

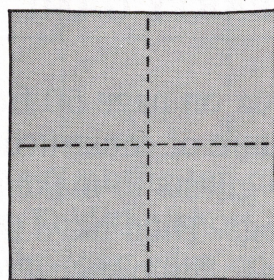
*TRIANGLE BASE

The beginning steps for many origamis are the same, and this kind of series is called a Base. Four steps form the Triangle Base, which leads to many other paperfolds. The Star, Flower, Magic Circle, and Ball all begin with the Triangle Base.

YOU NEED

A square of paper, about 6" (15 cm)

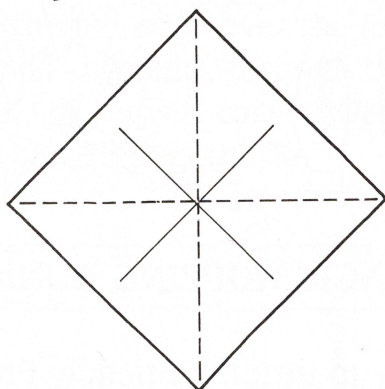
If paper is colored on one side only, begin with colored side up.



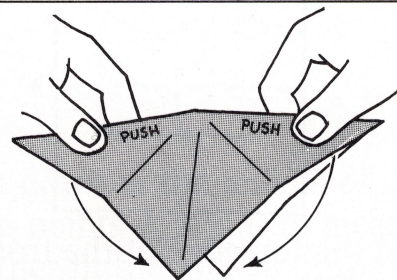
1. Fold a cross on the paper like this: Fold top edge to bottom edge. Open paper flat. Fold the paper in half from side to side. Open paper flat.



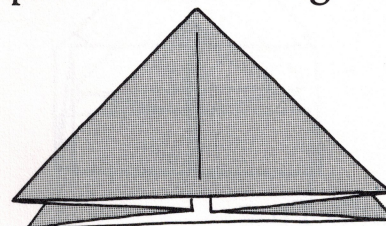
2. *Flip over paper from front to back. Very important.*



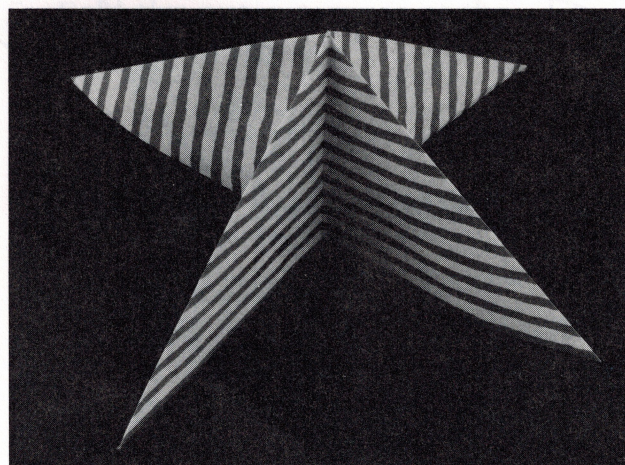
3. Fold the left corner to the right corner. Open paper flat. Fold the top corner to the bottom corner. Do not open the paper.



4. Hold the paper exactly as shown with your thumbs and forefingers, and push it into a triangle shape.



5. Triangle Base.



***MAGIC CIRCLE

The Magic Circle is an amazing toy that turns itself inside out. One minute it's a spiky circle and the next minute it looks like a solid wheel. You fold eight paper squares into look-alikes and fit them together. Origami squares or sheets from square memo pads, in two or more colors, are best.

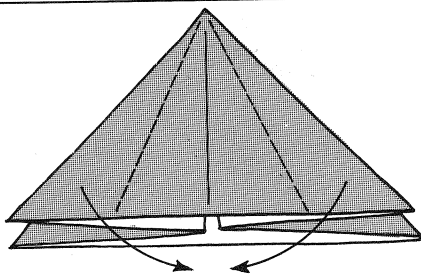
You can fold Magic Circles as surprise party favors. Prepare them ahead of time. Or why not give paper squares to your guests and show them how to make their own Magic Circles?

The Magic Circle is a good example of Unit Origami (also called Modular Origami). Instead of using only a single piece of paper, several squares are combined into boxes, mobiles, and other forms like the Magic Circle. More and more paperfolders enjoy this form of origami.

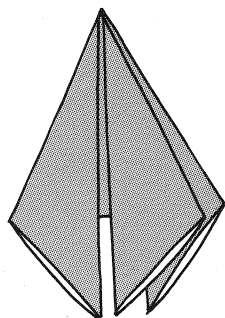
YOU NEED

8 squares of origami paper, about 4" (10 cm)

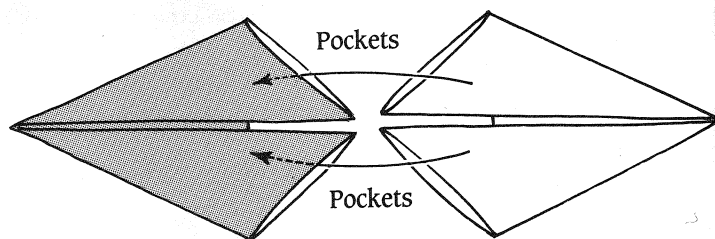
Fold all eight squares in the same way.



