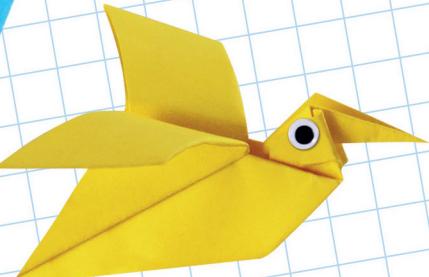
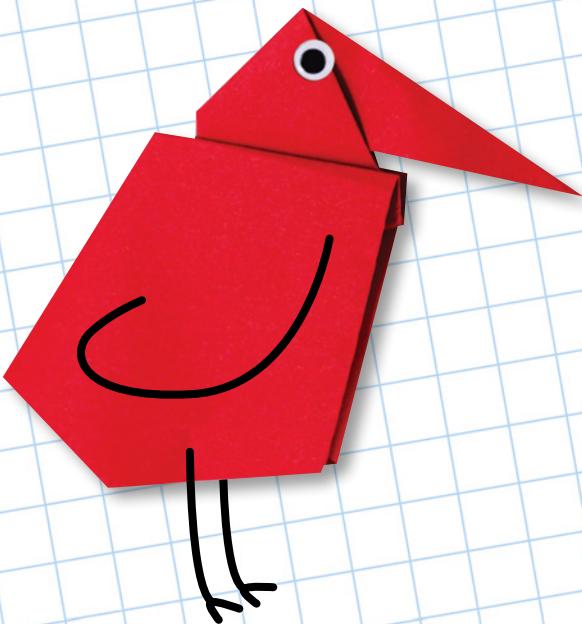


ORIGAMI FUN

# BIRDS



Express!



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# ORIGAMI FUN

Origami is the art of folding paper. It has been used for hundreds of years. Origami artists make stunning animals, vehicles, and other models from a flat sheet of paper. They fold it carefully and slowly to create a work of art.

Anyone can learn the art of origami. In this book, you will learn how to make fun origami birds!

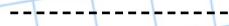


## SUPPLIES

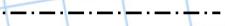
- colorful origami paper
- ruler or spoon for flattening folds
- googly eyes
- black pen
- glue
- scissors

## ORIGAMI SYMBOLS

Below are key origami instruction symbols. You will find these throughout the book.



Valley fold



Mountain fold



Center line



Fold direction



Pleat fold



Cut line



Flip paper



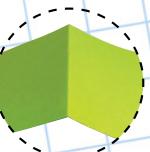
Rotate paper

# ORIGAMI FOLDS



## Valley fold

Lift the paper and bend it toward you.



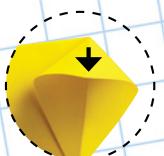
## Mountain fold

Bend the paper backward, away from you.



## Pleat fold

First fold the paper in one direction, and then in the opposite direction.



## Squash fold

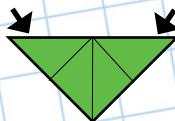
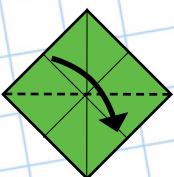
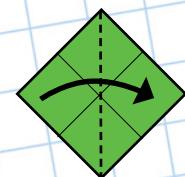
Open two layers and squish them flat.



## Inside reverse fold

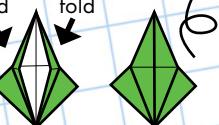
Push the tip of the paper inward then flatten.

## Bird base fold



Squash fold

Squash fold



Repeat

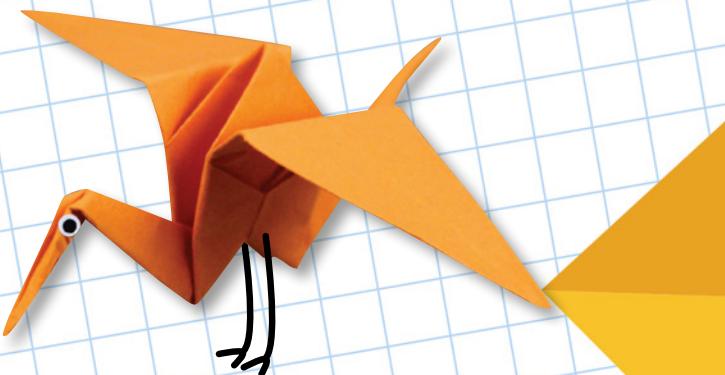
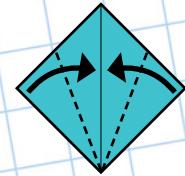
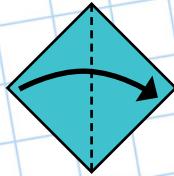


Squash fold

Squash fold



## Kite base fold



# SWAN

## Paper size:

Square sheet of origami paper,  
6 x 6 inches (15 x 15 centimeters)

Swans are large, beautiful birds with long, curved necks. They glide gracefully through rivers and lakes. They can even sleep while they float! Swans have very powerful wings and look magnificent as they fly.

