

Art Challenge!

KS 2 Islamic Art

Islamic art is very different to art found in Europe. Art in Islam is dominated by geometric designs usually with patterns, colour, texture and calligraphy. Islamic art is different because it is not just decorative but reminds the viewer of Allah (pbuh), the name Muslims give to their God. A lot of Islamic art is used for carpets, on buildings, especially mosques, as well as to hang on the wall. Lots of the art on buildings is made from tiles like these:



Islamic Art
MORROCCAN ZILLIJ TILES & MOSAIC

They are made into complicated patterns.

From an early age, Muslim children are taught to avoid drawing humans or animals so we do not see them in Islamic art. Arabesque Islamic art often has flower, leaf or stem shapes.

Types of Islamic Art



Calligraphy



Geometric

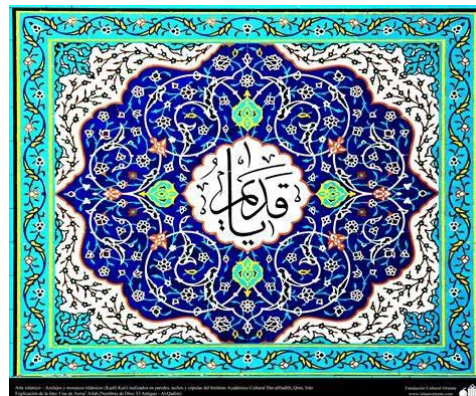


Arabesque

Some Islamic art uses two or three types together.

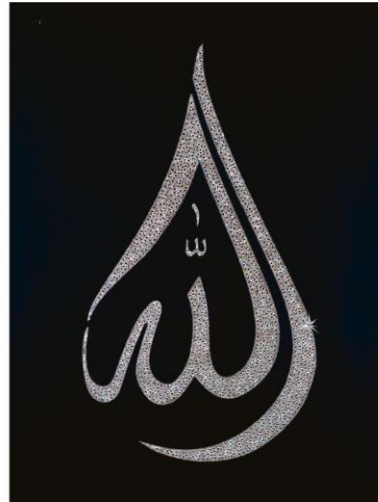
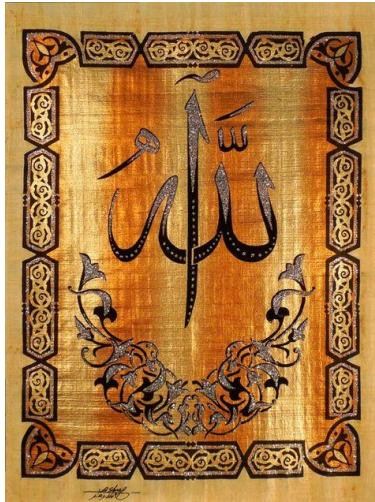


a modern tile



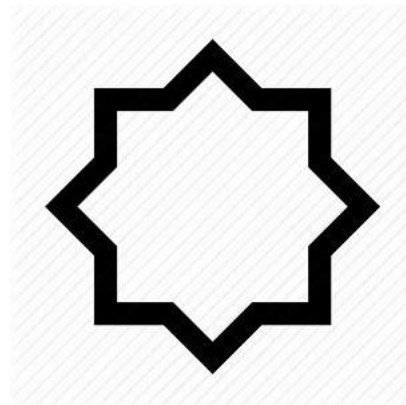
a rug

Calligraphy; both say Allah but are in traditional and modern styles.



Which do you think is the modern style?

Geometric



This is the dome of a mosque in Iran. Can you see the 8-pointed star design on the top part? This is a very common design in Islamic art and is made in many different colours, though blue is very common.

Arabesque



Can you see leaves stems and flowers on this tile?

Activity: Work in the style of Islamic Artists

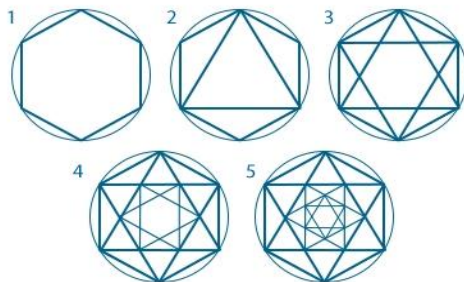
1. Colour the arabesque design in 2 different colour schemes. Try one with cold colours (eg blue, purple, green) and one with hot colours (red, orange yellow etc)
 - a. Evaluate the two colour designs and say which you prefer and why
 - b. Use it to decorate your wall, or make a card

2. Colour the geometric design.

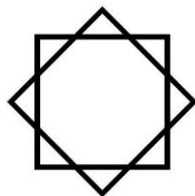
- a. Look first at the different shapes that have been used and list them. (CLUE quadrilaterals, hexagons and more.....)
- b. Think about which colours you liked better on the arabesque design and use that if you like.
- c. Colour all the shapes that are the same shape and size in the same colour. You might want to mark them with a little dot in the correct colour first.
- d. Use it to decorate your wall, or make a card

