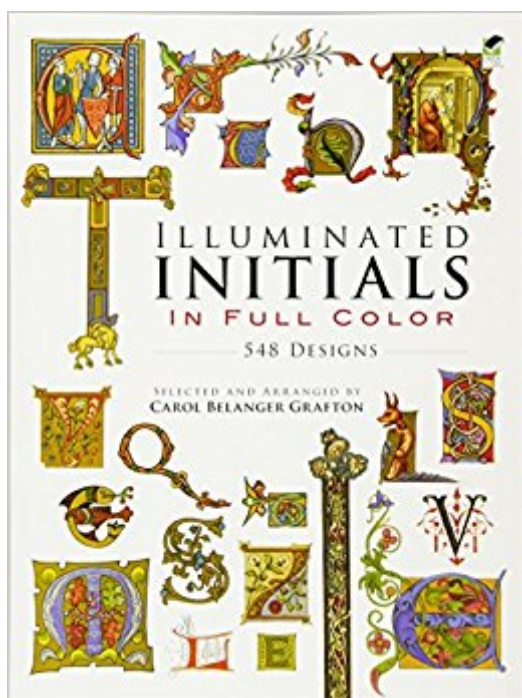


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# Illuminated Initials In Full Color: 548 Designs (Dover Pictorial Archive)



## Synopsis

Among the glories of extant medieval manuscripts are the splendid illuminated initials in which geometric, curvilinear, animal, religious and other motifs intertwine to form extraordinarily beautiful and decorative letters. For this striking volume, Carol Belanger Grafton has selected 548 illuminated letters-alphabetically arranged-from 19th-century reprints of medieval manuscripts. Here are magnificently ornamented initials-some the length of an entire margin, another encompassing the page itself, others delicate miniatures. All are imaginatively and beautifully enhanced with royal and saintly figures, mythical creatures, knights in battle, exquisite florals and much more. Encompassing all the letters of the alphabet, and including a selection of hand-colored chromolithographs, this practical archive of lovely copyright-free designs not only provides commercial artists and illustrators with a wealth of usable letters, it offers a splendid sampling of the ancient art of manuscript illuminations.

## Book Information

Series: Dover Pictorial Archive

Paperback: 48 pages

Publisher: Dover Publications (April 7, 1995)

Language: English

ISBN-10: 0486285014

ISBN-13: 978-0486285016

Product Dimensions: 0.2 x 9.5 x 12.2 inches

Shipping Weight: 7 ounces (View shipping rates and policies)

Average Customer Review: 4.3 out of 5 stars 18 customer reviews

Best Sellers Rank: #548,826 in Books (See Top 100 in Books) #107 in Books > Arts &

Photography > Graphic Design > Clip Art #209 in Books > Arts & Photography > Other Media >

Calligraphy #1299 in Books > Arts & Photography > Decorative Arts & Design > Decorative Arts

## Customer Reviews

The Book is still a Work in progress recreating these all freehand from memory, as this was the project. I've gone through half the book recreating the items in the book of Authentic Goatskin Vellum in an arrangement that would pass for Medieval script. There were several other books used and this one helped a lot in this project.

As a newcomer to creating my own illuminated letter images, I found the ideas presented here very

useful in helping me develop my own style. A huge range of designs gave me a greater insight into the possibilities than I had when only looking at the traditional manuscripts. At a very reasonable price, I feel this was an excellent investment.

Great reference book for artists! Lots of lovely illuminated letters, all crisply separated by a field of white! I want more reference books in this style.

Dazzling examples of illuminated, decorated, and historiated initials from wide array of time periods and national styles. Arranged usefully by alphabet. Excellent printing quality for low price: a particular boon for artists and designers. If only a source could have been listed for each example, but that's a lot to expect of a budget project. (We'll have to rely on good memory of our art historical studies!)

Wonderful as use for reference but the print quality is low enough that they do not scan well and I wish there were notes telling me where each is from. even so, it's decent for the price, definitely good if you want it mostly for reference and ideas.

Beautiful, well made and very good book. Arrived in perfect condition.

Most of the initials were very colorful and usable. I wanted initials that used gold in them and most of them did that. Many were similar to the old manuscript letters and some were new. Some were a little confusing....but they are fun to use.

Love it - just what I ordered.

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