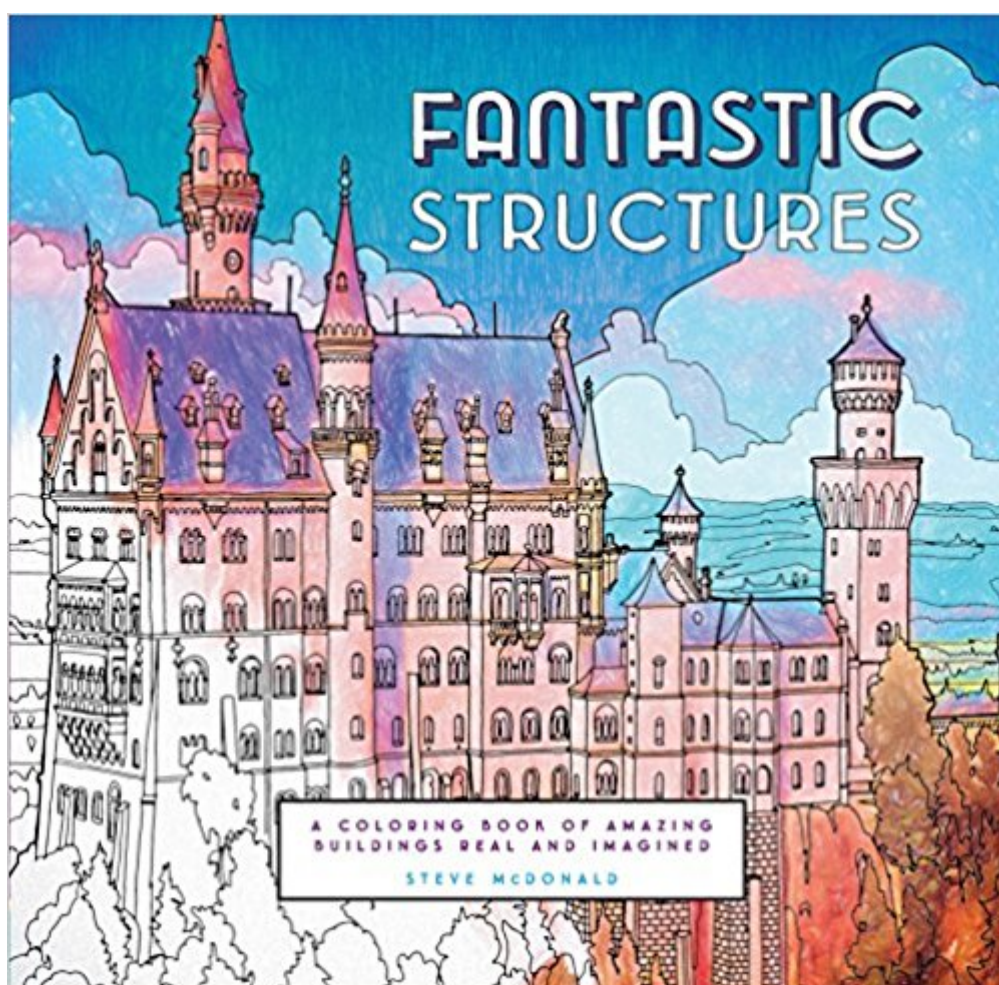


The book was found

Fantastic Structures: A Coloring Book Of Amazing Buildings Real And Imagined



Synopsis

In this eagerly awaited follow-up to the international bestseller *Fantastic Cities*, artist Steve McDonald uses his unique large-format approach working from actual photographs to create beautifully detailed line drawings of amazing buildings and other structures from around the world. The globe-trotting selection includes buildings from six continents – including Prague's Astronomical Clock, Russia's St. Basil's Cathedral, a Florentine bridge, a Romanian castle, an Indian palace, and many dozens more – alongside fun-to-color details from iconic structures such as the Eiffel Tower, London's Tower Bridge, and the Chrysler Building. The crisp white pages are conducive to a range of applications, and a middle margin keeps all the artwork fully colorable. A dozen imaginative architectural mandala illustrations round out this gorgeous adult coloring book.

Book Information

Paperback: 60 pages

Publisher: Chronicle Books; Clr Csm edition (March 15, 2016)

Language: English

ISBN-10: 145215323X

ISBN-13: 978-1452153230

Product Dimensions: 11.5 x 0.5 x 11.8 inches

Shipping Weight: 15.2 ounces (View shipping rates and policies)

Average Customer Review: 4.7 out of 5 stars 63 customer reviews

Best Sellers Rank: #111,059 in Books (See Top 100 in Books) #28 in [Books > Arts &](#)

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[Photography > Architecture > Buildings](#)

