



Celtic Art: The Methods of Construction (Dover Art Instruction)

George Bain

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The construction principles of Celtic art were re-discovered in the middle of the 20th century by George Bain. Until his writing, the intricate knots, interlacings, and spirals used in illuminating The Book of Kells and in decorating craftwork and jewelry seemed almost impossible, "the work of angels." In this pioneering work, George Bain shows how simple principles, no more difficult than those used in needlecraft, were used to create some of the finest artistic works ever seen. He also explains how you can use these principles in recreating artifacts and in creating your own Celtic designs for art and craft work or even for recreational use. Step-by-step procedures carefully introduce the simple rules and methods of Celtic knot work and the well-known designs from the great manuscripts and stone work. Later chapters build up to complex knot work, spiral work, and key pattern designs, with special coverage of alphabets and the stylized use of animals, humans, and plants. Altogether over 225 different patterns are presented for your use, with hundreds of modification suggestions, 110 historical and modern artifacts showing designs in use, a great number of letters including six complete alphabets and 25 decorative initials, and a number of animal and human figures used in the original Celtic works.

Artists, students, craftspeople, even children can work with these patterns and instructions for creating dynamic designs for use in leather work, in embroidery and other needle work, in metalwork, jewelry making, card design, borders, panels, illuminations, and in countless other ways. Mathematicians will find a great deal of pleasure in the geometric principles on which the patterns are based. Art historians and others interested in studying Celtic art will find a great number of outstanding art works and the best presentation in English for understanding Celtic design.

Celtic Art: The Methods of Construction (Dover Art Instruction) Details

Date : Published July 24th 2013 by Dover Publications (first published 1951)

ISBN :

Author : George Bain

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Peta-Ann says

I had to draw Celtic knots for a commission. After trying to wing it for days, i gave up and bought this book.

It saved my fat.

Andrew Watt says

The older style is going to be nearly unreadable by someone today, but it's still an awesome overview. Bain clearly paved the way for people like Co Spinhoven and Aidan Meehan.

Juliana Haught says

This is not a how-to but a reference. A nice book if you're interested in Celtic motifs and art.

F.T. says

This is the inner sanctum on the subject of Celtic art. It gave me some serious respect for the thing....

Deirdre says

What a great gem of a book!

Jennifer says

George Bain is the best resource if you'd like to learn how to drawn or simply study traditional celtic knotwork.

Jacque says

Wow!

Amazing work. My mind is going over all the info compressed in to those fabulous panels. I can't wait to put

what I've learned to use.

Melissa says

A good reference book for Celtic knot work.

Bored Housewife says

Images too small

One star for this travesty. It's not hard to make an image to a discernible scale in Kindle.

But someone just hasn't bothered to format it properly and yet you're still charged a premium price!

The main focus of the book is its images but they're too small to make sense of so you can't defer to what the author is referring to.

This is supremely annoying. Pull your socks up, Amazon and start forcing publishers to ensure books are Kindle ready!!!!

Emma says

I've been picking up a lot of Celtic art books from the library recently (I'm in Scotland, so they're plentiful). This is by far my favourite. Fantastic sourcing, great essays about each section, and absolutely stunning and varied art examples. Definitely one I'll be buying to keep on my reference shelf.

Lisa Sellers says

love this book - Charlotte H. brought me copies of pages from the one in Iona Scotland. I treasure it.

Annie says

I love this book! It has helped me create some unique cross stitch designs. Plus it gives a little history. A must for crafters

Austen to Zafón says

Excellent reference for how to create Celtic knots and other designs. I used it for years.

Kenzie says

A beautiful book. I will enjoy having it as a reference for classic designs, but it's not as helpful as I thought it would be for creating my own knots. The first few pages show how the reader how to create different patterns, and it's fascinating. I'd say there is more focus on different design elements as opposed to the creation of the knots themselves.

Ryan says

I have skimmed through this book and attempted some of the techniques in it. This is a hard art form... but I'm working on it.
