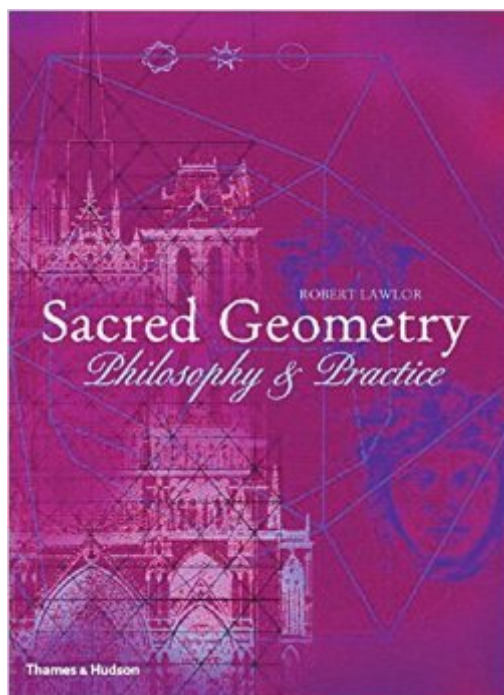


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# Sacred Geometry: Philosophy & Practice (Art And Imagination)



## Synopsis

An introduction to the geometry which, as modern science now confirms, underlies the structure of the universe. The thinkers of ancient Egypt, Greece and India recognized that numbers governed much of what they saw in their world and hence provided an approach to its divine creator. Robert Lawlor sets out the system that determines the dimension and the form of both man-made and natural structures, from Gothic cathedrals to flowers, from music to the human body. By also involving the reader in practical experiments, he leads with ease from simple principles to a grasp of the logarithmic spiral, the Golden Proportion, the squaring of the circle and other ubiquitous ratios and proportions. Art and Imagination: These large-format, gloriously-illustrated paperbacks cover Eastern and Western religion and philosophy, including myth and magic, alchemy and astrology. The distinguished authors bring a wealth of knowledge, visionary thinking and accessible writing to each intriguing subject. 202 illustrations and diagrams, 56 in two colors

## Book Information

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## Customer Reviews

This 112 page workbook explores sacred geometry using illustrations from science and art, such as Islamic tiles, atomic structure, architectural proportions and fine art. Nine workbooks within 10 chapters lead one through geometric constructions using only a pencil, compass, straight-edge and graph paper. Includes the Vesica Piscis, Golden Section, Squaring the Circle, Geometry and Music, the Platonic Solids and more. Interspersed with philosophy about the meanings and symbolism of sacred geometry. I love this book and use it in my art.

Lawlor's book has been in my library since 1990. Excellent general presentation on the arts of sacred geometry and mandala. I've read it dozens of times, often for looking for analytical knowledge but sometimes just enjoying the soothing flow of beautiful illustration. Much insight is skillfully enclosed in this slender volume. Highly recommended!

There is a gulf between the promise of this book and what it actually delivers. The idea of exploring the deeper meaning of geometry (there is some wonderful insight here), and the approach of making it a doing experience for the reader are both worthy of praise. Unfortunately, like many books of this type, it is also riddled by mistakes: vague and/or spurious conclusions/interpretations, sometimes confusing layouts and printing, typos, misdirections, and enough false statements and faulty calculations that my trust in this book was steadily replaced by skepticism and annoyance. It seemed as though I was doing as much proofreading as learning. Whether all of the fault lies with the author is a question. Perhaps proofreaders and editors are called upon to check material they don't fully grasp. Or perhaps no one concerned expects us to study these books too carefully.

I have been looking for a good book on this subject and this one does not disappoint one bit! The author goes through step by step from the simple concepts to the complex complete with many illustrations and even excercises so that you can experience the "magic" of geometry yourself. I could not imagine getting the same level of understanding from a book without all the diagrams to see the relationships. More of a workbook than a text book, but packed with information and history. I would rate this as an essential book for anyone's library who is interested in understanding religious symbols, architecture, mathematics, and the beauty of the creation we find ourselves in.

Sacred Geometry: Philosophy and Practice is a book by Robert Lawlor designed to introduce the topic of geometry as it applies to modern structures. First, Lawlor discusses the great thinkers throughout ancient civilizations as well as the ways geometry shaped their beliefs. he does on to define additional components of geometry, the "study of spatial order through the measure and relationship of forms."One of the best reasons to pick up this 112-page book is because you want to immerse yourself in a workbook that is full of illustrations. Lawlor uses examples from fine art, atomic structure, and various other components. This real-life spin on topics most of us might find inaccessible makes geometry that much simpler.This book is designed for the hands-on learner. Lawlor introduces the concepts of geometry in a way that you can understand even the more complex principles. He sticks to facts in this seemingly short book, which still packs quite a

punch. Lawlor is qualified to write a book about art, beauty, and geometry, not only as a painter and sculptor, but also a historian of ancient science. Ultimately this book demonstrates that geometry plays a role in every aspect of beauty, from a single wildflower to the majestic Gothic cathedrals men built long ago. The interactivity of this book allows readers to truly engage in the exercises and to find clarity on difficult topics. Artists would greatly benefit from reading this book, as would they also benefit from *The Painter's Secret Geometry: A Study of Composition in Art*.

This book is very enjoyable. It not only explains what sacred geometry is, it gives you exercises to do using basic tools like a compass, graph paper and a pencil. After reading and doing the fun and educational illustrations, you'll be looking for sacred geometry everywhere around you as well as spotting it in famous works of art and architecture.

Very, very insightful intro to sacred geometry. If not familiar with this topic, I would suggest one first read the book to get your feet wet in a new way of perceiving what's around you. Then go back, re-read it slowly, and carefully do the math (which isn't difficult, really) and make the geometric constructs on graph paper like the author suggests. You have to do the exercises for it all to fully sink in, and achieve greater comprehension. This book is quietly profound. I only wish it was longer and for this talented author to get into the deeper end of the pool. Lawlor's commentary is often provocative and compelling.

*Sacred Geometry* was a text for the New Chartres School sponsored by Wisdom University in Chartres, France July 3-9. The book illuminated most of the geometrically related information which we experienced hands-on in our class with Richard Henry, British Geometrist. Richard led in making multi-dimensional shapes from point to dodecahedron and beyond! These forms were described and attributed historically, illustrated and defined for construction in the book which is comprehensive for understanding, making and looking at geometry relationally. It is an essential asset in the study of Geometry. I love this book and will share it with friends new to its information. Lynne Z

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