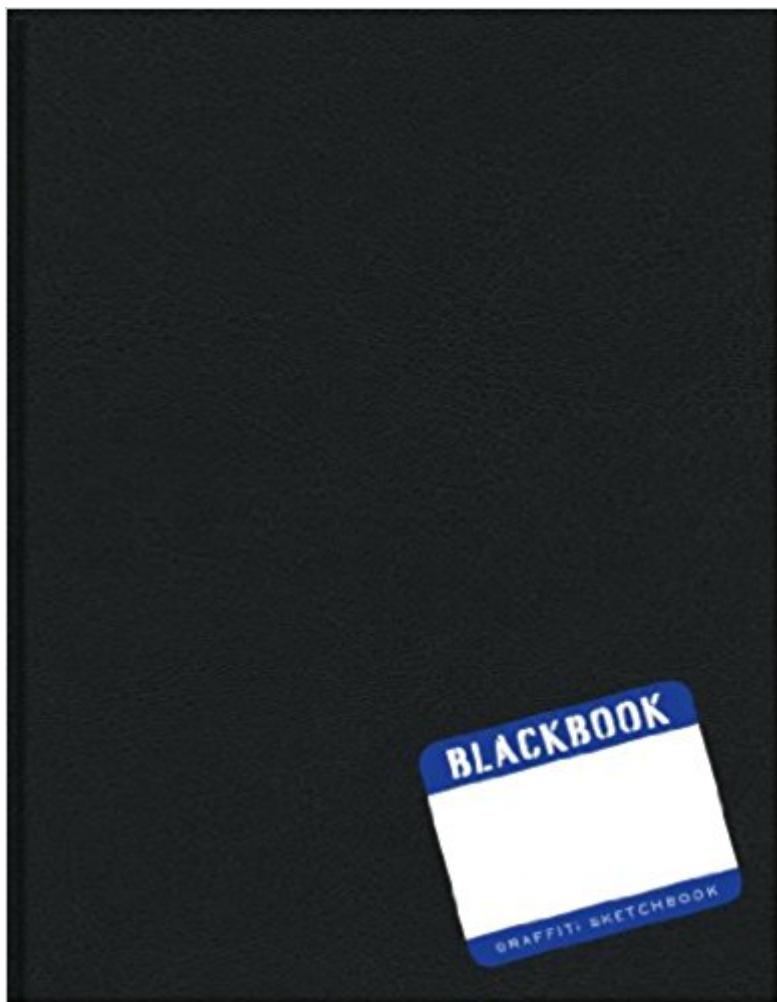


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# Blackbook: Graffiti Sketchbook



## Synopsis

This blank volume is aimed at the hip, young, creative graffiti artist. Containing plain pages as well as graph paper and vellum inserts, it resembles the hardcover "blackbook" that's a must-have for graffiti artists. Not only will artists use it for plotting out designs, but also for writing notes and as an all-in-one portfolio for their best work.

## Book Information

Hardcover: 176 pages

Publisher: Sterling (April 1, 2014)

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Product Dimensions: 8.6 x 0.8 x 11 inches

Shipping Weight: 2 pounds (View shipping rates and policies)

Average Customer Review: 4.6 out of 5 stars 114 customer reviews

Best Sellers Rank: #408,963 in Books (See Top 100 in Books) #82 in Books > Arts & Photography > Other Media > Graffiti & Street Art #4042 in Books > Arts & Photography > Drawing

## Customer Reviews

This sketchbook is pretty cool. I messed up mine in the front trying to get that paper off though... they didn't come off easily and I wrecked it with clorox wipes LOL. But I'm not blaming the brand for that, it was my fault. For under 9 dollars, it's hard cover, you get graphing paper, a solid quality paper in general. It also has a mini cloth bookmark that I wasn't expecting. I tried Koi brush pens (water based markers) on these and they didn't even bleed through. Though those markers in general don't bleed. I tried sharpie markers and it bled pretty bad. But sharpie markers in general bleed through EVERYTHING. If you don't want markers that bleed, look into Sakura products. They don't bleed and are solid colors, especially black. It's also white paper, not creamed colored. Graphing paper in the back, about 20+ sheets. I think it's a nice touch, especially for graphic designs or any sort of designing. In all while I was looking at other sketch books, the price is amazing. I really wanted a hard cover one that was good price, and this is it. If you guys want a BINEDD, hardcover sketchbook for the same price, look into this same brand. They have a book with more pages (no graphing paper), hard cover, binded. STILL under 9 dollars. The stickers came off so easily on the other larger book too, unlike this one, I guess it could be my luck. Also it's not heavy, and the size is

great. Depends if you choose to have an 8.5in x 11inch book or not lol.

