Illuminated Letter Designs In The Historiated Style Of The Middle Ages
Synopsis

Here is the entire alphabet authentically illuminated in the historiated style; a term indicating that each letter is filled with miniature scenes and figures interwoven with artistry, wit and ingenuity. The period covers the two centuries just prior to the invention of the printing press, during which hand-drawn historiated letters reached the zenith of their creativity.

Book Information

Paperback: 48 pages
Publisher: Stemmer House Pub (April 1986)
Language: English
ISBN-10: 0880450827
Product Dimensions: 0.2 x 8.5 x 11 inches
Shipping Weight: 7 ounces
Average Customer Review: 3.4 out of 5 stars See all reviews (16 customer reviews)
Best Sellers Rank: #1,013,257 in Books (See Top 100 in Books) #367 in Books > Arts & Photography > Other Media > Calligraphy #5736 in Books > Arts & Photography > Decorative Arts & Design #237751 in Books > Reference

Customer Reviews

This book gives many ideas for the budding scribe-though only showing the finished design. It doesn't go into the how to much.

I ordered many books to help me learn to be a scribe in the SCA (Society for Creative Anachronism.) This book has proven to be very useful. I highly recommend it for those needing inspiration for their illuminated manuscript creation.

There are loads of letters in here that all feature people inside them. They're in black and white, perfect for transferring onto tracing paper to use in calligraphy pieces. Many of them have a lot of dark space filled in (to show color break down or patterning), so this isn't suited to being a coloring book. While the letters all seem to be Christian in theme, that's hardly surprising considering that most manuscripts with this kind of decoration are religious books. The figures are easily adapted into kings, queens, courtiers, knights, and the like. This is a fun tool to have on your shelf for doing high medieval scribal projects! I size the letters up and down on my home copier/printer as needed
to fit the piece. Most of the letters are in the 2-3” square range, but some take up half a page, and one takes up a full page (the H on the cover).

This particular book is best used as inspiration for those who are doing scrolls or illumination. The subject matter is primarily ecclesiastical it is the layout of the letters, the embellishments and border designs which are outstanding. I would recommend this book to anyone doing historical scrolls or illumination as a source of design.

I was VERY disappointed to receive this item. All of the pages are in black and white, and there is no explanation or direction on how to design illuminated letters. It was not at all what I was hoping for.

I found the designs offered interesting ideas and so am quite glad I have purchased the book, given it was not expensive. But I was very surprised to find all the designs in black and white only given the glorious colours of the cover. Very disappointing. That should have been indicated in the blurb.

I go to this book when I need some sophisticated lettering or border that I simply can’t make up on my own. A lot of the characters have people or religious figures in them, which I tend to swap out for other things to fit my particular use, but the letterings themselves are absolutely gorgeous. The cover is deceptive, though. None of the ones inside are in color, only the front and back are.

The illustrations are way too minute for even most adults to see, and there is a heavy religious theme throughout. The only thing beautiful about this book is the lovely cover. The designs inside the book are much smaller and more difficult to see, and not suitable for framing as several designs are grouped on a page, sometimes with the author’s printed text in the white space of the page. Not suitable at all for young budding artists. I would have sent it back to, but the cost was over half the price of the book.

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