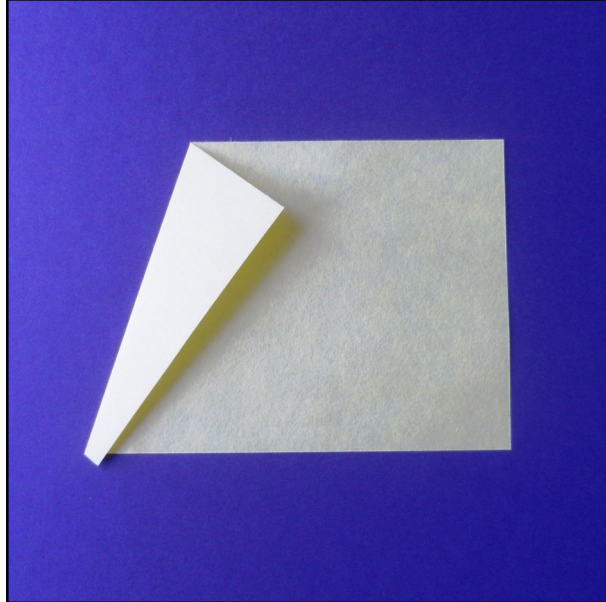


# Elephants Extreme

Designed by David Mitchell  
and Paul Jackson

In 1993, in British Origami magazine, Paul Jackson proposed an Elephantine Challenge to design an elephant using no more than five folds. The 1-fold and 3-fold Elephants included here were my response to this challenge. Paul subsequently designed the strip versions in which the trunk and the body are distinguished from each other using a simple colour change.

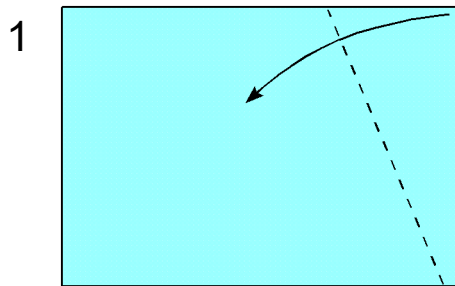


In the mid-1990s a version of the 1-fold Elephant design folded from a square, and in which the crease begins from the bottom corner rather than slightly in from that corner along the bottom edge, became popular in the USA. Robert Lang contacted me to ask if he could include this version of the design in his book *Origami Design Secrets*. Although I was aware that this was a great honour, I was initially reluctant to allow it because I felt that the new version of the design had lost many of the best qualities of the original. Robert Lang, being the gentleman he is, kindly agreed to use the original version, even though this meant that not all the designs in his book would then be folded from squares as he had originally intended.

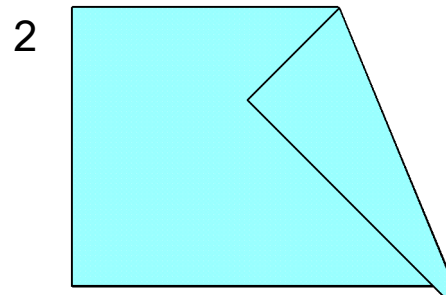
I have included multiple versions of the 1-fold and 3-fold Elephants in these diagrams. You will see that they can be folded from many different rectangles. Some of them even have tails. I have however stuck to the arbitrary but attractive idea that such minimalist designs should be created using no more than five folds.

## The 1-fold Elephant

You will need an A size or similarly shaped rectangle of paper that is the same colour and texture on both sides.

