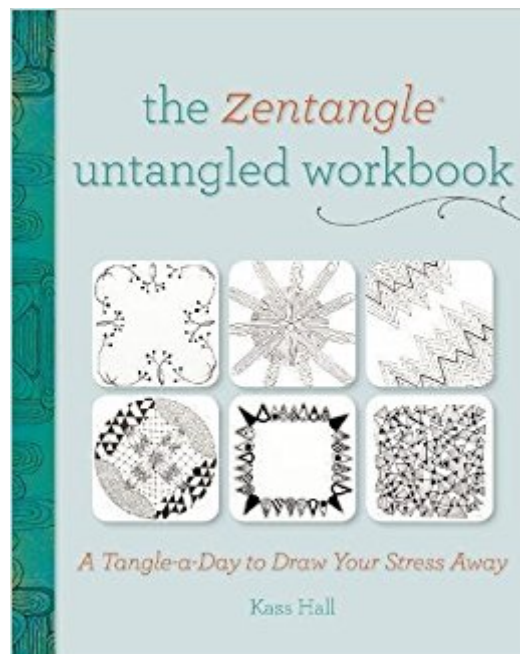




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The Zentangle Untangled Workbook: A Tangle-a-Day To Draw Your Stress Away



Synopsis

"Life is short, certainly too short to be concerned too much with rules about drawing." --Kass Hall
In *Zentangle Untangled*, Kass Hall introduced you to the relaxing, innovative art of Zentangle. Now in *The Zentangle Untangled Workbook*, you'll get enough Zentangle instruction and inspiration to last all year long. Filled with dozens of new tiles and four never-before seen tangles designed especially for this book, you'll be using Zentangle in ways you never dreamed. Create shapes, letterforms, borders, even Zendalas as you master each new tangle, all while reducing stress through the intentional act of creating repetitive patterns. Perfect for artists of all levels, this workbook will immerse you in a daily meditation of Zentangle. Inside you'll find: Seven step-by-step demonstrations to help you get started. Inspiration and guidance on how to use those tangles to create unique and beautiful tiles throughout the year. More than 400 blank or partially started tiles so you can practice all year inside this book and without the fear of the blank page. It's time to tangle!

Book Information

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Customer Reviews

Kass Hall is an Australian mixed-media artist and writer. She has worked in the arts fields in Australia and Canada, and has published articles in magazines and newspapers in various countries. Her first book, *Zentangle Untangled*, was published in 2012. Visit Kass at her website, kasshall.com.

I pre-ordered this book with the understanding of all the caveats Kass and Northern Lights had stated, such as it was for beginners, more experienced tangles may not find it as helpful as other books. These comments did not deter me, but they did help set my expectations. I cannot in all honesty give the book a five star rating (because of some of the issues Kass raises in her video, which are all very valid and answer my niggling concerns) but it is definitely worth the money - especially if you know what you are getting, and don't come to it with expectations of what YOU THINK it should be. Believe me, in many ways, the book went far beyond my expectations. Certainly I do not see it as lasting a whole year, but I relish the idea of exploring each tangle in-depth. By learning to look at a limited number of tangles in a close and careful way, it will inform how I approach other tangles in different circumstances and settings. A good teacher opens your mind to possibilities - if you were in a class, you would not expect the teacher to explore the whole spectrum of possibilities, but you would expect her to focus on certain aspects, ensure you understood them and were able to use them in the wider world of your creative exploration. This is exactly what Kass has done, but in book form. There are reasons for the decisions made about spiral binding etc etc. Kass has addressed these very eloquently in a video you can find on her site. I won't try to summarize them, but I urge you to go to her website and just listen to what she has to say. Some suggestions I have: Because the book is meant to be a workbook - actually break the pages from the spine and put them into a three ring binder. Enlarge the tile practice pages onto more toothy paper and then add them to the appropriate spot in the workbook file. I love the idea of using a .005 pen on the smaller tiles to practice - that adds yet another element to drawing patterns - there is a huge difference between what you can do with an .01 pen and a .005 (don't forget, people are using zentangles on tiny jewellery components, key ring fobs etc) - look at those smaller tiles as a chance to try out miniaturized zentangle - you may, or may not like it, but hey! It's worth a try, and if you don't like it, see above and enlarge the tiles! Use the copied practice pages to explore other patterns you like, using the same exploration suggestions Kass has articulated. This will become a useful reference and visual log of your creative growth. This is, as was the Zentangle Untangled book, a different approach to Zentangle - and learning about it. It was never mis-represented in the pre-publication descriptions - and I think it is a case of buyer beware - you've been told what to expect - you order without seeing and/or taking advantage of the look inside feature (which was an extremely fair and honest view of the book) and then complain. Pre-ordering a book shows either a trust in the author, or a desire to add to your library sight unseen, "just because". In the latter case, it is very unfair to the author and publisher who have been frank and honest in their pre-publication materials, to write scathing reviews, when you chose to buy the book without seeing it first.