1

Begin with a kite base.  
Turn it over.



2

Valley fold the left and right sides into the center.

3

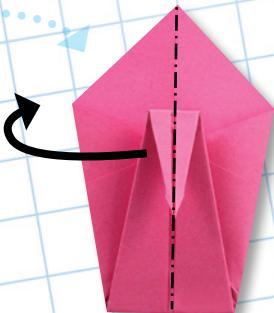
Valley fold your model in half from bottom to top.

4

Take the upper tip, and valley fold it down to make the head.

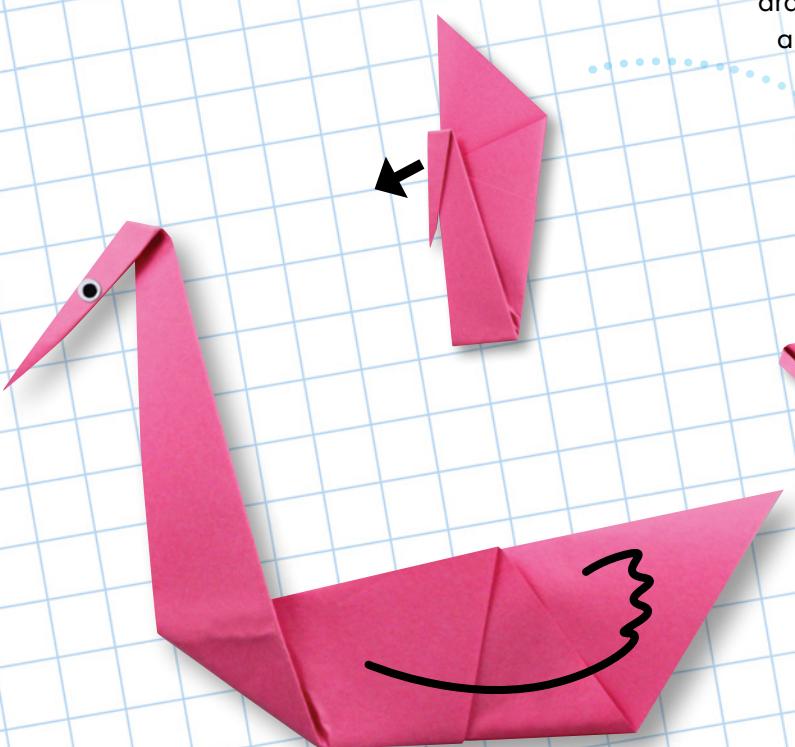
5

Mountain fold the left side back.



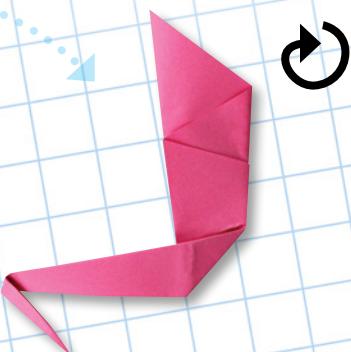
6

To make the neck, pull the head outward.



7

Rotate the model 90 degrees clockwise. Add googly eyes and draw wings. Widen the base, and your swan is finished!



**FANCY  
FLOATER!**

**TIPS AND TRICKS**  
*Make a soft crease in the paper.  
Make sure it is in the right place  
before you press down hard to  
make a sharp crease.*

# PEACOCK

The peacock is a male bird. Females are called peahens. A peacock is one of the biggest show-offs among birds! His long, bright tail feathers help him attract a mate. He lifts them up in a dazzling display of blue and green.

## Paper size:

Square sheet of origami paper,  
6 x 6 inches (15 x 15 centimeters)

1

Begin with a kite base. Valley fold the upper left and right out to the side. Each layer should reach the edge.

2

Take the bottom point, and valley fold it up to the top.

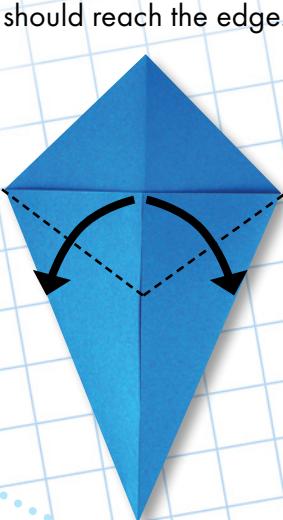
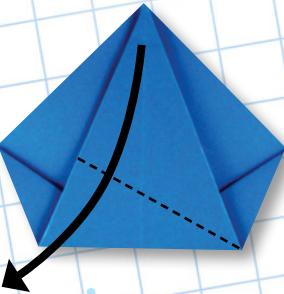
3

Valley fold the top triangle down to the left. Make sure that the edges meet.

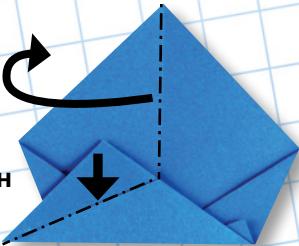
4

Mountain fold your model in half. Make a squash fold as you flatten it.

