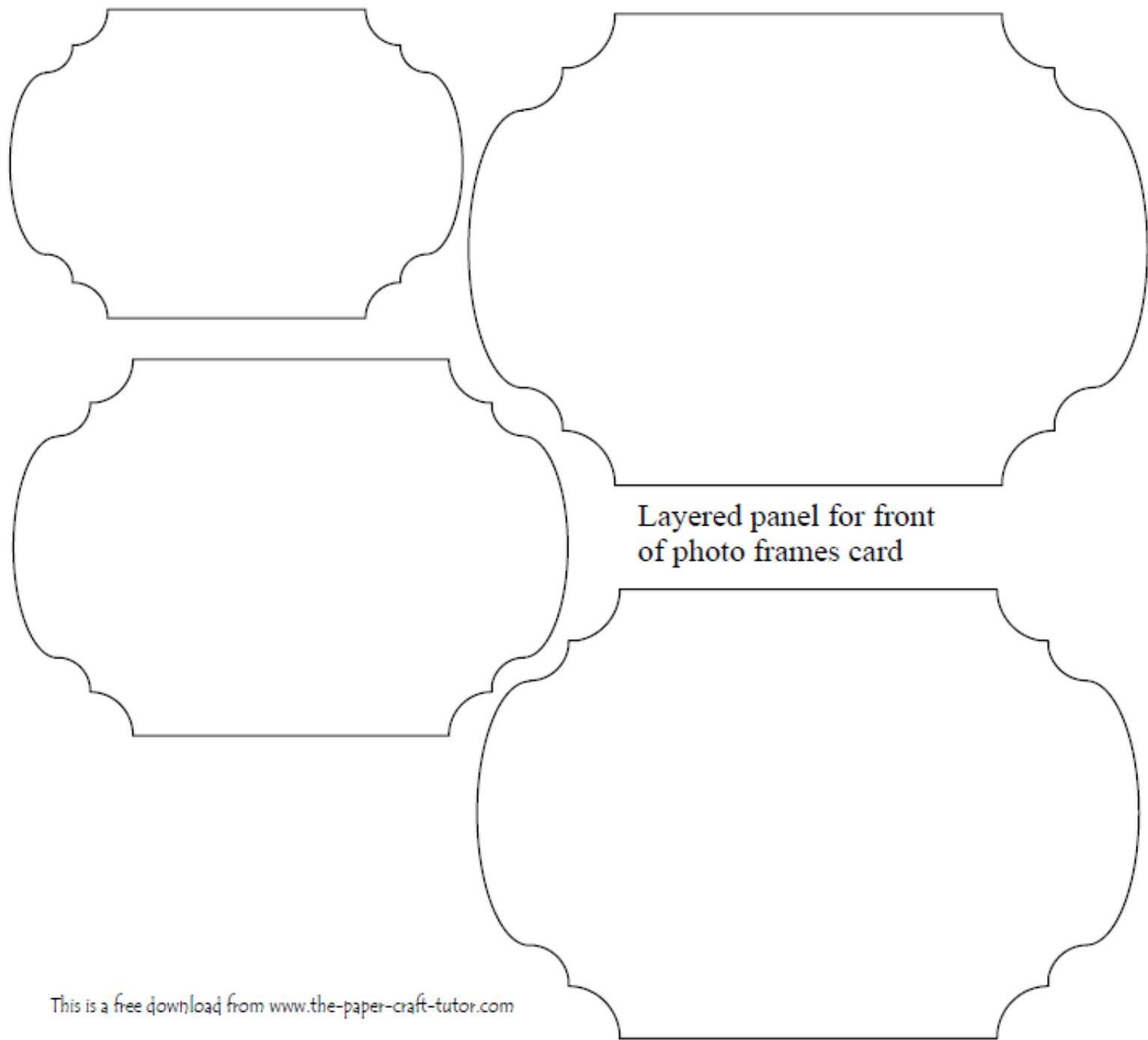
<u>Before going ahead & attaching the paper</u> you need to cut slots into it in order to hide part of the mechanism & achieve a better quality finish.