I am a CZT (Certified Zentangle Teacher) and own Kass Hall's other book, Zentangle Untangled. I ordered this workbook despite the less-than-favorable reviews here on , and I'm glad I did. I do agree that it will never take a full year to complete the exercises in the book, nor does it take a whole week to practice the tangle "Blossom", for example. And I also can understand the reviews that express a desire for more tangles rather than a few tangles presented in various ways. However, there is a silver lining with this book: if you work through the versions of each tangle (shading, color, letters, zendalas) as they're presented, you will have a good lesson in working a tangle from every angle. Yes, the practice 'tiles' are small squares -- but that can also be a good practice for drawing tangles smaller. Dig out your .005 Microns, folks! Another positive is the sample Zendala patterns--they are all different. This will help many to expand their zendala composition skills, no doubt. If you view this Workbook as 51 DAYS of tangles rather than 51 weeks, it may make more sense. Is it as full and challenging a volume as others out there? Probably not for most. There are plenty of books that have dozens of tangles in them; books we refer to when looking for an interesting tangle, or something new. Kass Hall's workbook presents a different way to explore tangles. Less depth and more width, perhaps? Before ruling this one out, take a closer look. You may be pleasantly surprised.

I had to order the original book, Zentangle Untangled. Although I own a vast array of art/craft books, rarely do I order a succession of books from the same author. This book is great, but as it references the original book, I feel I *need* to add the original book to my collection. I am impressed with this Workbook so I can't wait to see what my experience will be when I have both volumes in my possession. I am not hugely into Zentangle. I've watched the movement unfold and grow over the last few years, but it isn't a technique that's gotten "in my blood". It is an enjoyable technique, a peacefully creative way to end a day, and beautiful results can be had by anyone. The very nature of Zentangling is relaxed and a kind of "whatever happens, happens". I love seeing the pictures (doodles?) people create with all the tangles, and learning about new designs. This is a great book for that. Some are complaining about there only being 7 new tangles, but I like that. It gives the reader something to focus on and become good at. I would rather really know how to work on a tangle and stretch its limits - than have an unlimited supply of tangles I never use...or worse, get confused. This book is laid out to remove the pressure from learning Zentangles, set up in a format that makes it easy to spend as long (or as little) time on it as you like. I also enjoy the explanations and thoughts behind the tangles included - I love knowing how the tangle originated, helpful tips and

tricks, and ideas about using the tangle. Kass Hall provides all this information and more. If you are a Zentangle "collector" and know all the tangles around, this book may be slow for you. If you enjoy dabbling in the art of Zentangling - and want to learn a few new tangles, have a place to practice, and feel that you have a good friend sitting next to you at the kitchen table offering experience, some background, and a lot of encouragement - this is a fantastic book to get. My usual experience is to look through art books several times, sometimes even completing a project or two from the book. I enjoy picking and choosing techniques to learn - but then it's onto the next book. This book has remained in my car so I can work on it while I wait to shuttle kids here and there. I reach for it again and again - and I love how I can concentrate on a few tangles. Kass has provided lots and lots of practice squares - which provides a great place to see just how far you've come.

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