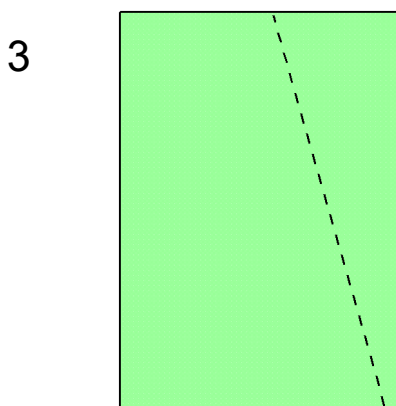


1. Fold the left hand edge inwards as shown. Note that the crease does not pass through the bottom left hand corner.

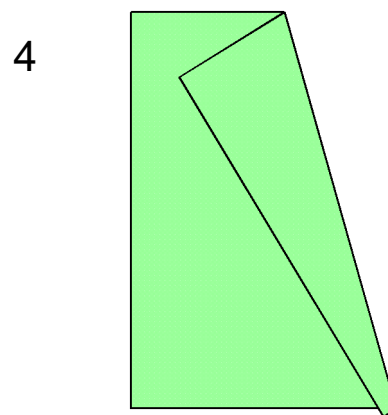


2. The 1-Fold Elephant is finished.

You can fold a tall version of the 1-fold Elephant by turning the rectangle around the other way ...

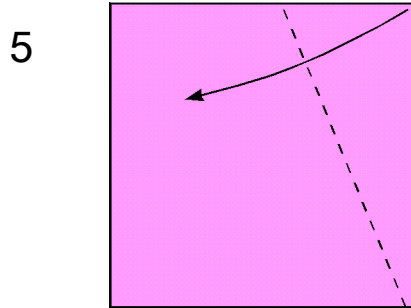


3. Fold the left hand edge inwards as shown. Note that the crease does not pass through the bottom left hand corner.

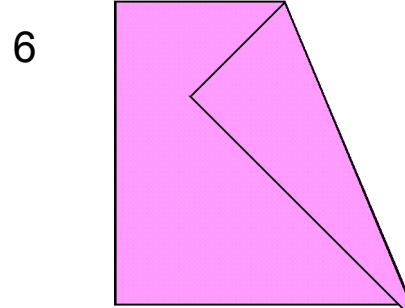


4. The tall version of the 1-Fold Elephant is finished.

... or an in between version by starting from a square.

