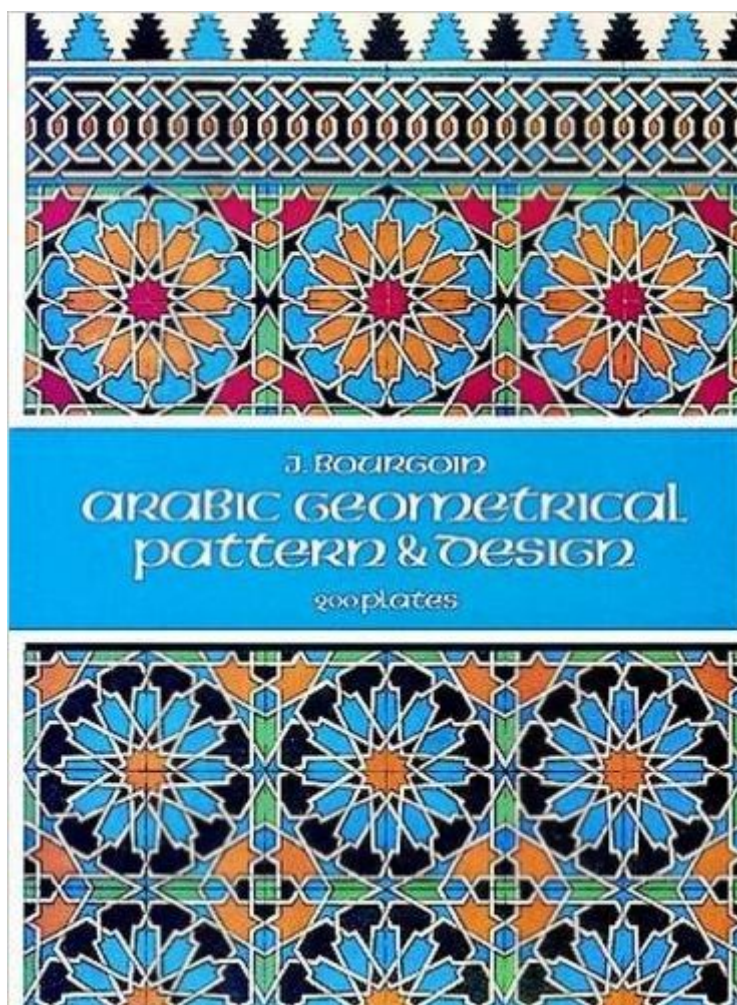


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# Arabic Geometrical Pattern And Design (Dover Pictorial Archive)



## Synopsis

By forbidding the representation of the human figure, the Mohammedan religion helped push Islamic art along a path much different from that of traditional European art. European art abounds with perspective renderings of figures and landscapes, while Islamic translates artistic impulse into elaborate geometric patterns and linear designs. Through centuries of practicing this purely abstract art, Muslim artists have perfected it to an incomparable elegance. This book contains 190 examples exhibiting the wide range of Islamic geometrical art: hexagon designs, octagon designs, dodecagon designs, combinations of stars and rosettes (of many variations), combinations of squares and octagons, heptagon designs, and pentagon designs. These fundamental shapes give rise to hundreds of different designs, and merely altering an angle or curving a straight line can create an entirely new pattern. When transferred to metal, wood, stucco, mosaic, and paint, these patterns make up the elaborate ornamentation for which Arabic architecture is noted, and twenty-eight examples of actual applications from Cairo and Damascus are included: sanctuary doors, openwork windows, inlaid marble pavements, and ceilings. The reader may wish to try his own hand at drawing patterns, to which purpose dotted construction lines are given for sections of the plates. Artists and designers will appreciate this book as a valuable source for Islamic art and design, which they may use directly or vary at will, and with the added use of color they will find that striking and beautiful results can often be achieved.