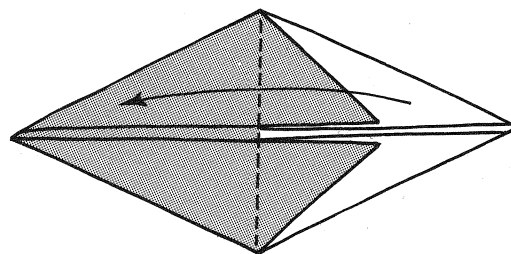
1. Fold the Triangle Base (page 42). Front flaps only, fold outer edges to the middle crease. Turn paper over and repeat on the back.



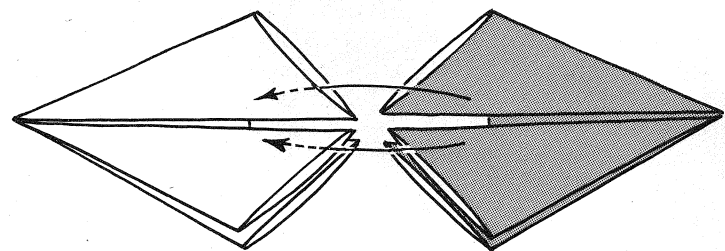
2. Completed unit.



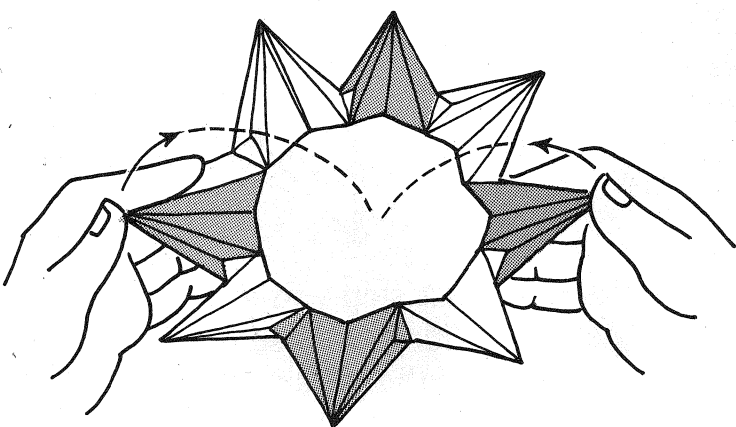
3. Combine two units. Place two units facing each other. Slide the points of the right unit into the "pockets" of the left unit.



4. Fold the right unit over the left unit.

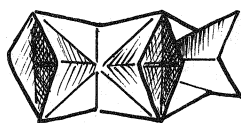


5. Add on the other units, one at a time, by repeating steps 3 and 4. Form them into a circle by joining unit 8 to unit 1.



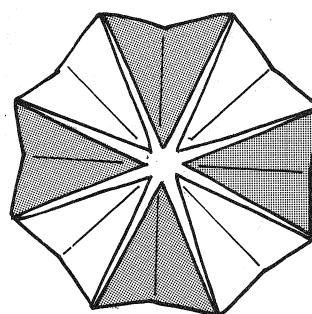
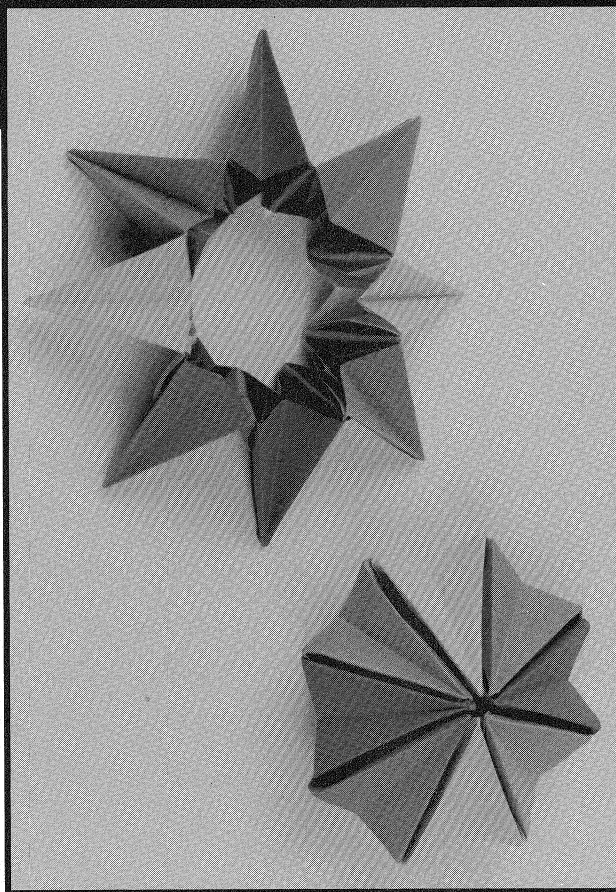
6. Magic Circle.

Side view of two units



HOW TO CHANGE THE MAGIC CIRCLE

Press the outside of two opposite units to the back and swing them to the middle until the Magic Circle pops into a wheel. Turn it back into a Magic Circle by pressing down in the center of the wheel.



UFO FLOWER

It's a UFO! It's a space station! It's a flower! Flex the Magic Circle halfway and it looks like something from outer space, which you can hang as a mobile. Or turn it into a flower by keeping the sections together with a little glue. For a stem, insert a piece of floral wire down the middle. Hook it over the top, and bend it a little at the bottom of the flower.