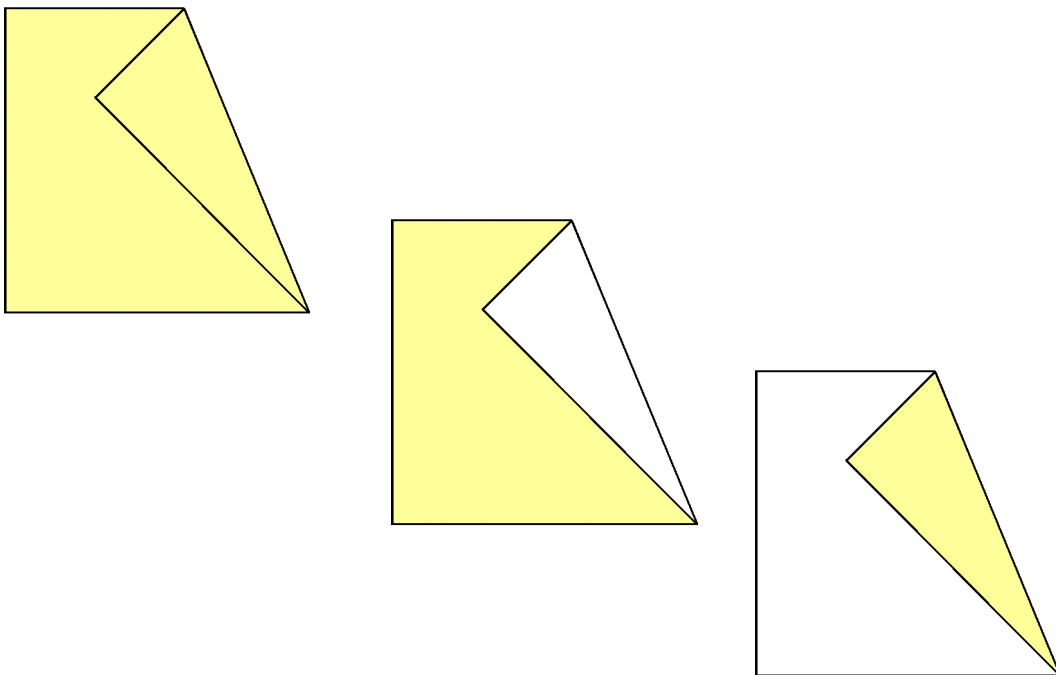


5. Fold the left hand edge inwards as shown. Note that the crease does not pass through the bottom left hand corner.



6. The in between version of the 1-Fold Elephant is finished.

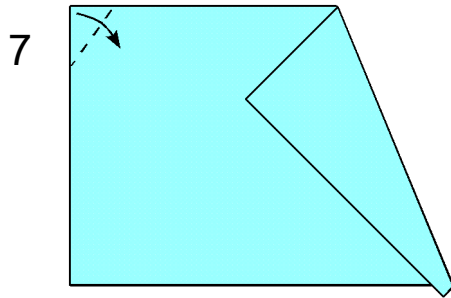
The version that became popular in the USA in the 1990 's was folded from a square like this, often using irogami so that the trunk and the body were in different colours.



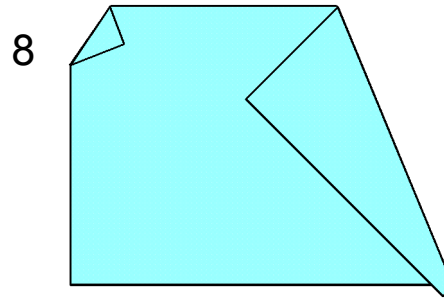
The trunk is, however, better, if the crease begins slightly to the left of, rather than exactly from, the bottom right corner.

## The 2-fold Elephant

You can create a 2-Fold Elephant, with a tail, by adding a second fold to the 1-Fold Elephant like this.



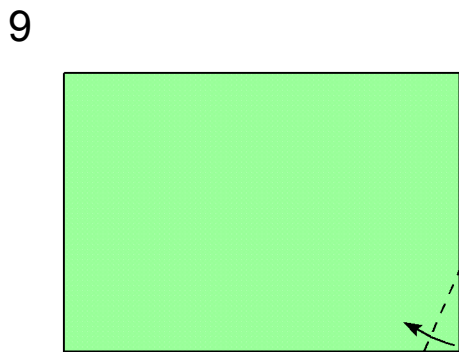
7. Fold the top left corner inwards as shown.



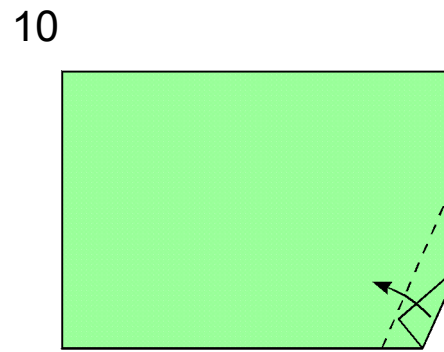
8. The 2-fold Elephant is finished.

## The 3-fold Elephant

You will need an A size or similarly shaped rectangle of paper that is the same colour and texture on both sides.

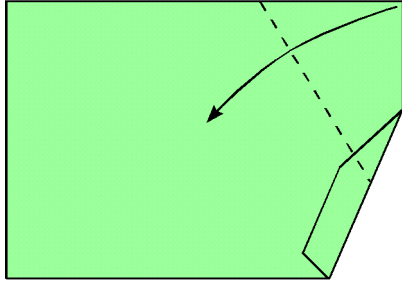


9. Make a tiny fold in the bottom left hand corner.



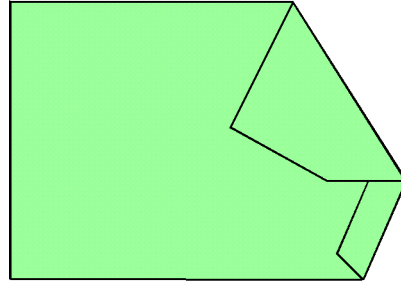
10. Make a second, slightly larger, fold at the same angle.