So place the one panel face up & the other face down directly on top & align, then measure up from the base & mark the 4.8cm point across the width, & faintly draw in this line. Then measure in from the left hand edge at 5.8cm down the length, & faintly draw in this line too. Lay your 'w' folded piece along the horizontal line & with the pencil make a mark above it, giving you with width of the slot you need to cut. Use your craft knife & cutting mat to cleanly cut this slit, making it ever so slightly longer than the pencil marks indicate to allow the 'w' piece to slide through easily.

Now slip the 'w' piece through the slit on one piece of your backing paper, up to the first fold, & glue into position on the back, repeat with the other piece. Then glue both pieces into position inside of your card with the centre of the 'w' piece pointing up at the card fold.
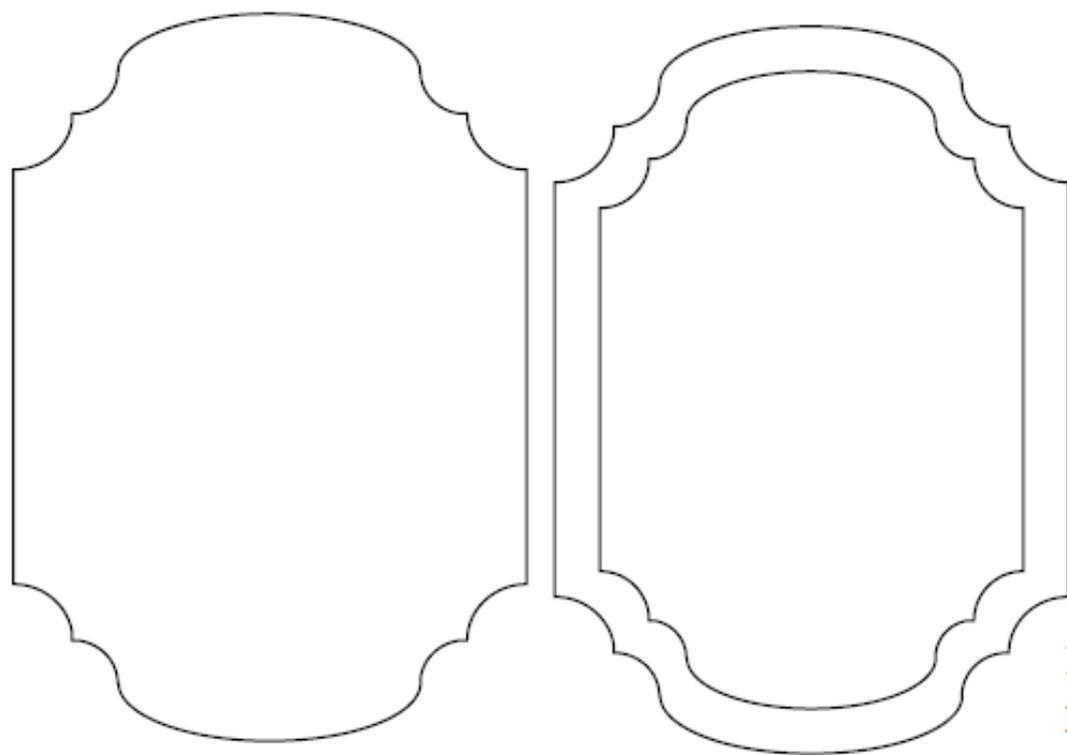
Now returning to the panels & frames, carefully apply glue to three sides of the frame leaving the top edge free from glue & attach to one of the panels, repeat to create the four 'photo frames' required for the project. Using the same glue attach a panel to each side of the protruding 'w', ensuring then make sure they align before the glue dries. Apply glue to the back of the first outer panel & lay it face down on one of the panels that are already in place & close the card, this will help align the outer panels in position & then repeat on the other side.

Finally, fully cover the front of the card with more backing paper & then layer up the panel pieces, I used glue but you could use 3D pads if you choose to. Attach your decorative quote/sentiment & decorate as desired.

Layered panel for front
of photo frames card

Photograph back
panels & frames