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## Zendoodle

*Susanne Schaadt*

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# Zendoodle

Meditative drawing to calm  
your inner self

Susanne Schaadt

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tracings

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**Susanne Schaadt : Zendoodle** before purchasing it in order to gauge whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised Zendoodle:

0 of 0 people found the following review helpful. Five Stars By L. M. Rector It's a fun book to use and look at. Thank you!  
0 of 0 people found the following review helpful. Four Stars By MizzMargrutf great book  
1 of 1 people found the following review helpful. Great addition to my doodle library!  
By Penelope I picked this up locally yesterday. Spent the evening playing with it and already love it! It features a great selection of patterns divided by type (including some interesting band designs) and numerous templates to trace and fill. There are also some string ideas I haven't seen before. There is a lot of inspiration packed into this volume! It is a good weight and size for doodling on the go. Glad I found it!

Drawing should always be a fun pastime; it's a great way to relax and let your imagination run wild. It can also be a fantastic meditative exercise. All you need is some paper, some pens and pencils and you're ready to unwind. The

Japanese word "zen" means meditation and when you combine this concept with these simple yet stunning drawings you get "zendoodle". The projects are designed by therapist and art education professional Susanne Schaadt and are intended to bring calm and help focus the mind. The idea is that drawing simple and repetitive patterns relaxes the mind bringing about a sense of calm while allowing your creativity to flow.

In an increasingly busy world it is vital to take time out and relax. One way to aid this and enter a zen-like state of mindfulness is in activities like drawing and coloring, and here is a method that involves all of this and more. This book is subtitled "Meditative drawing to calm your inner self" and this describes the process in a nutshell. Using just plain paper and a fineline black pen fill shapes in with repetitive patterns, adding color if desired. Here are pages of sample patterns to start you off, blank shapes to trace/photocopy/scan and print and ideas as to what to draw and what to do with your finished work. After a brief description of the method this book gets on with the practical, showing how to draw each pattern in simple steps. Each step adds the new lines in red, the existing part drawn in black so you can easily see what is happening. There are geometric patterns, scattered shapes, individual drawings and decorative lines as well as ideas on dividing up shapes and tips for using the book with children. I was instantly itching to get started and pleasantly surprised at how easy it was to produce something attractive, and by the fact that here at least was one craft that did not involve a lot of spending! There are some ideas as to what to do with your work and at the back a handy overview of the patterns although putting this at the front and making each thumbnail sketch a bit larger would have been even better. This aside this is the best book of its kind I have seen and definitely one for the keeper shelf. \* Rachel Hyde - Myshef.com \* These simple yet stunning designs will help relax your mind while allowing your creativity to flow. Therapist and art educational professional Susanne Schaadt shows you how to achieve a state of 'zen' with these beautiful meditative drawing exercises. Perfect for children and adults alike. Drawing should always be a fun pastime; its a great way to relax and let your imagination run wild. It can also be used as a fantastic meditative exercise. All you need is some paper, some pens and some pencils and you're ready to unwind. The Japanese word 'zen' means meditation and when you combine this concept with these simple yet stunning drawings you get 'zendoodle'. The projects are designed by therapist and art education professional Susanne Schaadt and are intended to bring calm and help focus the mind. \* Hot Brands, Cool Places \* The basic idea is that you take recognisable forms - plants, buildings, butterflies and so on -and add patterns to them. At first I thought it was an extension of adult colouring which, I'm sorry, leaves me absolutely cold, and that's not something I welcome with the onset of autumn. It's not, though, and the subtitle gives you a clue as to what the idea is: Meditative drawing to calm your inner self. So, pretty new-age-y then. I love Zen, it can mean anything you want it to. Actually, that's part of the point and anything that starts your mind thinking about something else so that it can have its reasons, its homeland and thoughts of its own (to quote the Grateful Dead, one of the most head-expanding bands there's been). I am, after all, a great fan of staring into space and it's how a lot of these reviews start. I need a tabula rasa where my thoughts can start to take shape. Just reading the books ain't enough. Oh, no. \* Artbookreview.net \* Creativity and meditation combine in the zendoodle process, which applies a bit of structure and repetition to otherwise free-flowing doodling. Many zendoodle practitioners find it calming to focus their attention on one thing while producing pleasing designs as they go. This simple, slim guide by therapist and artist Schaadt has everything a reader needs to get started on this rewarding and relaxing pastime. A section on basic patterns demonstrates simple instructions, with the aid of sequential drawings, various ink colors, and written descriptions for how to draw various types of patterns, such as area, geometric, scatter, and band patterns. Other chapters illustrate larger zendoodle motifs and show examples of finished works. One includes templates that the reader can scan, photocopy, or trace with tracing paper to use as starting points for their drawings. A clever visual index of pattern types is included at the back of the book. VERDICT Readers of all abilities and ages will be attracted to the meditative and creative qualities of the zendoodle \* Library Journal USA \*About the AuthorSusanne Schaadt studied mathematics, pedagogy and psychology at the Bielefeld University in Germany. After many years working as a therapist with children and young people, she now works exclusively as a freelance artist and writer specializing in painting, creative art and art education.