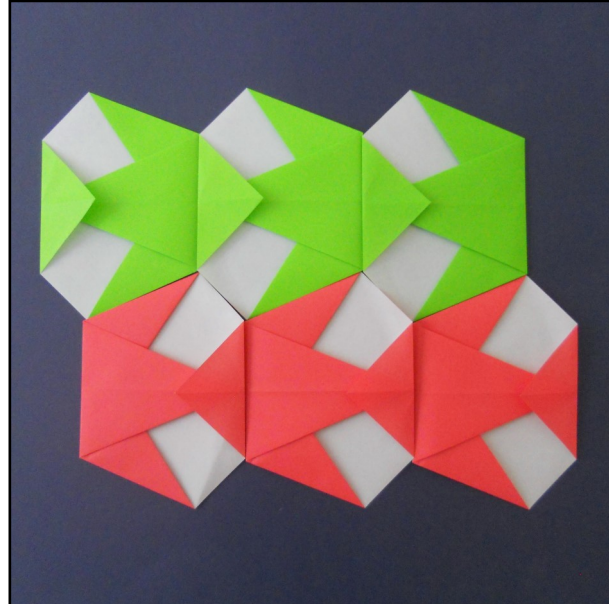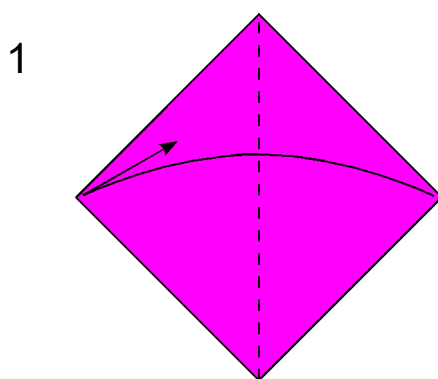# Headless Fish Tile

Designed by David Mitchell

The Headless Fish Tile is one of those designs that is pleasing just because it is so odd. The fish on the tile has no head, but when laid into a tessellation the tail of one fish becomes the head of another. In order for this to be possible, of course, both the left and right edges of the tile need to be the same height. I hope you will like the way in which I have achieved this.
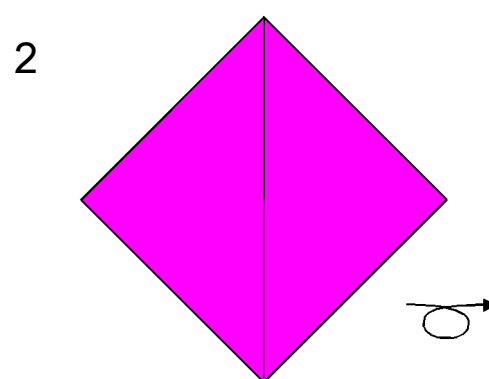
This design is made using just six active folds, so that, if you ignore the reference / location folds, it almost qualifies as a minimalist design. The Headless Fish Tile was designed in 2018.

You will need a square of irogami for each tile. Begin with your paper arranged coloured side up.
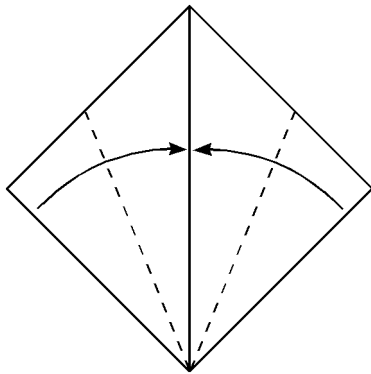
1

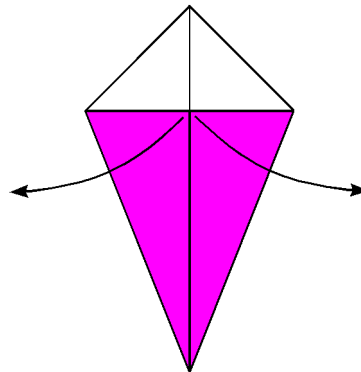1. Fold in half corner to corner, then unfold.

2
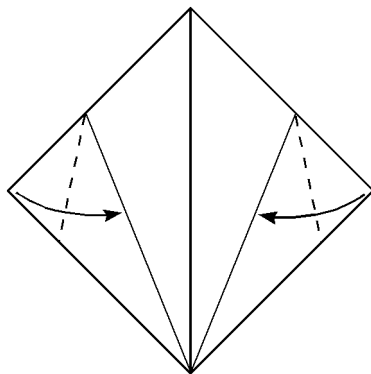
2. Turn over sideways.