8

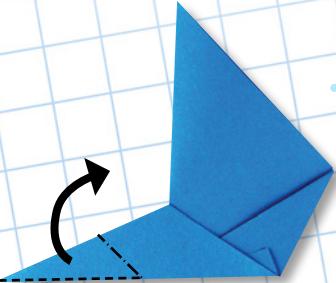


SQUASH FOLD



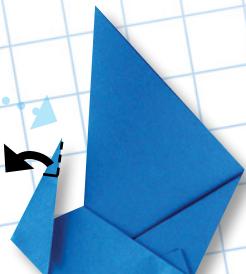
5

Make an inside reverse fold. This forms the neck.



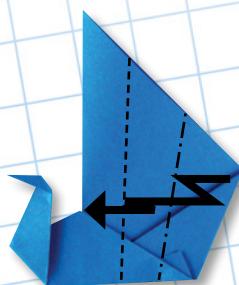
6

Make another inside reverse fold.  
This forms the head.



7

Pleat fold the upper wing to  
the left. To do this, make a  
mountain fold on the right  
dotted line. Make a valley fold  
on the left dotted line.



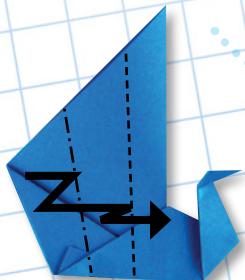
8

Your model should  
look like this.  
Turn it over.



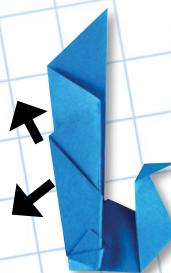
9

Pleat fold the other wing.



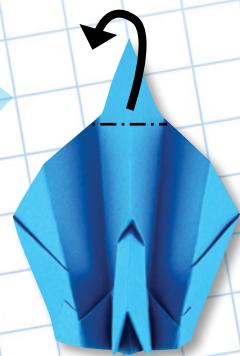
10

Open the wings.



11

Mountain fold the top  
point down.



12

Add googly eyes, and draw  
a pattern on the tail feathers.  
Your peacock is done!



**WHAT A  
SHOW-OFF!**

# CRANE

## Paper size:

Square sheet of origami paper,  
6 x 6 inches (15 x 15 centimeters)

Cranes are tall, graceful birds that live in large **flocks**. They have wide wings and straight beaks. These birds can fly for long distances as they search for food. They eat plants and small animals.

1

Begin with a bird base. The end that opens should point away from you. Valley fold the upper left and right sides into the center.



2

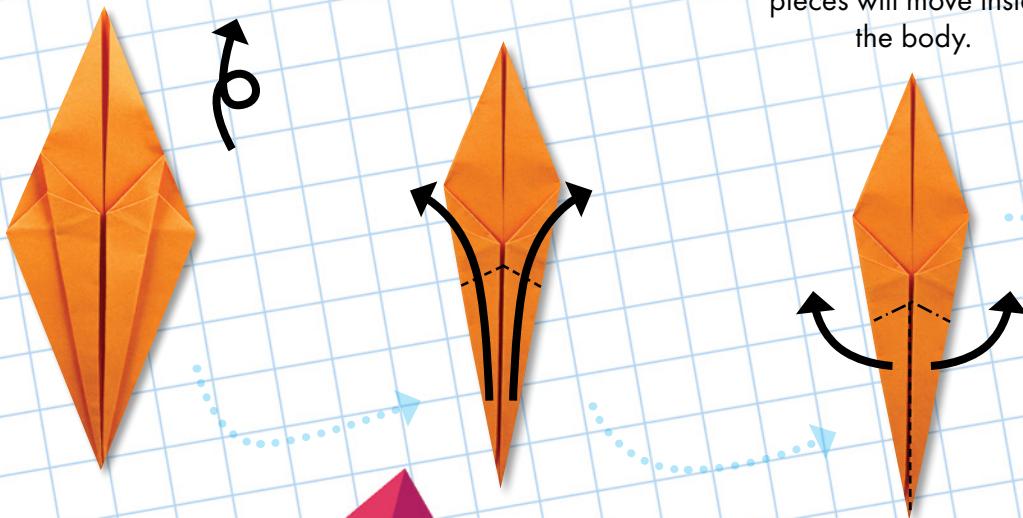
Your model should now look like this. Turn it over. Valley fold the upper left and right sides into the center.

3

Valley fold the two bottom sections out to the side. Crease them well, then unfold them.

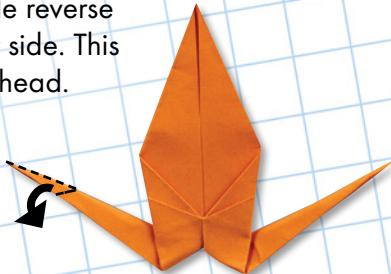
4

Make two inside reverse folds. To do this, take the bottom tips, and pull them upward. Let the creases open. The pointed pieces will move inside the body.



