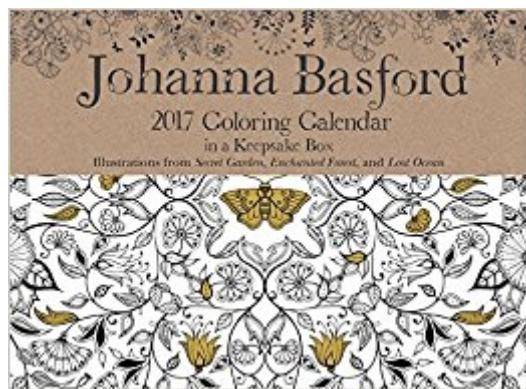


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# Johanna Basford 2017 Coloring Day-to-Day Calendar



## Synopsis

Johanna Basford's amazing 2013 bestseller Secret Garden fueled the adult coloring craze, selling an unprecedented number of copies. It was born out of the self-described "ink evangelist's" passion for the hand-drawn line and its inherent sense of energy, which is impossible to duplicate via computer-generated graphics. Her initial bestseller was quickly followed by two more as her fan base and the coloring phenomenon grew. Along the way she's lent her art to such corporate clients as Starbucks, Absolut Vodka, and Chipotle. No matter where it's encountered, her art evokes fancy in the viewer, inviting closer inspection of its hidden intricacies. Each page of this calendar contains an amazing and intricate piece of art from one of Johanna Basford's best-selling books. The keepsake box displays the current day's page and provides a place to store the pages once they're colored or to save them for later.

## Book Information

Calendar: 640 pages

Publisher: Andrews McMeel Publishing; Box Pag edition (July 12, 2016)

Language: English

ISBN-10: 1449478808

ISBN-13: 978-1449478803

Product Dimensions: 7 x 1.7 x 5.2 inches

Shipping Weight: 1.6 pounds (View shipping rates and policies)

Average Customer Review: 4.3 out of 5 stars 118 customer reviews

Best Sellers Rank: #257,009 in Books (See Top 100 in Books) #30 in Books > Calendars > Games #59 in Books > Calendars > Music #100 in Books > Calendars > Movies

## Customer Reviews

I do like Ms. Basford designs ... she has a great gift. My two complaints with this collection of drawings (taken from her larger books Secret Garden, Enchanted Forest, Lost Ocean) is that they are not printed on cardstock and many of the designs are just reductions. While the pages are done on sturdy paper, I simply prefer the cardstock weighted pages ... they seem to have more "tooth" to hold the coloring medium. So far, I've mostly used pencils, but I did try one sample page using gel pens. While the pens did not actually bleed through, the darker colored lines are easily seen when the page is flipped. Since there is no design on the back side of each page, it doesn't really bother me. But that wouldn't have been an issue had the pages been heavier weighted stock. I absolutely DO NOT like the "reduce" designs ... didn't like them on the post cards I tried, don't like them in this

collection. While keeping the whole design intact, reduction makes it so much harder to get color all the great details that Ms. Basford has drawn. So far (I haven't looked at every page yet) there have been less than anticipated, thank you very much for that. I do like coloring some of the designs I did previously ... I have two of the three books these are taken from ... so that has been a fun journey down memory laneAlthough, this is not a true criticism, I would have dearly liked the pages to have been hole punched in some way to be able to hang the calendar. But I can't have everything, so I'll deal with it and figure something out. I can be clever when the spirit strikes me ...

This is my first daily calendar set by Johanna Basford. The designs in the set are excerpted from "Secret Garden" and "Enchanted Forest" and "Lost Ocean". The pictures are generally cropped from the full design and have either been enlarged or made slightly smaller to fit the design area on the daily calendar page. The designs are really fantastic given the daily concept of the calendar. Usually, with this type of calendar, designs are small and somewhat simple. These designs are really beautiful and detailed but for the most part, are not small and difficult to color. There are a couple of designs that borderline that area but for the most part, some designs have been enlarged from what they were in their respective books and are actually easier to color (though, of course, it is only a portion of the original design.) I plan to work a few pages ahead of the calendar so I can enjoy the current day in its fully colored glory. It's a fun way to revisit some of my old favorites but still feel like I'm having a new coloring experience. I look forward to this style of calendar again in the future from Ms. Basford. The pages are a full 5 x 7 inches as is the beautiful keepsake box that the calendar sits in. The box is decorated in black and white with gold foil touches. The inside of the box is white print on black background and there is a black attached ribbon which can be used as a bookmark in the pages. The design portion of the page is slightly taller than four and one half inches by four and three eighths inches wide. The rest of the page is the calendar portion. The pages are loose leaf in the box. Monday through Friday each have their own page and Saturday and Sunday share a page. There are also four color testing pages included in this box as well. The paper is fairly thin, white and lightly smooth. The designs are printed on one side and the reverse is blank. I tested my various coloring mediums and this is what I found: Alcohol-based markers bleed through the paperWater-based markers can leave a slight shadow on the back of the pageIndia ink pens spot through the paperGel pens do not bleed through or leave shadowsColored pencils work well with the paper. While it feels smooth to the touch, I found that there was still enough tooth to the paper to get good pigment coverage, especially using multiple layers. I was also able to layer different colors

well and to blend easily using a pencil style blender stick. This was true of both oil and wax based pencils. If you use markers or India ink, I suggest that you place the page you are working on on a blotter page of heavyweight paper. Just be sure not to have another calendar page below your work and you should be fine. Otherwise, you could damage the page(s) below.

I actually purchased these not caring about the calendar aspect. I won't be coloring one a day or displaying them as a calendar. However, the paper on these is much thinner than the books, like copy paper, which makes them perfect for coloring with alcohol-based markers! I am always wanting to color the intricate designs with markers in the books, but can't because they bleed through the pages. These little papers are one-sided and perfect for this use. I'm planning to cut the days off and frame these in groups of four pictures or so, which I can then swap out every couple of months when I want something fresh to stare at on the wall. The quality of the product is very nice. The box these come in exceeded my expectations. It's a sturdy little cardboard box embossed with the same gold embellishments as the book covers. The only thing I would like to see is the pages glued across the top (like some page-a-day calendars) so that they are less likely to fall out/blow away but still easy to remove for coloring. I also think the picture itself could make up a larger percentage of the page. The pictures are square, about 5x5, leaving the date part about 2x5. Despite the small size, the pictures (mostly) look like they're about the same size as in the original books, so they won't be so minuscule they're impossible to color. Overall, this is a great product.

I absolutely love Johanna Basford's drawings but I was extremely disappointed with the flimsy paper used for this daily calendar. I think the top page would blow away just from someone walking past my desk!

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