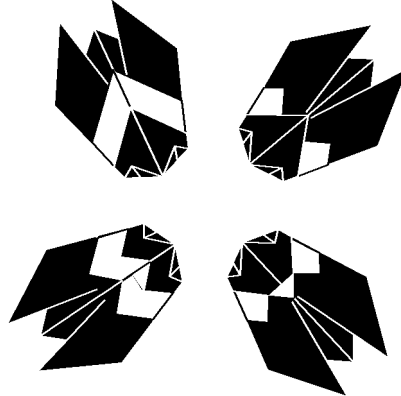


Cicada

Probably a traditional design

The Cicada was one of the very first origami designs I ever folded soon after my parents gave me the book *Secrets of Origami* by Robert Harbin for my 11th birthday. It is still one of my favourite designs.

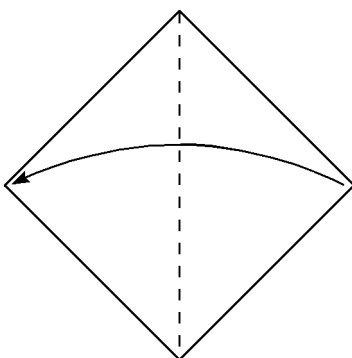


In that book, first published in 1963, the Cicada occurs in a section entitled *Origami New and Old* and is simply said to be from Japan. I have always assumed this means that is a traditional Japanese design but I have never seen any other evidence that this is the case. Many slightly different versions of the Cicada are in circulation. The one I have diagrammed here is the same as the one explained in *Secrets of Origami* except that I have given it a patterned back.

The Cicada can be folded from a square of any kind of paper but if you want to give it a patterned back you will need to fold it from irogami, paper that is white one side and coloured or patterned on the other.

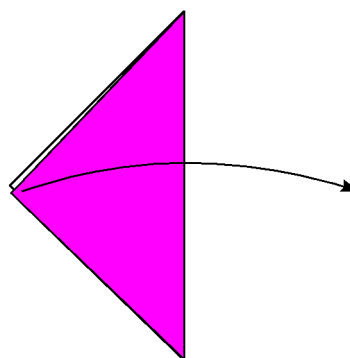
If you are using irogami begin with your paper arranged white side up.

1



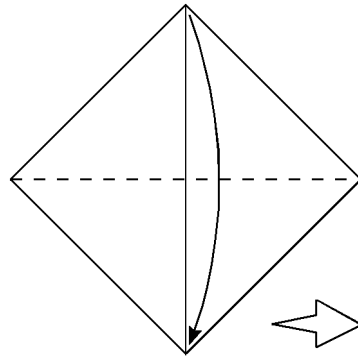
1. Fold in half from right to left.

2



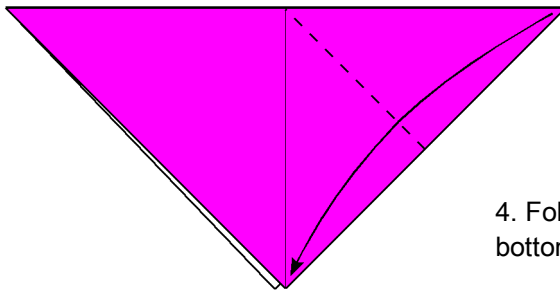
2. Crease firmly then unfold.

3



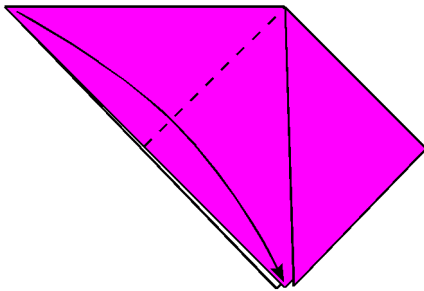
3. Fold in half from top to bottom. The next picture has been drawn to a larger scale.

4



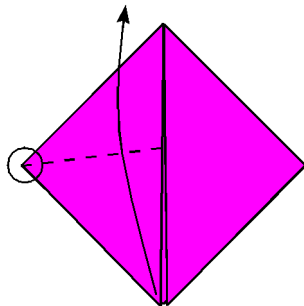
4. Fold the top right corner onto the bottom corner.

5



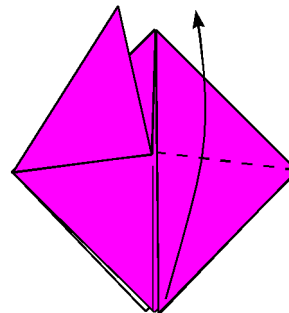
5. Fold the top left corner onto the bottom corner as well.

6



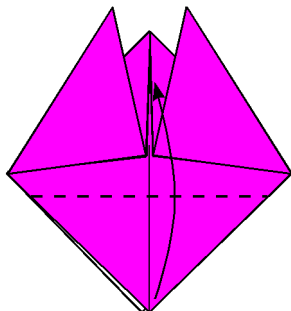
6. Fold the bottom point of the left front flap upwards like this. Make sure the crease starts in the corner marked by a circle. Look at picture 7 to see what the result should look like.