3. CHALLENGE YOURSELF!

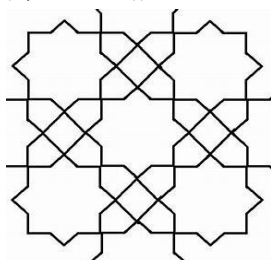
- a. Try to draw a 6-pointed star like this. Colour your design

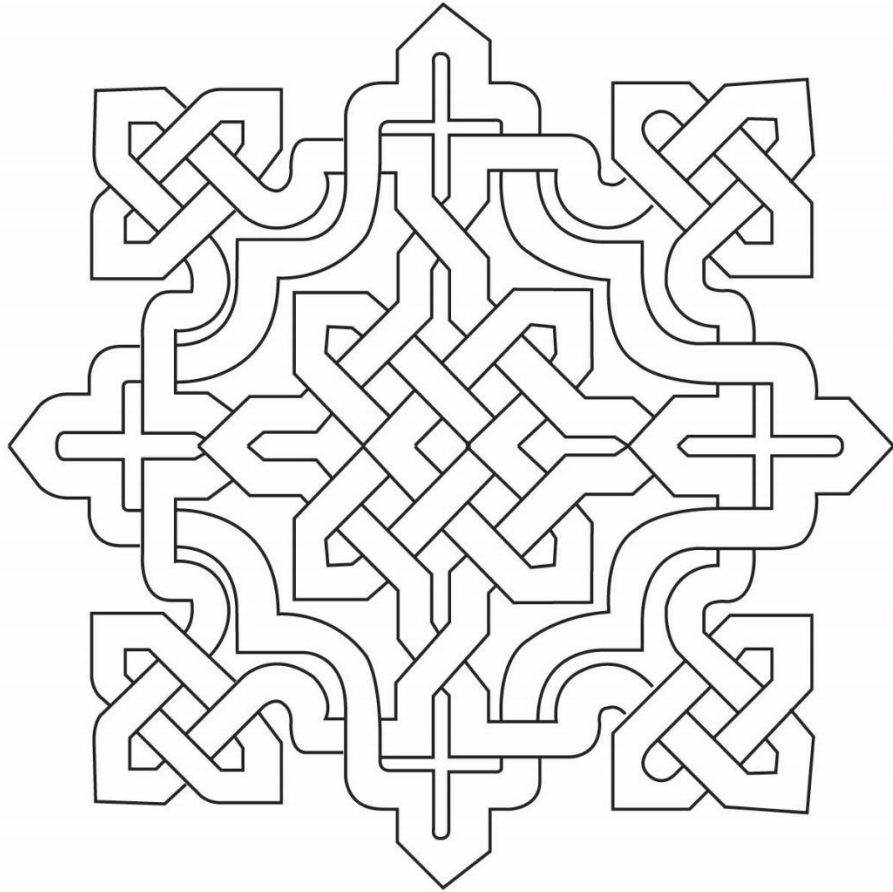


- b. Draw some 8 pointed stars by drawing 2 squares and colour them in different ways