3

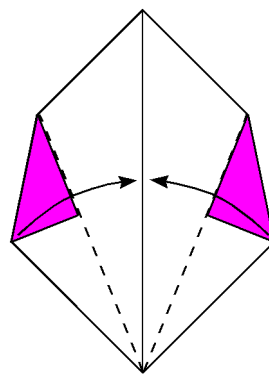3. Fold both the lower sloping edges into the centre.
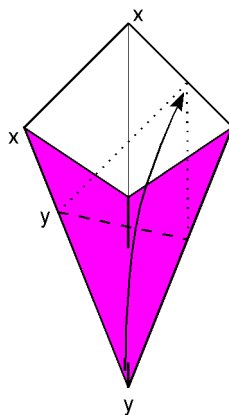
4

4. Open out the folds made in step 3.

5

5. Fold the lower part of both upper sloping edges onto the creases made in step 3.

6

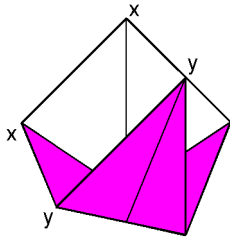6. Fold both lower sloping edges inwards using the existing creases.

7

x

x

y

y

7. Fold the bottom point upwards so that it lies on the upper right sloping edge in such a way that edge yy lies parallel to xx. Picture 8 shows what the result should look like.
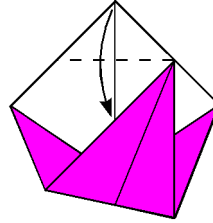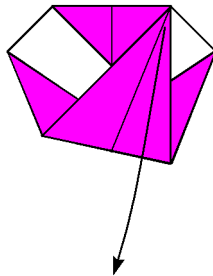
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8

8. Make sure that edges yy and xx are parallel before creasing the fold.
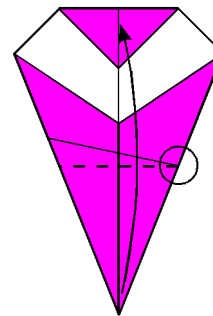
9

9. Fold the top point downwards in the way shown. Make sure it ends up lying on top of the vertical crease.
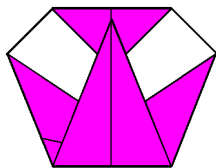
10
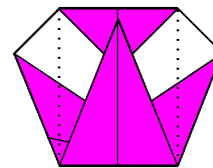
10. Undo the fold made in step 7.

11

11. Fold the bottom point upwards so that it lies on the vertical crease. Note that the new crease starts where the crease made in steps 7 and 8 meets the left hand edge of the paper.
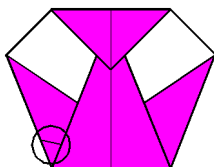
12

12. The result should look like this. The top point of the front flap does not lie on the top edge.
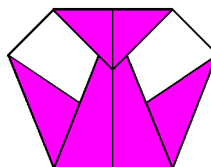
13

13. If you have folded accurately the top and bottom edges of the tile should now be the same width.
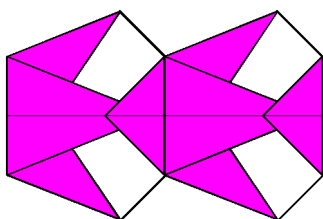
14

14. If you want to avoid having a visible crease in this position you should not make your crease all the way across the paper in step 7.
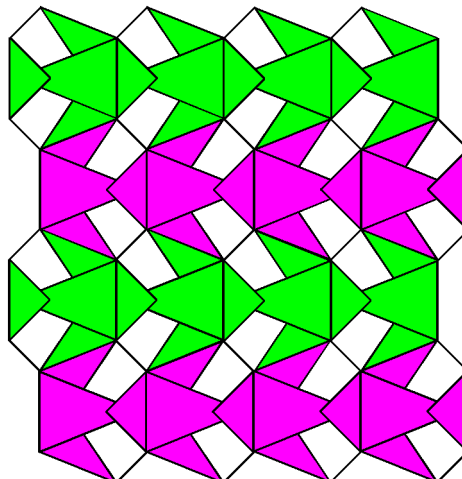
15

15. The Headless Fish Tile is finished. Make several in at least two colours.

16

16. When two tiles are placed together like this the head of the right hand fish appears.

17

17. Headless Fish Tiles will tessellate in rows like this.

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