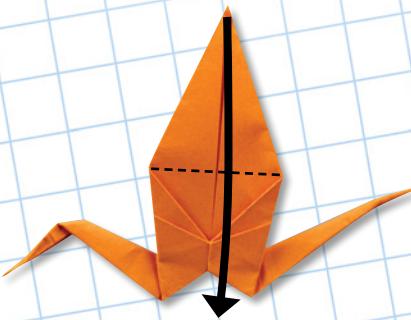
5

Make an inside reverse fold on the left side. This forms the head.



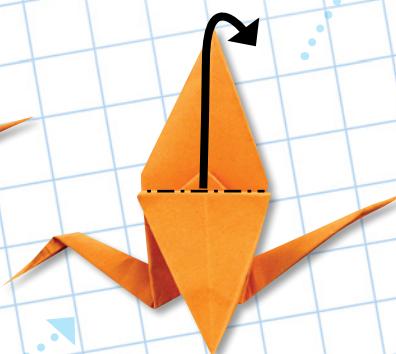
6

Valley fold the top layer. This forms the first wing.



7

Mountain fold the back layer to make the second wing.

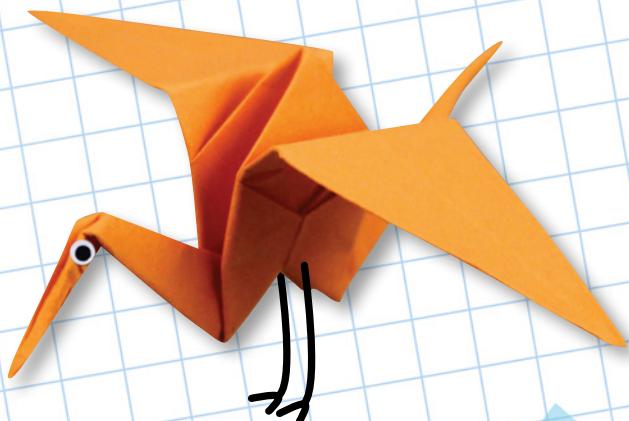


8

Open the crane a little so it stands up. Add googly eyes and your crane is complete.



**GRACEFUL  
BIRD!**



## TIPS AND TRICKS

The pointed end of a chopstick is useful for lifting corners and edges.

# OWL

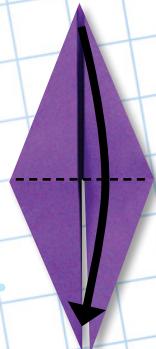
Some owls are tiny. Others are huge. Most are active in the nighttime. They fly silently, which helps them catch prey. Owls like to eat mice, rats, worms, and insects.

## Paper size:

Square sheet of origami paper,  
6 x 6 inches (15 x 15 centimeters)

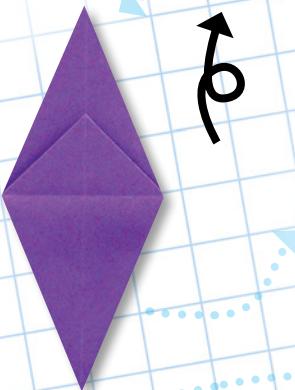
1

Begin with a bird base. The end that opens should point away from you. Valley fold the upper layer in half.



2

Your model should look like this. Turn it over. Repeat Step 1 on the other side.



3

Take the upper layer, and valley fold the left and right sides into the center.



4

Turn your model over. Repeat Step 3.



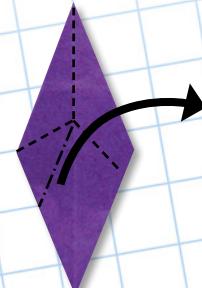
5

Valley fold the upper right layer over to the left.



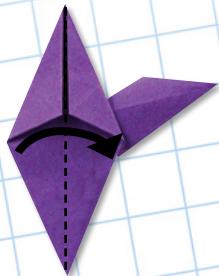
6

Pull the top triangle up and out to the right. This makes an inside reverse fold.



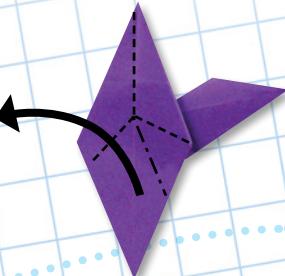
7

Valley fold the upper left layer over to the right.



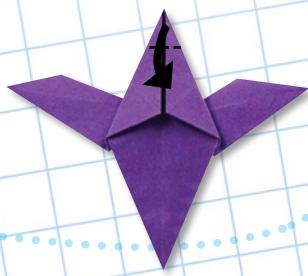
8

Make another inside reverse fold to form the second wing.



9

Valley fold the top point downward.