This sketchbook is freakin great. I've carried this thing with me every single day for about 8 months, even through a month and a half trip traveling through Europe and this book is still solid. I have definitely put this thing through a lot of stress, so the binding has started to come loose, but seriously, I am the extreme case. I am a professional graphic designer but also am a graffiti artist/writer on the side. I've used this for a ton of writing (pen/pencil/marker/highlighted), drawing, marker'd up, and even tested out some of my paint on it for my graf sketches. I've never had a problem or wanted anything else from it. Specs: Paper: Sturdy clean white paper makes up the majority (~170 pages) with about 30 sheets of graph paper in the back. Graph paper is an awesome touch (perforated so you can remove easily to!), The other paper does not bleed or smudge like typical drawing sketchbooks will (the paper is different), which I really preferred. Binding: Solid, textbook style perfect binding. Hardcover is thick and lets this thing take a beating and keep going. Optional nametag on the front (I removed this (easily) and just wrote on the inside cover) The book opens wide and stays that way while you're working (doesn't keep closing on you). Size: Regular 8.5" x 11" paper. Overall this is the best sketchbook I've ever had, I'd definitely recommend it. I'm back to buy two more for my girlfriend and I and I just had to write this review.

For the price, this is a great blackbook. The sticker on the front (and, surprisingly, it is an actual sticker- not just printed on) is a bit corny, I may wind up covering it with another sticker or something. Lots of nice touches like the rear pocket, perforated pages, and a bunch of grid-lined pages at the back of the book. I would have been happy with the decent quality paper and binding alone, but those added features are nice to have. The perforations also make the paper lay a little flatter towards the inside of the pages which makes it just a bit easy to sketch using the full area of each page. The paper is quite satisfying to draw on. I use pencil and ink, and it takes those media easily. My heaviest black markers, a copic and Pilot marker bleed through, though - but those are pretty hefty inks that seem to bleed through lots of kinds of paper. Microns, fountain pen, etc. are all good.

3 1/2 stars. The hardcover is attractive and sturdy, the strap that holds the book closed and the built-in bookmark are great, and the pouch in the back to hold scrap and other loose paper is nice feature. The size is great for larger sketches and practicing, containing a lot of pages. Overall this is a decent sketchbook, however, I don't think I will buy again. The cover came

slightly damaged: one corner is a bit bent and the bottom of the hardcover is actually ripped near the binding. Not super obvious but shouldn't be there as a brand new book. There's some graph paper with splotchy marks on it, again not a huge deal, but annoying. The paper is great for sketching, just be aware that if you have a heavy hand your pencil strokes will indent the paper to the point where you can feel the lines on the backside of the page and even slightly on the next page. I initially used Col-erase pencils, but thinking maybe these shouldn't be used with this paper I switched to graphite and again noticed that if I went over lines to darken and pressed too hard, the paper reacted the same way, but I had to press significantly harder than with the Col-erase. I only mention this because I've never had sketchbook paper react this way. I also use the Canson Mixed Media sketchbooks, which can take bit of a beating, so this was more noticeable for me. These issues aren't deal breakers in my opinion, the damage could have happened in travel, and the paper works for everyday sketching. I'm just noting them for other people. The pages are perforated, which I love in a sketchbook, for easy removal and also taping the pages back in if you want. However, after only using the very first page, the bottom started to separate.

I'm now only four pages into the book and the first three are already loose. I was hoping it was a fluke thing and only the first page would be a problem, but it's continuing on with each page. This stinks. Being able to remove a page easily for transferring to a stronger, heavier weighted paper is a great feature, but this is more like it's falling apart; pages I don't want to remove may end up falling out. (I guess I can stick them in the back pouch.) I'm going to continue using this sketchbook, taping the loose parts together. :) I hope this review was helpful.

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