Customer Reviews

Steve McDonald is an established Toronto artist whom has been exhibiting and creating work across Canada, India, Italy, Scotland and Indonesia for the past twenty years. Steve is represented worldwide by the Illozoo illustration Agency. He graduated from the Ontario College of Art and Design with a diploma in Editorial Illustration in 1992. His work has appeared in many publications and he has held numerous shows in Toronto, Montreal, Vancouver, and India and can be found in many corporate collections (Scotia Bank, Manu-Life, OliverFinancial, Caladonia) as well as a large number of private collections. Recently Steve has become known for his highly detailed 'bird's eye view' renderings of villages, cities and rural scenes as well as his compositions of machinery and his

popular flying vehicle series. <http://artbysteve.squarespace.com/>

I purchased Steve McDonald's first coloring book, *Fantastic Cities* last year and that hooked me on coloring architectural designs. I've look for coloring books of the same quality but have not found one until Mr. McDonald's *Fantastic Structures* appeared. The coloring book is filled with 54 intricate and detailed architectural illustrations that will be great fun to color. The designs range from real to imagined. In some cases, Mr. McDonald has an illustration of a real building and then he does a riff on it with a mandala style illustration pinpointing some of the architectural details that make the building instantly recognizable. He has even included a run-way at LAX. As with *Fantastic Cities*, Mr. McDonald takes us on a trip around the world to see some outstanding examples of unusual and/or iconic buildings. I will include a photo that has the long list of the buildings, etc. which are including in the book. For my first projects in this book, I decided to use Tombow water-based markers (as they did not bleed through the paper - see coloring mediums below.) I loved making the terminal at LAX into a color wheel. I've spent too much of life waiting for planes at LAX and I could only wish to be able to look out of the drab surroundings and see a beautiful rainbow of airplanes waiting to take me on an adventure. I will provide details of the physical attributes of the book below but here is a quick overview of what I found:

- 54 Detailed and Intricate Architectural Designs
- Printed on both sides of heavyweight, non-perforated pages
- Sewn Binding
- Designs do not merge into binding area
- Book can be opened to a flat position
- Alcohol-based markers bleed through page
- Water-based markers, gel pens, and India ink artist pens do not bleed through or leave color shadows on back on page
- Coloring pencils work fantastic with this paper

The coloring book is very well made. The designs are printed on both sides of the heavyweight, non-perforated white paper. The designs do not merge into the binding area and, in fact, there is a small print listing identifying the building on the bound edge of the page. The binding is sewn with a bright color thread. You can snip those threads and remove a few page at a time in whole if you wish to remove pages from the book. That the thread is bright colored makes it easier than ever to snip them. I could press hard on the spine area and get the book to lay flat for coloring. I test all of my coloring books with a wide range of coloring medium. I will list, at the end of this review, those that I used for testing this book. Here is what my tests showed:

- Alcohol-based markers easily bleed through the page.
- Water-based markers of all types and tips and India ink pens did not bleed through or leave shadows at the back of the page.
- Gels pens did not bleed through but too more drying time that usual.
- Coloring pencils worked fantastic with the paper. The soft lead went on thick

and full and blended well. The hard lead pencils make precise lines and good color and did not dent through the back of the page. If you decide to use alcohol-based markers or another medium that might bleed through, you will lose the design on the back of the page. I plan to use my water-based markers, India ink pens, gel pens, and especially, my colored pencils with this book. That will provide a wide range of medium for me and I will be able to color on both sides of the page. These are the coloring medium that I use for testing. If there is something else you feel I should be testing, please let me know and I will see if I can add it to my growing pile:

Alcohol-based markers
 Copic Sketch, Prismacolor double ended markers (brush and fine point), Sharpies (fine and ultra-fine) Bic Mark-its (fine and ultra-fine)

Water-based markers
 Tombows dual end markers (brush and fine point), Stabilo 88, and Staedler triplus fineliners

India Ink: Faber-Castell PITT artist pens (brush tip)

Gel Pens: Sakura, Fiskars, Uni-ball Signo in the following sizes - 0.28/0.38/0.5/1.0 and Tekwriter

Coloring Pencils: Prismacolor Premier Soft Core, Derwent Colorsoft, Prismacolor Verithins, Caran D'Ache Pablo Colored Pencils and Faber-Castell Polychromos

Just as with the first book, this one has so much to look at and so many small spaces to color, and the book is of a formidable size...so there are plenty of hours of relaxation---or frustration, depending on how you view it...I love colouring books with ultra-small spaces and complex designs, and this book is great for that. The pages are dual-sided, so you must be careful what colouring tools you use to avoid bleed-through. The paper is decent quality, but markers can still bleed and ruin the next page in the book. I would recommend this for someone who really likes taking the time to colour in complex scenes with a lot of variety and detail. As before, the artist proves he is a rare talent and someone who takes his work very seriously. The ornate details in this book are truly astounding.

This is a wonderful adult coloring book!! The paper is heavy and the pages are oversized! The detail of the drawings are interesting..and this book is perfect for color pencils! I would rather the pages not be printed on the back, but other than that one drawback, it is an excellent book!!

hand drawn detailed designs ? get this book too. another must have. I used faber castell metallic pencils and monet dual brush in this picture . I hope you enjoy and make a decision on buying this wonderful book .

Love love loveeeeeeee these coloring books! Great paper so markers don't bleed through and they are large and detailed :)

Good for people who are into architectural designs. Large paper- larger than usual coloring books. My first try on such architectural designs by this artist. Probably I should stick to Hanna Karlzon, Johanna Basford and Mary Cullen's coloring books instead. Apart from that, package received earlier than anticipated. It was good.

I bought this because I have an adult son who is a graphic artist. I have my own adult coloring books and markers so when we get together I gave it to him so he could "color" with me. He found it very relaxing!

This is what I would expect for an architectural coloring book. I looked at the video which was a page turner so that I could see the size of the sheets and approximate size of the illustrations. I previously purchased another which did not meet my expectations. , quickly refunded the first order.

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