

IDEAS FOR A MAGAZINE

Most magazines begin with good intentions, but change over time as the world becomes more worldly. Magazines cater to career attitudes: ready made, fashion, glamour, what's hot/what's not, short cuts, etc.

Better Homes and Gardens is a good example of a magazine originally created for the homemaker to offer ideas on how to create the best home possible for her family. Today, it promotes timesaving ideas for the working woman, and suggestions on having the perfect house, garden, and meals. Just a few years ago, there was a page geared toward making something with your children, instructions included. They abandoned that idea for a page glorifying a woman who "did it herself".

The Church used to publish The Relief Society Magazine. This was a very popular magazine for over fifty years. Women like magazines that reflect their lifestyle and interests. Because there is no LDS option, our women are looking to the world for their ideals.

This magazine should be a resource for all women to keep and refer to repeatedly.

Following are ideas to fill a magazine for Mormon women, promoting those ideals we preach, and desire to bless and lift the life of the righteous woman.

- 1) Honor the previous Relief Society magazines: The Woman's Exponent and the Relief Society Magazine. Spotlight certain pages or articles from these publications.
- 2) Teach the history of this organization in every issue.
- 3) Spotlight from 5-10 great women in every issue. Draw from the presidencies, women in the scriptures, 19th, 20th, and 21st century Church women, even exemplary worldwide, timeless, women.
- 4) Basic interest sections, promoting how-tos, better lifestyles, modest living: Recipes, no/low cost family activities and games, parenting skills, crafts, household aids, advice column, simple repairs, eating healthy, decorating on a budget, thrift shopping tips, etc.
- 5) Ideas on following Bishop's directives: Family History, Preparedness, Scripture Study, Missionary work, etc. Ideas to help Relief Societies to work together in these areas.
- 6) Comment page from readers. Questions answered by readers. Ideas and suggestions by readers.
- 7) Writing, poetry, music contests.
- 8) Articles—Meaningful, full of ideas to help women of all walks of life.
- 9) Idea page to challenge ourselves: Service, education, learn something new, reaching out, reading scriptures, writing in a journal, organizing, teaching in a new way, enhance your calling, etc.

- 10) Talks from the past. Conference addresses, talks from Church colleges. Draw from the great words of our leaders.
- 11) Auxiliary pages: A section focusing on the Young Women, Primary, Young Single Adults. Ideas for leaders and parents. Activities, thoughts, ideas for young girls.
- 12) Humanitarian section. Updates on what the Humanitarian Center needs. Ideas for service projects. Ideas on women helping women.
- 13) Video clips of personal, ward, visiting teaching, activity, etc. experiences.
- 14) On-going calendar-When to stock up on items, events, holidays, FHE, etc.
- 15) Video clips of various women teaching their specialties. Websites that teach.
- 16) Art, short stories, music, photography, etc. talent display
- 17) Have an LDS version of Etsy to promote Home Industry.
- 18) Ads should reflect Mormon women's interests
- 19) Have an "Interview with a famous Mormon"
- 20) Cultural Refinement. Highlight a mission or a country from around the world. Highlight the missionaries, the country, the people, temple, lifestyle, traditions, history, etc.