7



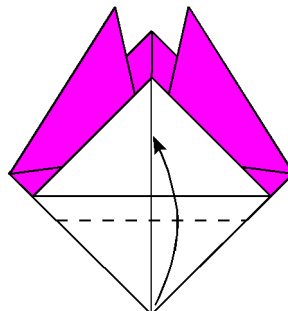
7. Once you are happy that you have made fold 6 correctly repeat the same fold on the right front flap.

8



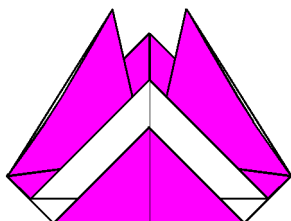
8. Fold just the front layer of the bottom point upwards like this.

9



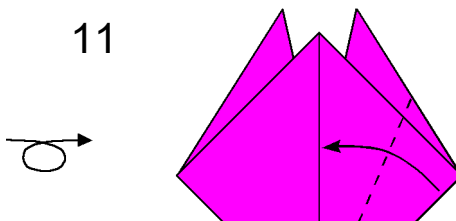
9. Now fold the bottom point of the other layer upwards as well. The result should look like picture 10.

10



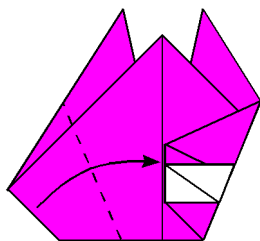
10. Check that your design now looks like this. Turn over sideways.

11



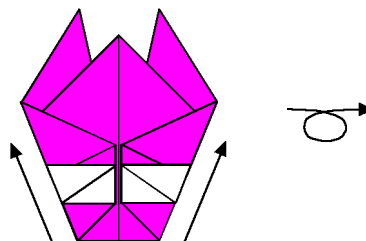
11. Fold the bottom right sloping edge onto the vertical centre crease.

12



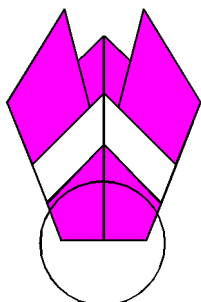
12. Repeat fold 11 on the left hand half of the paper.

13



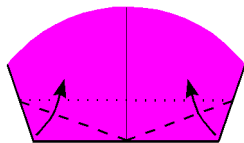
13. Crease the edges firmly working in the direction indicated by the arrows, then turn over sideways..

14



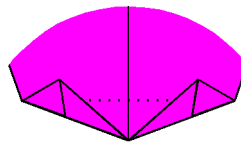
14. The next two pictures are drawn to a larger scale and only show the area of the paper inside the circle.

15



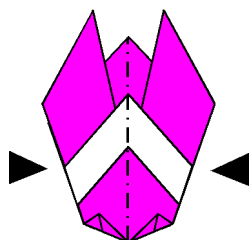
15. Make these tiny folds to create the eyes. The dotted line marks the edge of a hidden layer of paper. You can use the resistance of this edge to locate one end of the fold. The other end starts exactly from the corner.

16



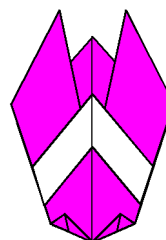
16. The finished eyes should look like this.

17



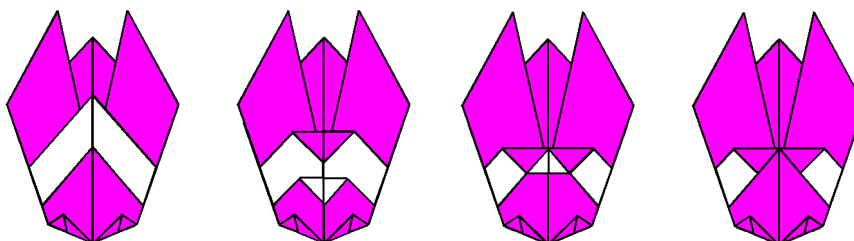
17. Squeeze the left and right sides together so that the centre rises up in front.

18



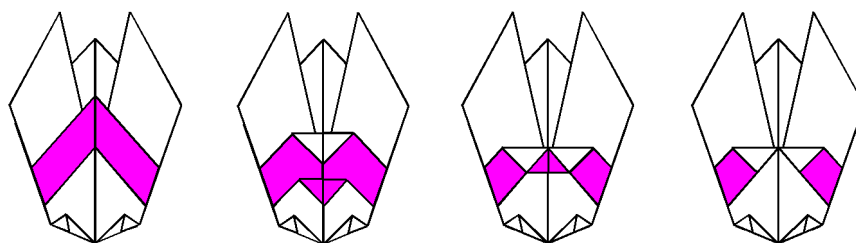
18. The Cicada is finished.

19



19. You can make more tiny folds to vary the pattern on the back of your Cicada like this.

20



20. If you started folding with your paper arranged white side up the patterns would look like this instead.

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