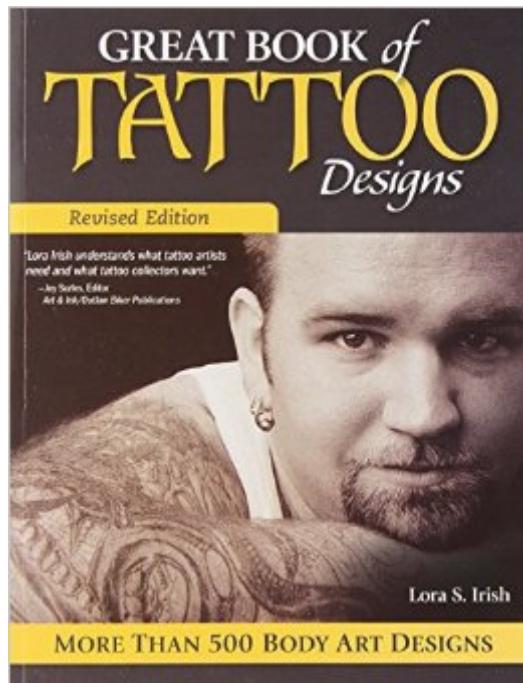


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# Great Book Of Tattoo Designs, Revised Edition: More Than 500 Body Art Designs



## Synopsis

From delicate roses to majestic animals, from steampunk to Celtic, from fairies to Mayan warriors, this comprehensive collection of original artwork presents all of today's most popular tattoo subjects. Nationally recognized graphic designer Lora S. Irish looks at the human body with an artist's eye, to create designs that look great on skin. Over 500 exquisite patterns strike the perfect balance between artistic vision and the practical demands of needle and ink.

## Book Information

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Average Customer Review: 3.5 out of 5 starsÂ  See all reviewsÂ  (35 customer reviews)

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## Customer Reviews

I ordered this book thinking it would have tons of different tattoo ideas. While it does, it has a lot of the same thing. Like 40 pages of the "Green Man." I dont see many tattoos of the green man, and to have 40 pages of it...also they have lighthouses?...well, draw your own conclusions. The dragons are really cool, but so many of the wildlife ones are for painting, not really tattoo quality. And the symbols section leaves a lot to be desired. Lots of crosses, which is fine, but nothing for modern symbols. And lastly the floral section. Only one rose, which i really like roses, so i thought that kinda sucked. A nice book overall, but if you are looking for a lot of variaty, look someplace else.

I saw a few pics of pages from this book and grabbed it. Not because I will ever get a tattoo, let alone ever create one. I wanted the designs for tracing for illuminations (on SCA scrolls) and for straight-up coloring. And this book has many lovely designs for both of those purposes. There is a mix of line art and shaded art; the latter cries out to be done with watercolor washes as overlays. The book loses stars for coloring purposes from the ultrathin paper and binding. The paper

is almost transparent, with the designs from the other side pretty clearly visible through most of the pages. I'm going to have to scan and print, which means basically disassemble the book, because it's physically small but thick, and the perfect-bound binding does NOT lay flat. I'm wishing there was an electronic version where I could just print the pages I want, but oh well. For tattoo purposes, it's a weird assortment of images. Way too many variations on some themes, while other themes I commonly see in tattoos almost completely absent. Many of the animal designs look like they came straight from Dover coloring books. There are a lot that look like pencil drawings (lovely ones), and then pen-and-ink versions of the same drawing -- but the latter look flawed or awkward, drawn using only a single pen size. I had a decent idea what I was getting, and given that I do coloring and several crafts where these assorted designs could be useful, I'll get my money's worth out of the book. But if you're a specialist artist, artisan, or crafter, you might not.

It is painfully obvious that Ms. Irish is not a tattoo artist. In fact, she is a wood carver, and has written many books about that. Well, I am here to tell you that woodcarving designs do NOT make for good tattoo designs. I have been a tattoo artist for ten years, and I can say this book contains some of the worst art I have seen in quite a while. The line drawings are poorly executed, with very thick lines, which look suspiciously like 14th century woodcuts. I wonder why. The designs depicted in this book are poorly drawn and unrealistically shaded. If you want realism in your tattoo design, then this is the worst place to look. I have no idea how this book actually found a publisher.

Lora S. Irish is a talented artist and this plain book is a nice step-stone for designers and other artists to glean ideas, and not just for tattoos. As a matter of fact, I don't really think the designs in the book are very contemporary as far as body-art designs go today. While not the most complicated set of designs, she shows very well how to increase their complexity and interest. Her line-drawings are supplemented by shaded drawings which illustrate how the design can be embellished and come to life. As a reference or guide, this book is very useful. It is rather thick to be copied or scanned and you will have to either remove the pages or break the back to successfully do either, unless you are hand-copying with transfer paper. I highly recommend it as an addition to your design-source library for pyrography (wood burning), carving, painting, and yes, even for a tattoo.

I acquired this book with the intent of getting leather crafting ideas for tooling. It has certainly met that need. As tattoo as very two dimensional in application, it is difficult for this individual to visualize

the impact of a 3-D relief. However, the designs offered vary significantly from traditional leather carving patterns. This will provide for some uniquely tooled projects.

I've seen other books done by Lora Irish and knew this one would be good too. The pictures are very well done and show all the details necessary to use as inspiration for my art. The price was good and the book is in good condition.

Its ok if ur into basic designs but its not anything I would show to my clients for them to get ideas from.

This is a very mixed bag of a book and unevenly weighted in concepts. Too many of one thing and not enough of others. The animal section is a complete waste of time unless you like ducks and pheasant. Most of the four-legged animals are out of proportion. If you are looking for good representations of bison, big cats, wolves or elk, please look somewhere else. The Celtic section is very good, except, as has been noted above...way too many crosses. I realize that one person cannot anticipate what everyone else needs or wants, but I felt there could have been more of a balance in what was portrayed. I feel I wasted my money, and am still looking for a good book on tattoo line art.

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