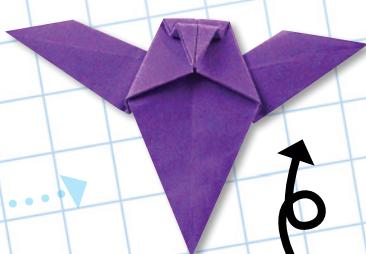
10

Make a pleat fold.



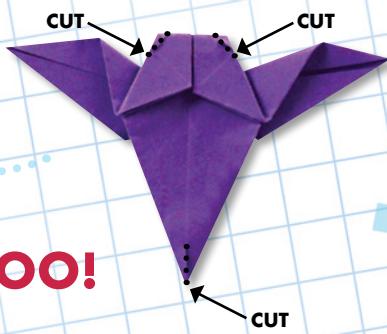
11

Turn your model over.



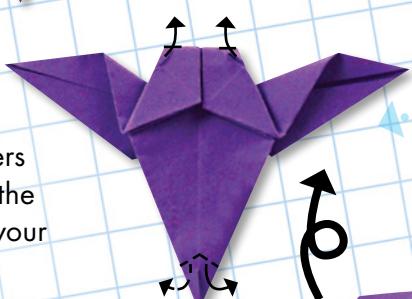
12

Make two small cuts on the upper layer. These will be feathers. Cut on the dotted line at the bottom, on both layers. This makes the feet.



13

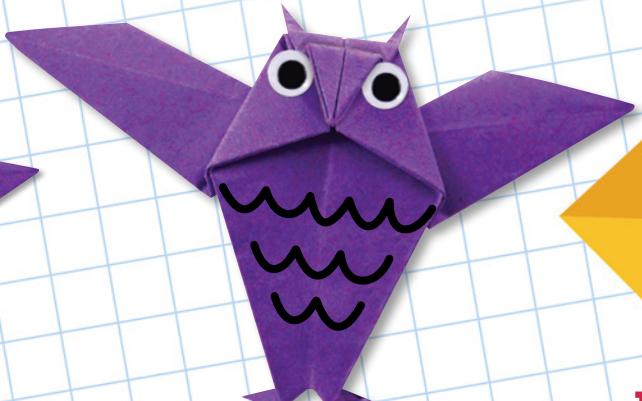
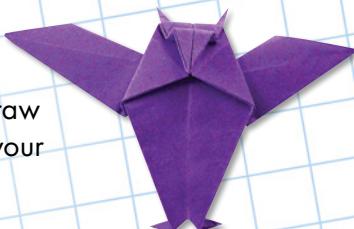
Fold the feathers up. Valley fold the feet back. Turn your model over.



HOO-HOO!

14

Add googly eyes, draw some feathers, and your owl is done!



# PIGEON

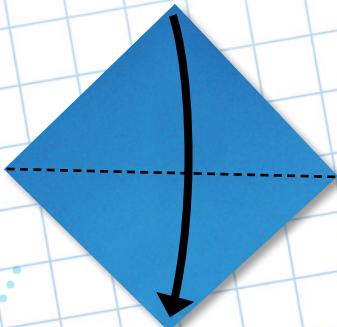
Pigeons are very intelligent birds. They are also awesome fliers. They have very strong wing muscles, so they can fly for a long time. They can reach speeds of 50–60 miles (80–97 kilometers) per hour! Pigeons are **herbivores** and eat seeds, fruits, and plants.

## Paper size:

Square sheet of origami paper,  
6 x 6 inches (15 x 15 centimeters)

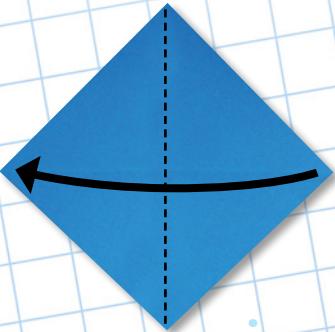
1

Valley fold the top corner to the bottom. Unfold.



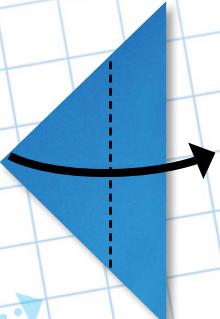
2

Valley fold the right corner over to the left.



3

Next, valley fold the left side over to the right.



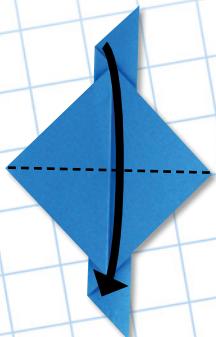
4

Take the upper right triangle, and fold it over to the left.



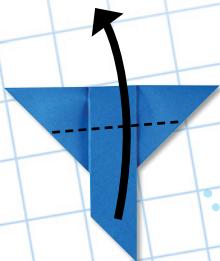
5

Valley fold your model in half from top to bottom.



6

Valley fold the upper layer to the top. This makes a wing.



7

Mountain fold the bottom layer back and up. This makes the second wing.



8

Make an inside reverse fold to form the beak.



