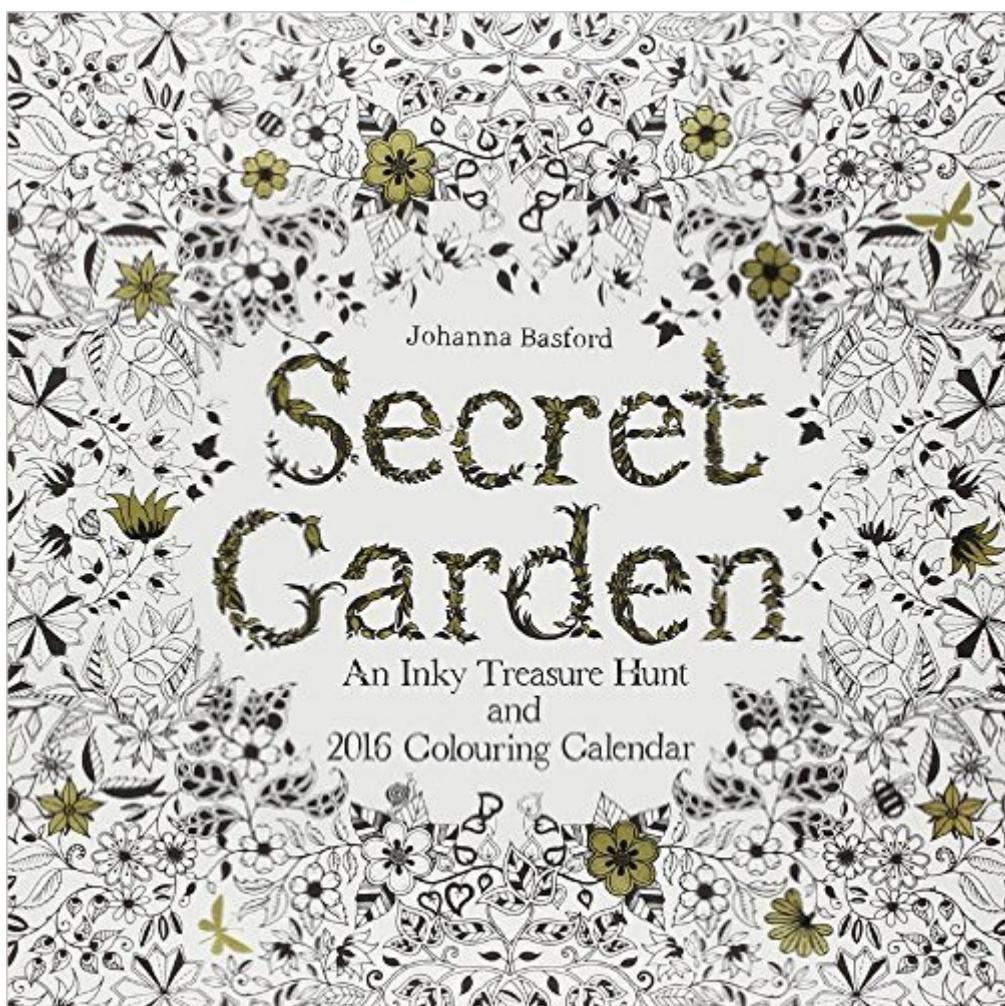


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# Secret Garden 2016 Wall Calendar: An Inky Treasure Hunt And 2016 Coloring Calendar



## Synopsis

Johanna Basford's amazing 2013 bestseller Secret Garden fueled the adult coloring craze, selling an unprecedented number of copies. It was born out of the self-described "ink evangelist's" passion for the hand-drawn line and its inherent sense of energy, which is impossible to duplicate via computer-generated graphics. Her initial bestseller was quickly followed by two more as her fan base and the coloring phenomenon grew. Along the way she's lent her art to such corporate clients as Starbucks, Absolut Vodka, and Chipotle. No matter where it's encountered, her art evokes fancy in the viewer, inviting closer inspection of its hidden intricacies. Twelve of Johanna Basford's intricate and fascinating designs from her best-selling book Secret Garden are included in this 2016 wall calendar for fans to color or enjoy as is.

## Book Information

Calendar: 24 pages

Publisher: Andrews McMeel Publishing; Wall edition (November 24, 2015)

Language: English

ISBN-10: 1449478409

ISBN-13: 978-1449478407

Product Dimensions: 12 x 0.3 x 12 inches

Shipping Weight: 11.2 ounces (View shipping rates and policies)

Average Customer Review: 4.8 out of 5 stars See all reviews (167 customer reviews)

Best Sellers Rank: #163,029 in Books (See Top 100 in Books) #31 in Books > Calendars > Garden & Home #102 in Books > Arts & Photography > Individual Artists > Artists' Books #202 in Books > Calendars > Arts

