What is Origami?

Origami is the art of paper folding transforming a flat square sheet of paper into a finished sculpture through folding and sculpting techniques.

Originally, origami was practiced only by religious leaders and wealthy Japanese citizens. As paper became less expensive and widely available, more people came to enjoy the art form. Early forms of origami were for religious or ceremonial purposes.

“I think this program is the best! You get to learn about other cultures. This made me happy! In April, we finally did it on my favorite, Japan! I just love other cultures!”

- Jacob, 3rd grade, Summit View Academy
Materials Needed:

- Origami Paper (cut into 6 Inch Squares)
- Colored Pencils, markers, or crayons
- Scissors (to cut perfect square)

Directions: cut along the line to create a perfect 6x6 square for your origami design.

Tips:

- Follow the steps
- Fold crease well
- Be exact, be patient
- Have fun!

Materials Needed:

- Colored Pencils
- Paper
- Scissors

Why is Origami good for you?

Origami helps develop eye hand coordination, sequencing skills, spatial skills, memory, and patience. Origami allows you to develop fine motor skills and mental concentration.
Support Local Businesses and Restaurants
Expand your palate & learn about ways to engage with other international organizations.

- **Ando Japanese Restaurant and Sushi Bar** | 513-791-8687 | Blue Ash
- **La Hiro Suhi & Sweets** | 859-657-6600 | Florence
- **Mei Japanese Restaurant** | 513-891-6880 | Montgomery
- **Aikido of Cincinnati** | 513-561-7202 | Kennedy Heights
- **Cincinnati Sister City, Gifu Japan** | 513 886 5817 | Walnut Hills
- **Cinter Academy** | 513-808-4960 | Anderson

For even more options visit our [Culture Guides](GlobalCincinnati.org).

Educational Resources & Materials
Learn even more about Japan, explore the world from your home.

- **Japan Facts** – National Geographic Kids
- **Japan: Ninja’s | Are We There Yet?** – National Geographic Kids
- **Japan: Snow Monkeys | Are We There Yet?** – National Geographic Kids
- **How to Fold a Traditional Origami Crane** – Origami Me

Having fun?
Send us pictures of you creating and/or your final art pieces! We would love to feature your work on our social media! Email your pictures to hgerth@cincyworldaffairs.org!
Give us your feedback with this quick survey: [Art Meets World @ Home].
Note: Use a large piece of paper or newspaper page to make a hat for your head!
Traditionally, it was believed that if one folded 1000 origami cranes, one’s wish would come true. It has also become a symbol of hope and healing during challenging times. As a result, it has become popular to fold 1000 cranes (in Japanese, called “senbazuru”).

**Step 1**

The first step is to flip the paper over and fold the paper in half horizontally.

Repeat this process again so that your paper looks like a + and a x on top of each other.

Make sure it is perfect just like with the x. Making sure your folds are aligned perfectly is a key part of this.

**Step 2**

Open the square up, keeping the colored side down. Turn the square so that one of the corners is pointing at you.

Bring the two side corners in to meet the corner on the table that's pointing at you. (like pictured)

Take the top corner that's still sticking up and press it down to join the other corners, creating an accordion folded square.
Step 3

With the ‘flap’ corners still facing you, take the top right-hand corner of the square and fold it into the center diagonal line of the square.

The result of your folds will look a bit like the Superman logo shape. Repeat this with the left top corner.

Step 4

Once both parts are folded in pull the top part down and press the crease.

Step 5

After you have both halves of the triangle pulled in pull them back out and lift up the top piece of paper. Next, lift up the top front corner and hold down the other three front corners. Pull the top corner up. It should look like a frog’s mouth.

The next part is a bit tricky. Pull the top corner all the up and back so that the top piece lies flat. Carefully press all the folds down so that you end up with a diamond shape on top of the bottom diagonal square.
Step 6
Flip the paper over and repeat Steps 3-5 to the other side.

Step 7
Flip the paper over and repeat Steps 3-5 to the other side.

Step 8
Next, fold the right top corner of the diamond in to meet the center line. Press down that fold.

Repeat this for the left top corner. Flip the paper over and repeat the above steps for the other side.

You'll end up with something that looks a bit like a skinny kite shape.
Step 9

Now, lift up the top right side and press it over to the other side, like turning a page in a book. Press down the middle fold.

Flip the paper over and repeat this in the same direction, right to left, on the other side.

You will end up with a very elongated 'wolf's head' shape.

Step 10

Lift up the wolf's snout and fold it so it meets with the tips of the ears.

Press that new fold down.

Flip the paper over and repeat on the other side.

Step 11

Like you did in Step 8, fold the right-side top layer of the paper in a book fold, from right to left.

Flip the paper over and repeat on the other side.
Step 12

Next, you pull out the long pieces of paper (the head/neck & tail).

Pull them both out so that they line up with the angle of the body fold. (like pictured)

Step 13

Bend the top of one side down to make the head.

Step 14

Fold both wings down where two different angles meet on the wing flaps. Press the folds.
Step 15

To finish off the crane and make it able to stand, gently pull the wings apart where they're folded.

Then turn the crane upside down and gently pull the opposite corners apart to finish opening up the body.

Be careful to not pull out the wings too much or they'll rip.

Step 16

You are finished!

Source: https://www.instructables.com/id/How-to-make-a-Paper-Crane-1/