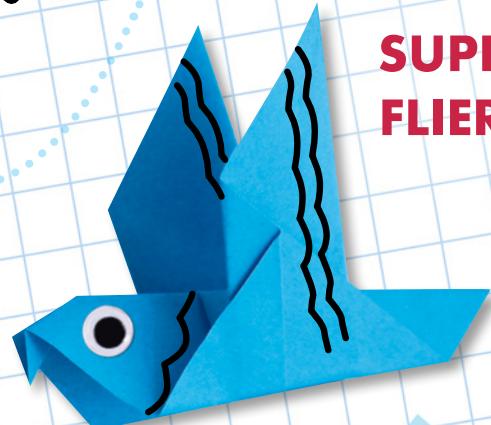
9

Open the wings a little. Add some googly eyes, draw on feathers, and your pigeon is ready to take off!



**TIPS AND TRICKS**  
*If you make a big mistake when you fold, recycle the paper and start over. A fold in the wrong place can throw your bird out of balance!*

**SUPER  
FLIER!**



# DUCK

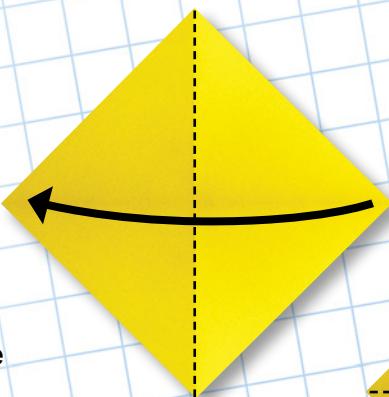
Ducks love water! They live in ponds, streams, and rivers. Male ducks are called drakes, females are hens, and babies are ducklings. Their **webbed** feet work like paddles to help them swim. Their feathers are **waterproof**. Ducks quack to communicate with each other.

## Paper size:

Square sheet of origami paper,  
6 x 6 inches (15 x 15 centimeters)

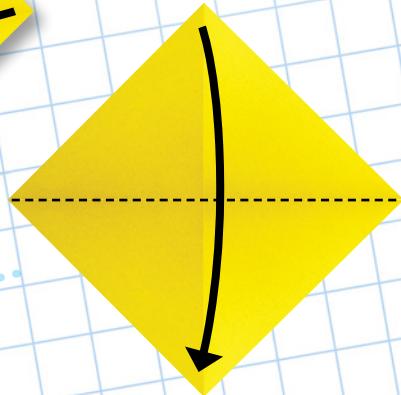
1

Valley fold the right corner over to the left. Unfold.



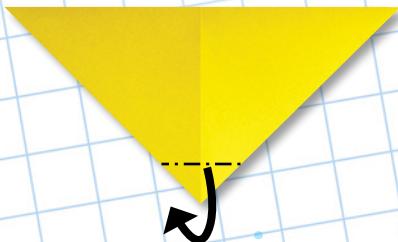
2

Valley fold the top corner down to the bottom.



3

Mountain fold the upper triangle layer back.



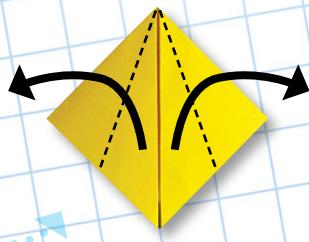
4

Valley fold the left and right sides into the center.



5

Next, valley fold the upper layers out to the sides.



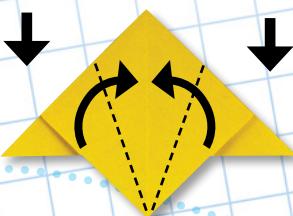
6

Your model should look like this. Turn it over.



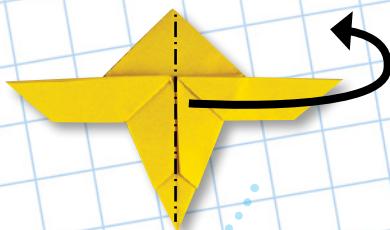
7

Valley fold the top left and right sides into the center. As you bring in each side, the outer edge triangles lift. Squash them back flat.



8

Your model should look like this. Mountain fold the right side back.



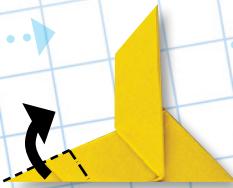
9

Your model should now look like this. Rotate it 90 degrees clockwise.



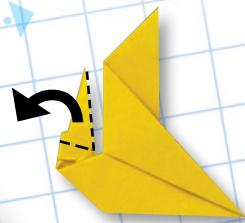
10

Take the left point, and fold it in toward the body. This makes an inside reverse fold.



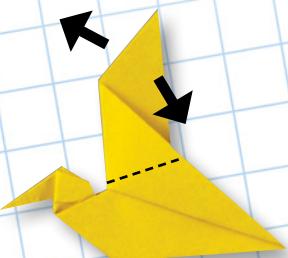
11

Hold the tip again. Make another inside reverse fold. This forms the beak.