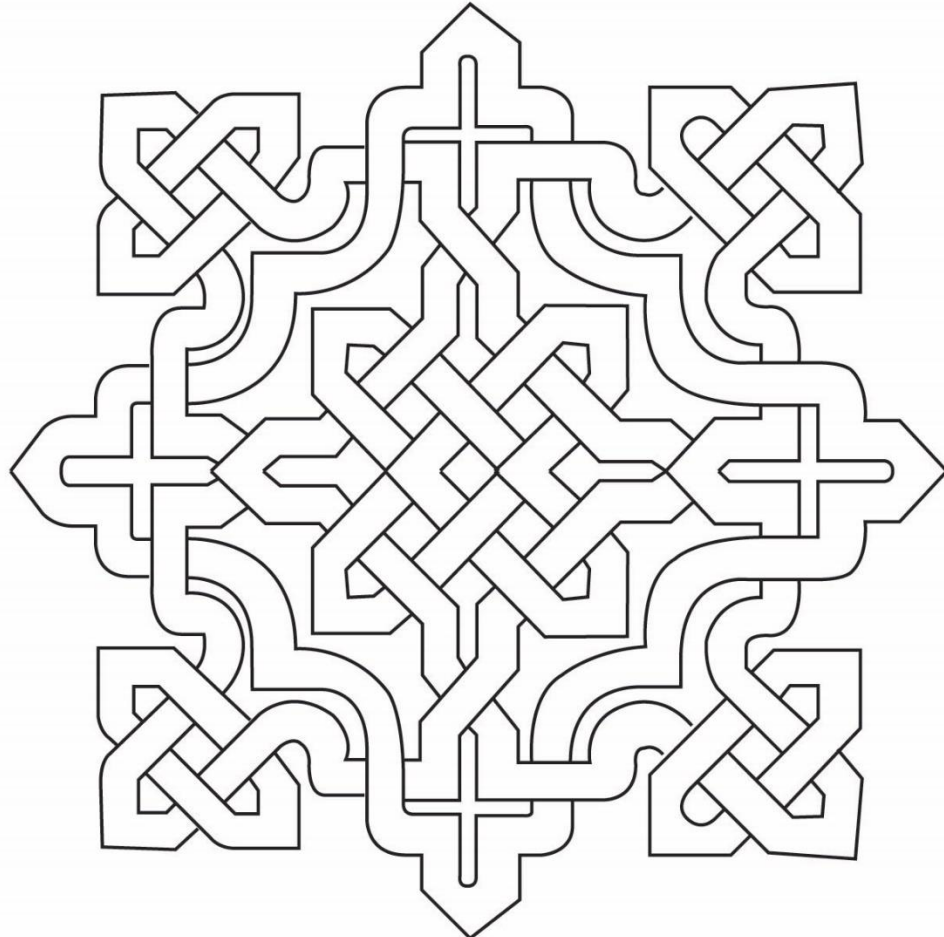


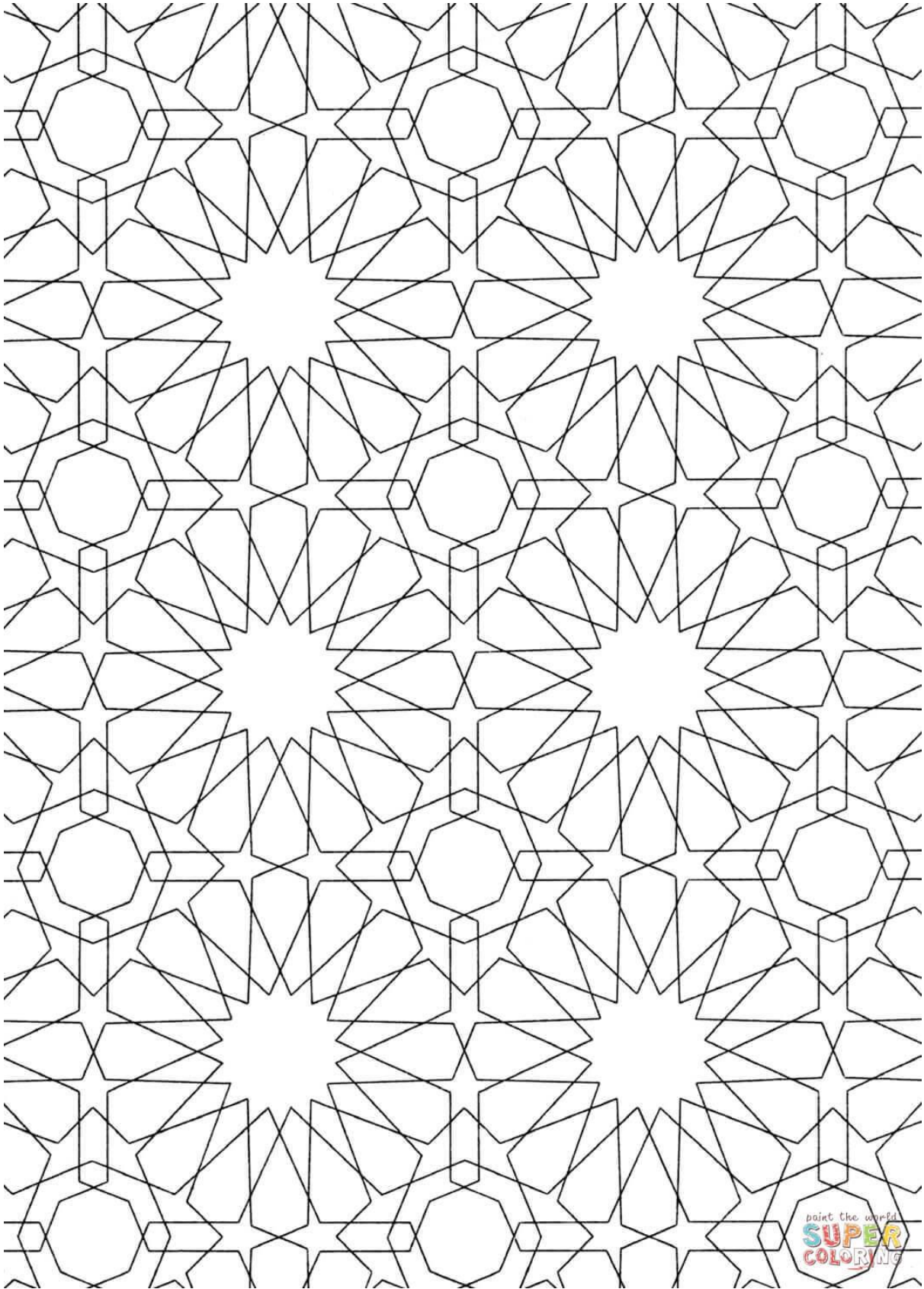
- c. Try this one for a real challenge!
Make them tessellate by using other shapes in between.





An arabesque tile design.





paint the world
SUPER
COLORING

A design using lots of geometric shapes