

How to fold an origami





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1. Start with a square piece of paper.









4. Fold side corners to center from the top, unfold.



6b.



8. Result: Fish base. Rotate 180° so flaps point down.

2. Fold and unfold.



5. Fold in half horizontally to precrease only on the ends.



6c. Fold the flap up.





6a. Pinch the right side and collapse to the center along diagonal folds.



7. Repeat for left side to finish "fish base."



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9. Fold top tip to meet the small flaps.



[Enlarged view of tip] 12. Open the seam, insert finger to press a small crease between X & Y.



10. Fold tip of top layer to a point at original mid-line or slightly above.



13. Repeat on other side of seam.



11. Fold in half vertically.



14a. Open seam and fold tip down using the three creases at the base of the tip.



14b. Result will spread the tip into a new shape.

[Return to full view] 15. Unfold top layer maintaining new tip shape.



16. Fold tips to sides.



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18. Fold side tips in almost to center vertical, not including fin flaps.



19. Fold upper corners almost to mid-line.



17. Refold step 9. Turn over.

20. Fold (A), both sides. Fold (B), only on left side.



21. Result.

22. [Enlarged view] Swivel-squash: (A) Fold vertical edge, bisecting angle. (B) Pull down edge (E) by loosening the part of the edge underneath the flap created in (A).



23. Result. Fold the whole model in half vertically, rotate clockwise 90°. [Return to full view]



24. Hold the model at the circle with one hand, gently grasp dorsal fin flap and pull it free. Tug carefully; smooth its layers into a diamond shape and flatten it in its new upright position. (A pointed tool, such as a bamboo skewer with its sharp tip sniffed off, may help.)



25. (A) Inside-reverse fold tail, starting at rear corner of dorsal fin (X), and inverting spine so it lands at corner (Y). (B) Fold lateral fin up. Repeat with other fin.





26. (A) Inside-reverse fold tail, starting at corner (Y), inverting spine so it aligns with new corner. (B) Fold lower corner of lateral fin flap under fin (not body). Repeat with other fin.



29. Fold tail up, keeping mid-line straight.



27. (A) Lift near layer of tail and flatten.(B) Fold lateral fin down. Repeat for both fins.



30. Refold tail in half along mid-line.

[Enlarged view of tail] 28. Fold tail flap down across widest part.



31. Result. [Return to full view]







33. Finished!



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