12

Fold the wings down, add eyes, and your duck is ready to swim.



**QUACK!**

# SEAGULL

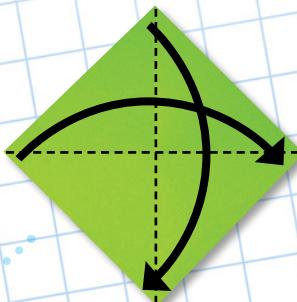
## Paper size:

Square sheet of origami paper,  
6 x 6 inches (15 x 15 centimeters)

Seagulls are large, strong birds with powerful wings. They are one of the few birds that can drink salty seawater. Seagulls are not afraid of people. Hungry seagulls sometimes swoop down to steal bites of human food. They make loud noises, too. They shriek and squawk!

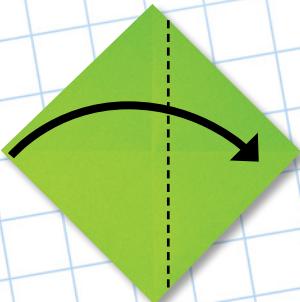
1

Valley fold the paper in half both ways. Unfold.



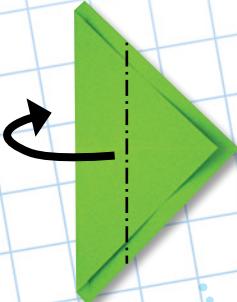
2

Valley fold the left side toward the right.



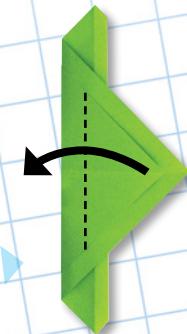
3

Mountain fold the left side back.



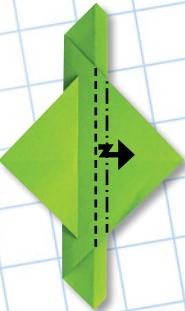
4

Next, take the upper triangle, and valley fold it to the left.



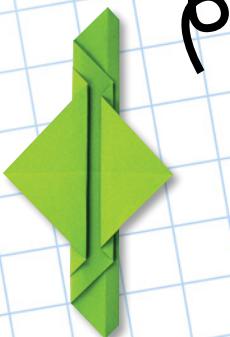
5

Pleat the right triangle to the left. Make a valley fold on the left dotted line. Now make a mountain fold on the right dotted line.



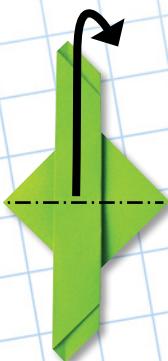
6

Your model should look like this. Turn it over.



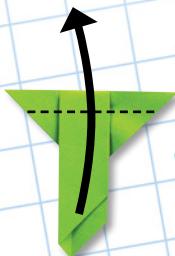
7

Mountain fold the top back.



8

Valley fold the upper layer to the top.



9

Mountain fold the bottom layer back.

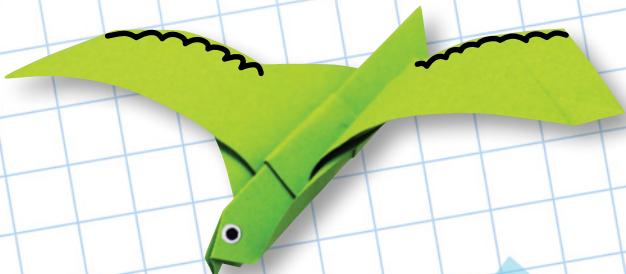


10

Make an inside reverse fold. This forms a beak. Shape the wings into a curve, add eyes, draw feathers, and your seagull is done!



**SQUAWK!**



# KIWI

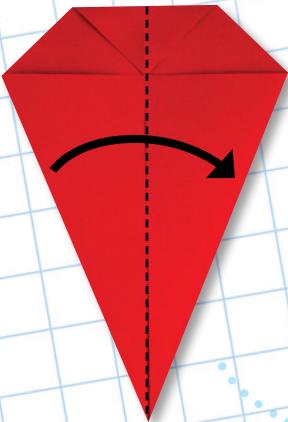
## Paper size:

Square sheet of origami paper,  
6 x 6 inches (15 x 15 centimeters)

Kiwis are small birds that have short brown feathers. They cannot fly, but they have an amazing sense of smell. Kiwis are **nocturnal**. They use their sense of smell to find food in the dark. They dig in the ground with their long beaks for insects and plants to eat.

2

Valley fold the left side over to the right.



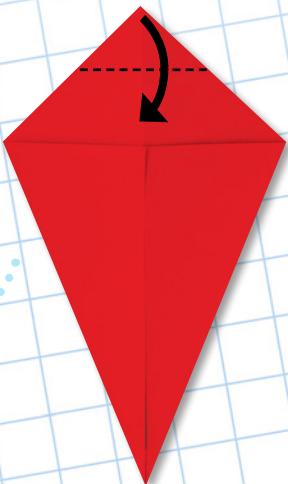
3

Your model should look like this. Turn the origami clockwise.