## Book Information

Series: Dover Pictorial Archive

Paperback: 208 pages

Publisher: Dover Publications; Revised ed. edition (June 1, 1973)

Language: English

ISBN-10: 0486229246

ISBN-13: 978-0486229249

Product Dimensions: 8.2 x 0.7 x 10.9 inches

Shipping Weight: 1.2 pounds (View shipping rates and policies)

Average Customer Review: 4.1 out of 5 stars [See all reviews](#) (17 customer reviews)

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## Customer Reviews

This book is full of different patterns for use by craftsmen. Unfortunately, it has no color illustrations, and no information about sources for these designs. It is more like a coloring book than a resource for designs. However, it does have guidelines within each design to show how the design was created, and I find that useful.

Arabic Geometrical Patterns are not so easy to find, not to mention understand their knowhows, this book clearly displays a very wide array of examples with simple step by step instructions displayed on the same platform, i was searching for a book like that, this book is quite enough, it is not for novice beginners though, you need to have some background in such subject as the text and discription for each chapter is very limited, and the book is totally black and white, so you have to figureout what color combinations are suitable. But the layout of the book makes reproducing the wounderful examples easy.

This book, by Jules Bourgoïn, is justly famous for its treatment of geometric pattern in Islamic art, but it is not a good book to begin a study of the subject. If you are a beginner to the subject, and want a book to get you started drawing the geometric based Islamic designs, the best place to start is probably Eric Broug's 'Islamic Geometric Patterns.' There are no surviving Islamic source texts describing how Islamic patterns were actually created. Perhaps none were ever written. All the books now available on the subject are largely surmise. Bourgoïn's book, first published in 1879, is one of the earliest written on the subject. Another early book is E. H. Hankin's 'The Drawing of Geometric Patterns in Saracenic Art', which was published in 1925. Bourgoïn and Hankin had very different views on how Islamic geometric patterns were designed. Hankin thought that the patterns were designed using only a compass and and straight edge, and that has become the majority view. Bourgoïn, on the other hand, thought that these patterns were mostly designed using grids, an approach that probably was also used by Celtic artists in designing such works as the Book of Kells and the Lindisfarne Gospels. If Bourgoïn, or Hankin, was right, I can not say. Both methods seem to work, and each as some advantages. But it is important to understand that different authors take different approaches, because if you do not understand that you may become confused over the discrepancies. A look through Bourgoïn's book will show that each pattern is placed over a grid (shown in dotted lines), and each different pattern is developed from the grid it uses. That grid is the foundation of the pattern. Although one grid may be used for many different patterns, the use of a different grid would have to result in a different pattern. Bourgoïn's book shows the grids he used,

but there are no explanations. The reader just has to figure it out.

This book has an extensive variety of geometric patterns that can be use by a Math teacher as well as an Art teacher. The designs are easy to reproduce. The display of the designs are big enough for students to try out and experiment. I greatly recommend it.

I am a serious free motion quilter and am always looking for inspiration on quilt stitching patterns that cover an entire quilt. Arabic designs lend themselves to this purpose perfectly! They are easily translated from the book because they are shown on triangle grids. How I found out about this book is through my daughter, who at the time was a college art major. This book is required for many college art courses. The designs are timeless and can get any artist thinking in another direction.

Absolutely love Moroccan design. This book just helps me to implement my ideas into actual visual representations of the tiles, etc. My private library will be Moroccan from floor to ceiling as soon as it is done. People will think they have left the U.S. and entered the Marrakesh.

Had this book in early 70's and used some of the pattern's in leatherwork. Had plan's for wood project's too.Lost book in storage and am very happy to have back. Had many ideas through the years missing this book and don't know where to pick up now.On a trip to Morroco showed the book to a local craftsman in the Medina of Fez. Wanted him to do somework with a particle design.He almost attacked me and tried to get hold of the book because as he claimed it containedpatterns that where owned by his family. So I had no right to this book..... Gladly "Sultan" was there . My trusted companion. Crossbreed , Great Dane/Mastino Napolitano , Aprox. 90+ kgLost the book in storage ,later though.

The eBook version has very low-resolution images, and the dotted lines that you are supposed to be able to see to understand the designs are obscured and impossible to see clearly due to the poor quality.

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