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Hand-Lettering Ledger: A Practical Guide To Creating Serif, Script, Illustrated, Ornate, And Other Totally Original Hand-Drawn Styles



Synopsis

The ultimate tool for designers and creatives looking to tap into the trend of hand-drawn lettering, this workbook features step-by-step lessons on a range of styles plus more than 120 practice pages, making it the ideal place to learn and perfect this in-demand design skill.

Book Information

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Customer Reviews

Several of the other reviewers say there are "many blank pages" in this book. That's wrong. There are MOSTLY blank pages. Only ONE THIRD of the book has actual content: various styles of hand lettering. And not so much instructional, "how-to" content. The rest of the book (the MAJORITY of this "book" is lined pages, graph paper, and even some old school cursive writing paper. Even though I bought a used copy (in very good condition) I still felt a bit ripped-off, lied to ...in as much as I thought I was buying 190 pages of "Hand Lettering." Should have paid more attention to the word "Ledger" in the title. Too bad. The publisher was on their way to creating a good book, but stop 30% into the job.

Like the other reviewers I was surprised to see so many "ledger pages." I have a feeling that Comical Books (sic) has tracked the recent public interest in hand-lettering and rushed to fill the need (cash in) a bit prematurely. Certainly Ms. McDevitt has her chops down and I do enjoy her work but clearly an editor could have shaped her instructive abilities better. I suppose I share the responsibility for my disappointment. In hindsight, I was clearly hoping I could avoid the years of practice necessary to do this kind of work well. Ms. McDevitt has logged in those hours and they show in her work but the book, as it stands, reminds me of the parody of the "Draw Me" ads that

used to be appear in comic books. You know, the ones where Fig. A. is a stick figure an Fig. B is a Rembrandt. If you are serious about learning hand lettering this article might give you a few leads. [...]Some link rot has occurred since the article was written but archive.org has a few books that are not only more focused on the how to aspect they are also entertaining as artifacts of a bygone age. The age that hand-lettering beckons us to recreate in our image.

Disappointing. Not much instruction, a lot of empty pages. I can buy my own tablet of empty pages. I would not mind some practice space, but this one has too much. More importantly, there is little actual content. A lot of examples, but frankly I have already found more in-depth information by searching in Google.

As a few customers have said already, the book is literally more than half blank, gridded & "practice pages" (filler basically). Do they assume we don't have a sketchbook or graph paper around? As a graphic design student I was happy with the actual information the book did contain however. But seriously the actual book is 63 pages out of 188!. If you're trying to work from the book with the techniques she provides its a lot easier to have a separate sketchbook while you're actually looking at the page from the book instead of flipping back and forth. In addition, the "practice" pages are obviously the kind of paper you'd find in a book, not good for drawing to begin with.

To be honest, I bought the book because I wanted something pretty to have lying around. It lives up to that. I enjoy Mary Kate's artwork and will enjoy having tangible samples around. I am however disappointed in the lack of content. I was hoping there would be more of her working process and final designs inside to browse when inspiration or motivation were lacking. Instead, at least 75% of the book is blank space for practicing. I can't speak for everyone but I would not practice in a book even if it was spiral bound which this probably should be. Who wants to practice on 5x7 space while trying to hold the book down preventing it from closing on you? I should have read the details before purchasing to prevent the disappointment (it clearly says 120 of practice pages) but even if I'd seen the book in person at a bookstore, I still would have purchased it. The binding is lovely, the paper stock is great and there's enough of her work to still get me to open the book from time to time. Overall, I think this book would be ideal for a young mind as opposed to a working professional hoping to seriously expand their skillset. You would be better off taking her skillshare class online.

This book sure has a lot of 'blank' pages. It's beautifully produced on thick text stock. The binding

edge actually is (or feels like) bookbinder's cloth, layered onto the heavy stock cover. However, if it's meant to be practiced in (the blank pages have grids printed on them in order to practice lettering), a spiral or comb binding might have been more apropos. Still deciding whether or not to send it back. I guess I was expecting more actual lettering content?

I don't know who wrote the description for this book, but it really makes it sound good. I agree with the other reviews in that there is really no instruction in this book. It's separated into sections (serif, sans serif, script, etc) but doesn't give you a sample alphabet, or even explain much. Just a box that says "Ok, write your script word here. Now embellish it." Well if I knew how to do that I wouldn't need to buy a book!! And a whopping 189 pages! Too bad it's basically blank paper starting at page 64. Waste of money. If you don't already know how to do different styles of lettering, this book won't help you. And if you do know, this book won't help you either.

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