## Customer Reviews

This is a fantastic calendar for any fan of Johanna Basford's beautiful artwork. There are twelve designs selected from the original "Secret Garden" and unlike the portfolio version of the book, the calendar actually does enlarge the images and makes it even easier to color. It will also make for a really nice piece of art that can be framed. It also has some of the Inky Treasure Hunt elements to make for a little more fun while you are coloring. Unlike the book, there is no key to finding the "treasures". Unlike the book, these designs are printed on white rather than cream. The designs are set far enough away from the artwork that the calendar "hole" can be covered by matting or a frame if you choose to take the calendar apart after you have colored the pictures. The calendar is 12 x 12 inches, so it is considerably larger than

the original book at approximately 10 x 10 inches. If my pictures come through as planned, you will see that I have put my most recent copy of the book next to the calendar so you can see the difference in size. As a calendar, it has the major holidays with emphasis on British ones (which makes sense, of course.) It has a back look at the prior month and a forward look at the next month. The back of the cover page has a small date calendar for 2015, 2016, and 2017 so it is a really useful calendar for my purposes. The front cover has gold foil elements and can be colored, too. The back can also be colored but it is much smaller to work with those images. There is a title page which can be colored but you will need to be careful with the coloring medium you use as it could leak through and ruin the January image. The paper used for the calendar is a decent weight card stock. It is bright white. The binding is a traditional two staples at the fold in the middle of the book, so taking this calendar apart later should prove to be a very simple project. I tested a variety of markers and gel pens as well as pencils. I found that all permanent markers, Sharpies, Copic, etc. bled through immediately and heavily. My water-based markers were mixed with only two proving to have no leakage. Those two were my Staedler triplus fineliners and my Tombow duel brush (both the brush and the marker points.) My Stabilo 88's bled through with dark and bright colors being most noticeable. Other colors left a shadow on the back of the page. All other water-based markers bled through to varying degrees with all of the variety of colors I used. My gel pens (Fiskars and TekWriter) worked well but needed some extra drying time which is standard for a better grade of paper. I tried my Derwent Studio, Prismacolor Premier, and Prismacolor Verithins coloring pencils and they all worked great and as I would expect given the types of Ã¢ÂœleadÃ¢Â• that they have. If you are using any other type of coloring medium, I would suggest testing before you use it to see if it leaks through. I am fine with the bleed-through and will use whatever medium I choose. With the exception of the title page, all of the artwork backs onto the monthly calendar and I don't mind losing the dates, etc. once I start coloring in the book. Included with the calendar (to keep it safe) is an excellent piece of chipboard that is the perfect size to use as a Ã¢ÂœsafetyÃ¢Â• paper when you are coloring. Be sure to save it to use for this purpose as it might be difficult to find a 12 x 12 inch piece of paper or chipboard later. I am so very happy to get this calendar Ã¢Â“ in fact, I ordered two. I want to use one for the year but I can't wait the year to color it. It's fantastic that the pictures are larger as it will make it easier to color. I think it is a great gift to give to any colorist and I will be buying some additional copies to give as holiday gifts this season.

Love this calendar! I wasn't expecting it to be this large but I love it! It's a 12"x12" so you have the freedom of using the medium of your choice EXCEPT Bic Mark-It's and Sharpies. They immediately

bled through the other side onto the numbered days. However, my Steadtler Triplus Fineliners, Stabilo 88's, Lolliz, Fiskar's, and Sakura Gelly Rolls ( all 72 in my arsenal) did well. This calendar is not spiral bound in the U.S., but you can take it to have it done at an office supply store easily. From what JB said, they will all be spiral for 2017, though. All of the observed holidays are in this calendar and some for other countries. The pages aren't perforated for removal, but they are easily removable.

Unbelievably gorgeous! I am SO impressed (and I'm a picky customer) with the quality and beauty of this calendar. There isn't anything I would change. I've been working on the January image for about 3 days now - it's a lot of "work" but very therapeutic and rewarding. I will post a pic of what I have so far (still have about 8 flowers to go). I'm happy with the artwork, the calendar grid, the thickness and quality of the paper - EVERYTHING is perfect! Kudos to the artist and the manufacturer. So rare to get a truly quality item like this that exceeds all expectations. This calendar is worth far more than the price. I'd pay \$30 for it, honestly. This is the only calendar I want from now on, every year, serious! Too bad about the 1 star review customer who said the calendar stressed her out - just not her thing I guess. But notice she didn't say anything was wrong with the calendar itself...

I gave this 5 stars for it's functionality as a calendar. If you're used to coloring the Johanna Basford coloring books you may be disappointed coloring this calendar. I found the card stock to not be as coloring friendly as the books. The card stock doesn't allow for the easiest of blending by colored pencils. I use Prismacolor pencils and love them in the books. However not so much on this calendar. I found that when trying to blend colors with my colorless blender I had to be very careful not to run over the black printing or it would smear. I also had problems with the printing smearing if I colored over it with a light colored pencil. The card stock absorbs markers and my Stabilo fineliners seemed darker than they do on the original books. Gel pens worked wonderfully. I plan to finish the calendar with gel pens.

My granddaughter requested this for Christmas - she was very satisfied with the quality and designs - reasons I love coloring books: Recently, sales of coloring books for grown-ups have skyrocketed, and bookstores are having more trouble keeping certain coloring books on the shelves. These bestselling coloring books are billed as "color therapy" or cheap stress relief, a time for adults to unplug from the rush of the digital world and just sit down with a few coloring pages and

a nice set of colored pencils. What more could you ask for? And hey, got a friend who is really stressed out or having to sit with a sick child or parent? These adult coloring books make great gifts. Coloring books are a way for adults who don't normally draw or paint to be creative. A blank sheet of paper or an empty canvas can be daunting, but a coloring book acts as a bit of a buffer in this situation. Coloring books don't require anywhere near as much logical thought as, say, drawing a portrait. There are a lot of benefits in zoning out and relaxing. Then there's people who are recuperating from illness or dealing with a difficult time in their lives, they too find the calming, almost meditative effects of coloring is beneficial to them. Chances are the last time you spent some time coloring you didn't have a mortgage, a horrible boss or a worries about climate change.

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