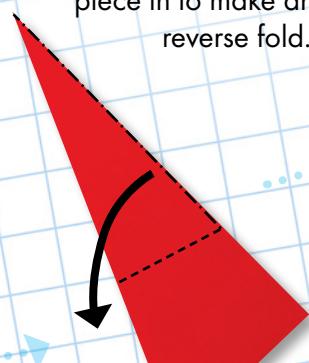
1

Begin with a kite base. Valley fold the top down.



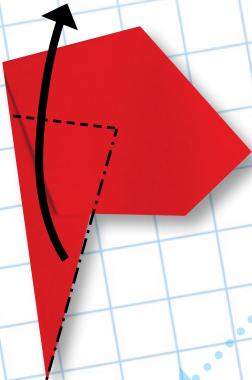
4

Pull the tip down. The main fold will open. Tuck the pointed piece in to make an inside reverse fold.



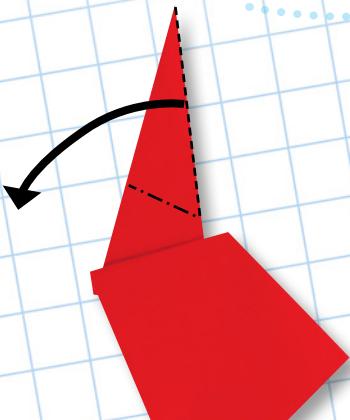
5

Take the inner section you just made. Make another inside reverse fold. This forms a neck that points up.



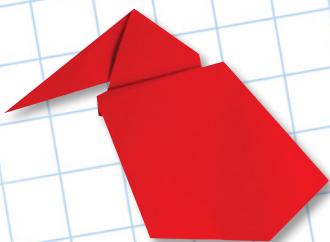
6

Make one more inside reverse fold. This forms the beak.

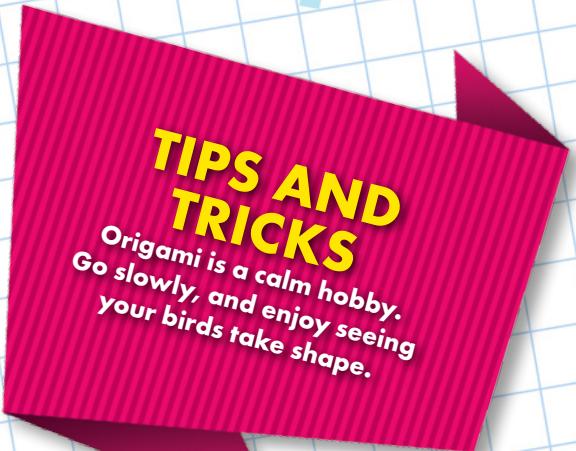


7

Add some eyes and draw on wings. Your kiwi is all set.



**CUTE KIWI!**



# GLOSSARY

**flocks**—groups of one kind of bird

**herbivores**—animals that eat only plants

**mate**—a partner to breed with

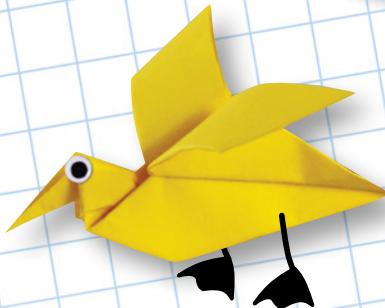
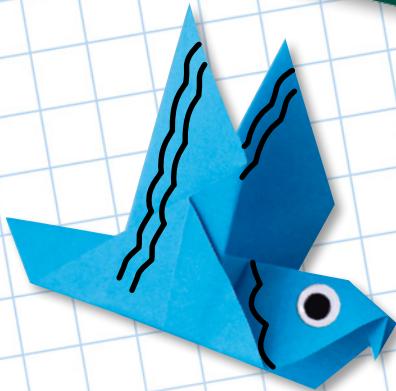
**nocturnal**—active at night

**waterproof**—keeps water out

**webbed**—having toes joined by pieces of skin



# TO LEARN MORE



## AT THE LIBRARY

Alderfer, Jonathan. *National Geographic Kids Bird Guide of North America*. Washington, D.C.: National Geographic, 2013.

Battaglia, Vanda, and Francesco Decio. *Japanese Origami for Beginners*. North Clarendon, Vt.: Tuttle Publishing, 2015.

Stern, Joel. *My First Origami Kit*. North Clarendon, Vt.: Tuttle Publishing, 2013.

## ON THE WEB

Learning more about bird origami is as easy as 1, 2, 3.

1. Go to [www.factsurfer.com](http://www.factsurfer.com).
2. Enter "bird origami" into the search box.
3. Click the "Surf" button, and you will see a list of related web sites.

With [factsurfer.com](http://factsurfer.com), finding more information is just a click away.



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