Letterbox Alpha and Beta 6-Part Silverhexahedra

These diagrams show you how to make 6-part silverhexahedra using alpha and beta letterbox parallelogram modules. The effect of using beta modules is to double the number of coloured areas present on the surface of the forms, which increases the attractiveness of the design. Both hexahedra are folded from six squares of paper.

I discovered parallelogram Letterbox modules in 1987.

Diagrams for the basic form of the Letterbox module can be found elsewhere on this site.

From alpha modules

1. Begin by turning the basic module over sideways.

2. Fold in half diagonally from corner to corner as shown, then unfold.
3. Fold the top right corner inwards as shown, then unfold.

4. Use these creases to collapse the module into the shape shown in picture 5.

5. The finished modules should look like this. You will need six. The arrows indicate the location of the pockets.

6. Begin the assembly phase by putting two modules of two different colours together like this.

7. Add a further two modules of the third colour like this. Continue adding further modules in the same way.

8. The finished silverhexahedron will look like this.

From beta modules

1. All three types of module are configured in the same way. Begin by turning your module over sideways.

2. Fold in half diagonally, corner to corner, then unfold.

David Mitchell / Letterbox Alpha and Beta 6-Part Silverhexahedra
3. Fold the top right corner inwards as shown, then unfold.

4. Fold the top right and bottom left corners inwards as shown, then unfold.

5. Use these creases to collapse the module into the shape shown in picture 6.

6. The finished modules should look like this. You will need six. The arrows indicate the location of the pockets.

7. Begin assembling your tetrahedron by putting two modules of two different colours together like this.

8. Add a further two modules of the same two colours like this.

9. Continue adding modules in this way until the design is complete.

10. The finished silverhexahedron will look like this.

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