The Elite Hypercube

The Elite Hypercube is made from twenty-two Elite macromodules linked together with joining pieces. I call it a hypercube because it exists in four dimensions, the normal three plus a great deal of time. However, the result is worth the effort.

For clarity, these instructions use Elites and joining pieces made in three colours but you might prefer to make it in single plain colour or a patterned paper instead. The joining pieces are folded from the same size of silver rectangle used for the modules for the Elites. The finished design is heavy so it is best to use strong paper.

Making the joining pieces

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

1. Fold in half from left to right.
2. Fold both outside edges into the centre, then unfold.
3. Make two tiny creases in the outside quarters only to mark the centres of the vertical creases made in step 2.

4. Fold both outside edges inwards using the existing creases.

5. Fold the top right corner inwards using the tiny crease made in step 3 to locate the right hand end of the fold.

6. Fold the bottom left corner inwards in a similar way.

7. Partially open out the folds made in steps 5 and 6.

8. The joining piece is finished. If you put a joining piece in place on every join, which is difficult to achieve, you will need seventy two joining pieces altogether, twenty four in each of the three colours.
Joining two Elites together

9. Pull one corner of the first Elite apart by lifting out ends of the blue and green modules. The Elite will not fall apart.

10. Add a joining piece of the correct colour, like this …

11. … and fold the left hand end downwards into the hole underneath.

12. Fold the end of the green module back into place.

13. Gently curve the folded edge of the blue module and persuade this back into place as well.

14. The joining piece is now locked to the first Elite.

David Mitchell / The Elite Hypercube
15. Open out the corner of a second Elite in a similar way and follow steps 10 through 13, in mirror image, to link the other end of the joining piece into this second Elite as well.

16. Add three more joining pieces in a similar way to complete the join between the two Elites on all four sides.

Assembling the hypercube

17. The twenty two Elites go together to form the Hypercube like this. You will find it difficult to add joining pieces to the inside of all the joins. Leaving a few out will not affect the integrity of the structure or the finished look of the design.
18. The finished Elite Hypercube looks like this. It is best displayed standing on one corner in the way shown in the photograph.