11



11. Form the ears by folding the top left hand corner inwards.

12

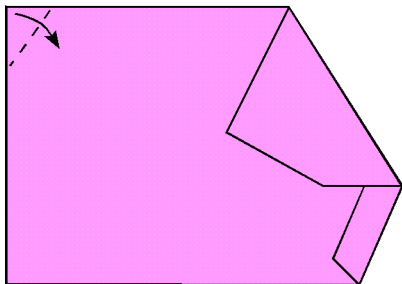


12. The 3-Fold Elephant is finished.

### The 4-fold Elephant

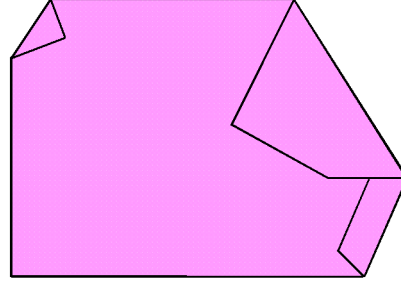
You can create a 4-Fold Elephant, with a tail, by adding a fourth fold to the 3-Fold Elephant like this.

13



13. Fold the top left corner inwards as shown.

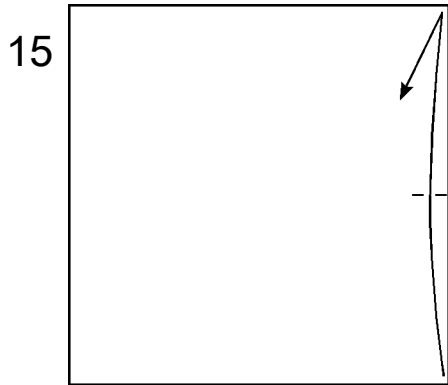
14



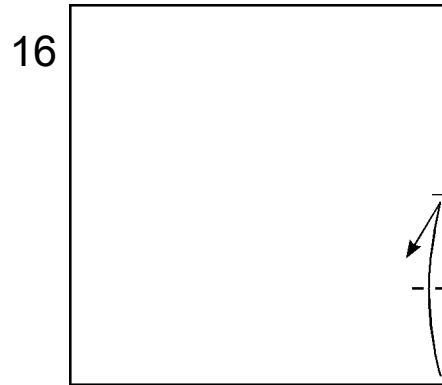
14. The 4-fold Elephant is finished.

## Paul Jackson 's Strip Elephants

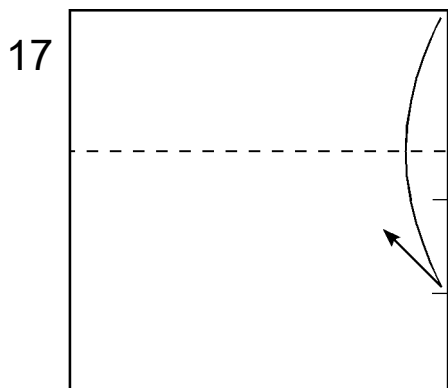
These designs can be folded from strips of many different proportions but I prefer to use a strip created like this. You will need a square of irogami, paper that is white one side and a single plain colour the other. Begin with your square arranged white side up.



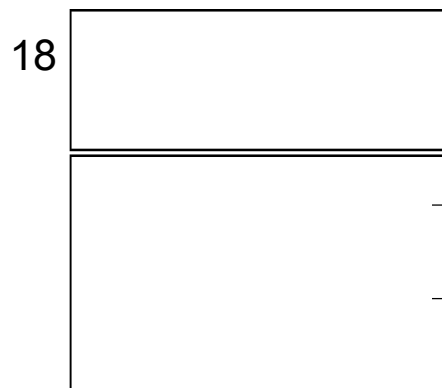
15. Make a tiny crease to mark the centre of the right hand edge.



