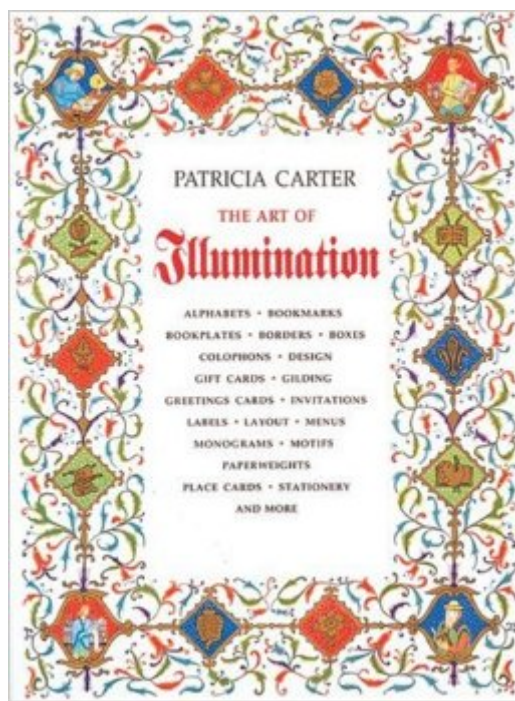


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# The Art Of Illumination



## Synopsis

This compendium, the best work from Patricia Carter's three previous books on illumination, shows exquisite designs in watercolour and gouache to enhance calligraphy, texts and a host of other decorative items.

## Book Information

Paperback: 160 pages

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Average Customer Review: 4.5 out of 5 stars [See all reviews](#) (19 customer reviews)

Best Sellers Rank: #434,997 in Books (See Top 100 in Books) #12 in [Books > Arts &](#)

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[Other Media > Calligraphy](#)

## Customer Reviews

Although [the price] seems hefty for a paperback book, you won't think that after seeing it. It is filled with color photos and helpful diagrams of the incredibly beautiful, complete with step-by-step directions to almost ensure success. Best of all, it is helpful for many other arts as well, since the information about coloring, centering, decorating letters, composing a monogram, etc. can be applied just as well to numerous other arts. I really love this book; it is unbelievably gorgeous and inspiring, with such great directions that even I should be able to do this successfully. Even if you're not a calligrapher, this will greatly help you should you decide to give it a try -- and will also help even if you use computer fonts, just want to frame and display treasured quotes or invitations, etc. I have nothing to do with the author, publisher, or anyone involved with this book ... I just took a chance and ordered it, and am thrilled beyond words with it. HIGHEST possible recommendation.

I don't know how to do calligraphy and I don't think you need to with this book. This book spends a lot of time on the illumination of the the letters and the borders. I do a lot of drawing and always wanted something a little different to use in my backgrounds and/or titles and this book really gave

me a great place to find ideas and inspiration. If you do calligraphy, this is a great and I think must have book. If you don't you can still get a great deal out of it and think it really belongs in any artists library.

I bought this book partly because it had so many positive reviews. I was pretty shocked when I got it because the book has been almost useless for me. Virtually none of the designs in this book are historically accurate or reference actual manuscripts, they seem to be 'inspired' by history instead. The aesthetic of almost every single illumination is the same - floral motifs with pastel colors that look like cheap designs off thrift store China plates. There isn't one page in this book that shows historical examples or attempts to recreate them, most of the designs look like 1800's Neoclassical interpretations of illumination. A lot of the designs are heavily inspired by French Books of Hours from the 15th century but none of the designs in the book are as delicate or impressive as the real deal. If you're looking for historical accuracy or a detailed guide for how to create illumination then you should definitely skip this book.

I love this book! It has tips for layout, as well as step by step instructions for building an illustrated letter. I also like how it shows several different styles of illumination.

This book is very limited in scope and style. There are many good examples of drawing (nearly identical) vines with little flowers but almost nothing else besides examples of what to do with your vines and flowers. I really expected more from this book due to the good reviews it received.

I found the first edition of this book at my local library and loved it, but couldn't find it anywhere to purchase. I was searching for other art books and saw it, thinking, is this the one I liked before? Sure enough it is the updated version from the original artist I was looking for. I was thrilled to find it! If you like any type of elegant artwork, from book arts to altered art to calligraphy to painting to scrapbooking, etc, you will find inspiration in this book. Detailed step by step instructions and materials for making your own illuminated lettering and artwork such as tiny flowers, leaves, scrolls, banners and other details. An ancient art brought back to life for modern day artists and crafters!  
Thank you !

I bought this as a gift for a illumination craft person and she adores the book. Provides inspiration into the various letters used in manuscript illumination. Excellent resource for the reference library.

I am a calligrapher and one of the things I have always wanted to do was to use illumination. I am presently working on a project and I believe by using illumination lettering would add the topping to the project. In the book the colors are vivid, the "how to" is really easy to understand, thus adding to the endless possibilities. My drawing is not so top notched :(, but I can draw the simple flowers, banners and vines that are shown in the book, and with that type of help, it would take my projects to an even higher level. Thank you for making this possible!!!

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