16. Make another tiny crease to mark the quarter way point.



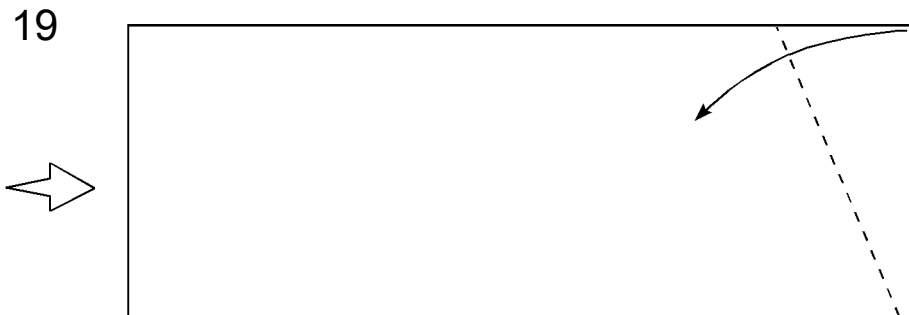
17. Fold the top right hand corner downwards onto the quarter way mark, crease, then unfold.



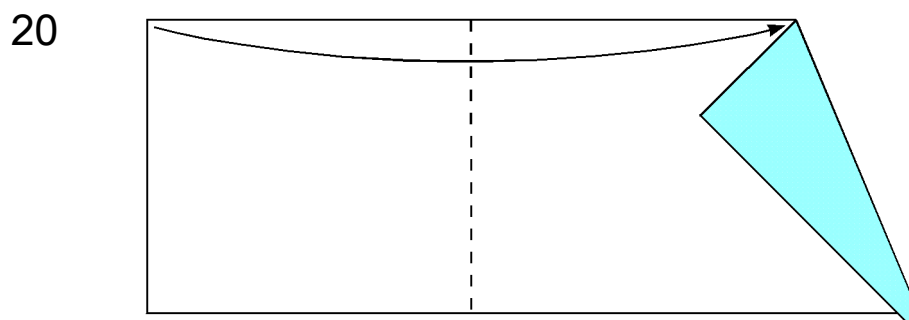
18. Separate the two sections of the paper by cutting along the line of the crease made in step 17. Only the top section is required.

## The 2-fold Strip Elephant

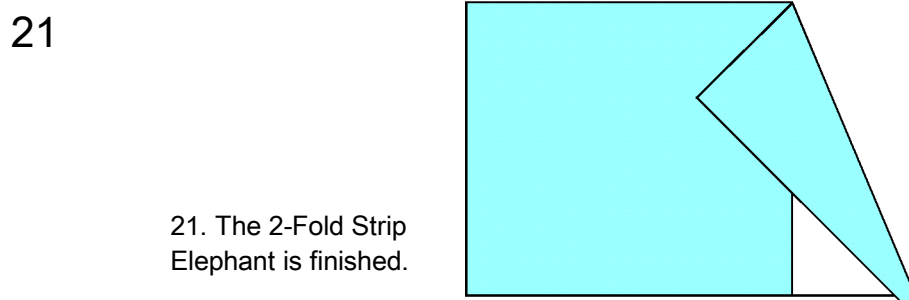
Begin with a strip of paper created in the way shown in steps 15 to 18.



19. Fold the left hand edge inwards as shown. Note that the crease does not pass through the bottom left hand corner.



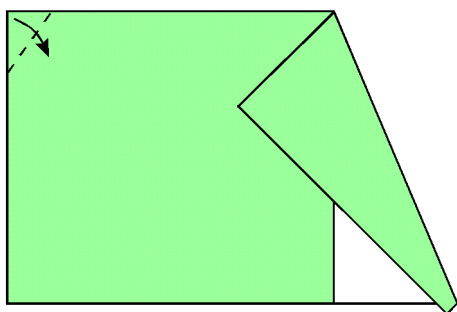
20. Fold the top left corner onto the top right corner, making sure the paper goes underneath the front flap.



## The 3-fold Strip Elephant

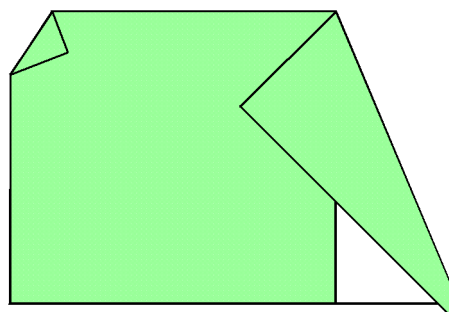
You can create a 3-Fold Strip Elephant, with a tail, by adding a third fold to the 2-Fold Strip Elephant like this.

22



22. Fold the top left corner inwards as shown.

23



23. The 3-Fold Strip Elephant is finished.

## The 4-fold Strip Elephant

Begin with a strip of paper created in the way shown in steps 15 to 18.

24



24. Make a tiny fold in the bottom left hand corner.

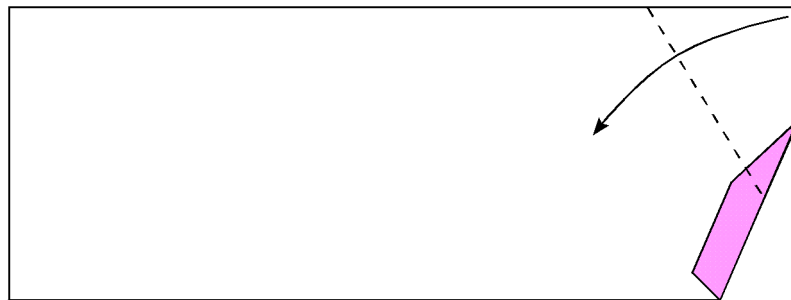


25



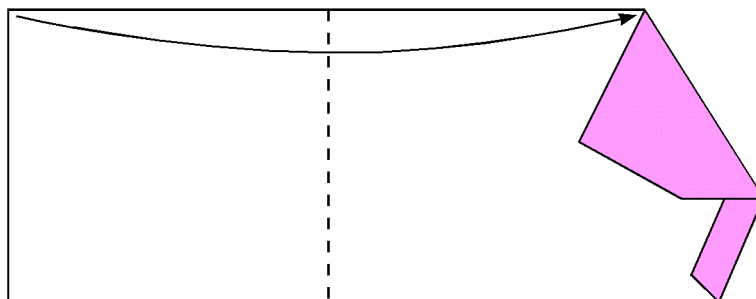
25. Make a second, slightly larger, fold at the same angle.

26



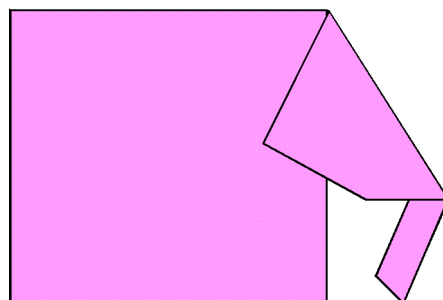
26. Form the ears by folding the top left hand corner inwards.

27



27. Fold the top left corner onto the top right corner, making sure the paper goes underneath the front flap.

28

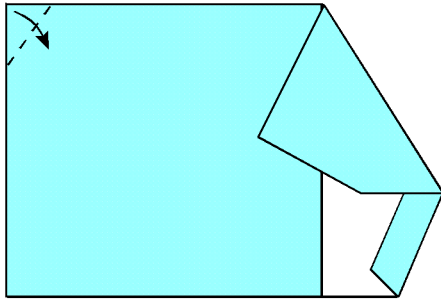


28. The 4-Fold Strip Elephant is finished.

## The 5-fold Strip Elephant

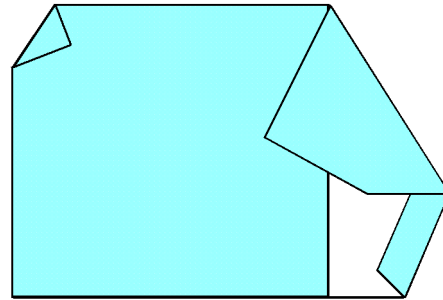
You can create a 5-Fold Strip Elephant, with a tail, by adding a fifth fold to the 4-Fold Strip Elephant like this.

29



29. Fold the top left corner inwards as shown.

30



30. The 5-Fold Strip Elephant is finished.

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