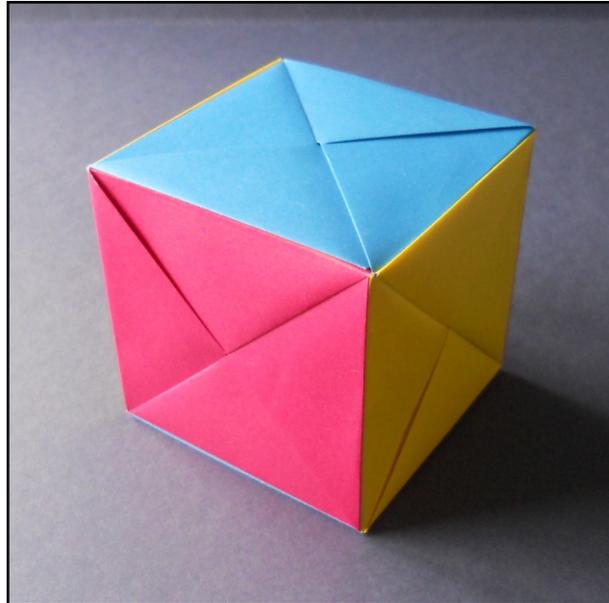


New Mystery Box

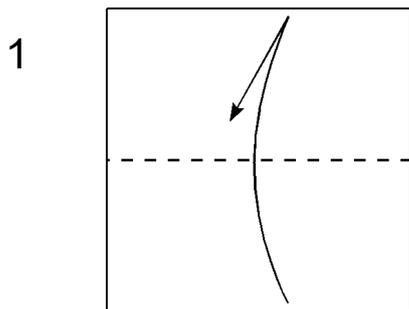
Designed by David Mitchell

The original Mystery Box was a traditional Japanese design published in *World of Origami* by Isao Honda. It was folded from 5x1 strips. I developed this New Mystery Box, which is folded from 4x1 strips, to make the design more easily accessible to modern paperfolders who are more used to starting with squares.

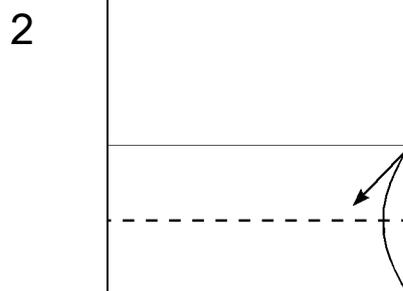


You will need six 4x1 strips, two in each of three contrasting but complementary colours. The easiest way to obtain such strips is to cut them from squares in the way shown below. The design works best when made from thick paper.

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

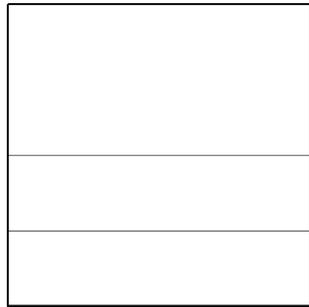


1. Fold a square of paper in half upwards, then unfold.

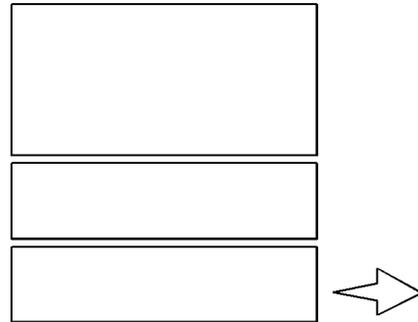


2. Fold the bottom edge onto the crease made in step1, then unfold.

3



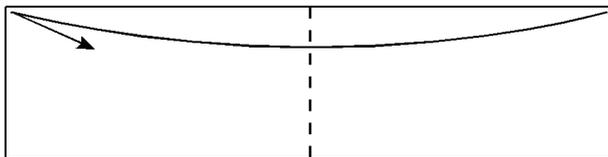
4



3. Cut along both creases to separate the two 4x1 strips.

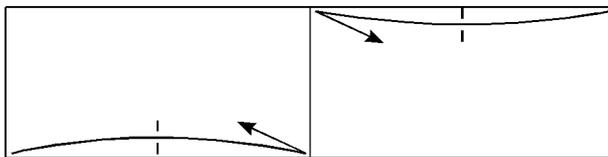
4. You will not need the top half of the paper unless you make a second box.

5



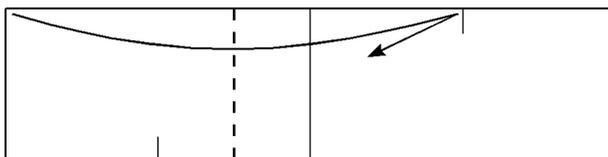
5. Fold in half sideways, then unfold.

6



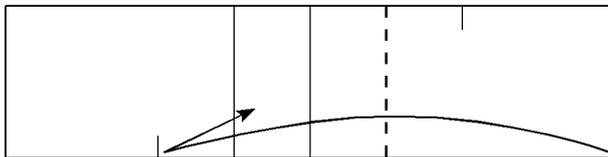
6. Fold both outside edges in to the centre, then unfold, making tiny creases to mark the quarter way points.

7

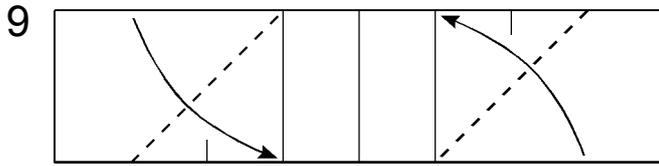


7. Fold the left edge onto the right hand quarter way crease, then unfold.

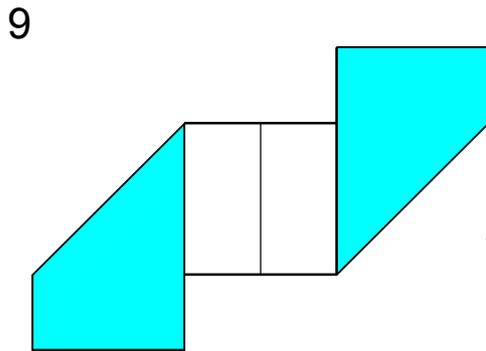
8



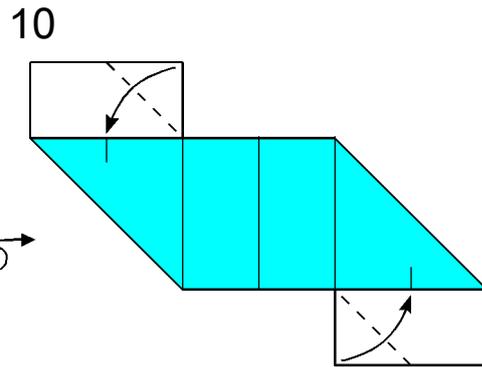
8. Fold the right edge onto the left quarter way crease, then unfold.



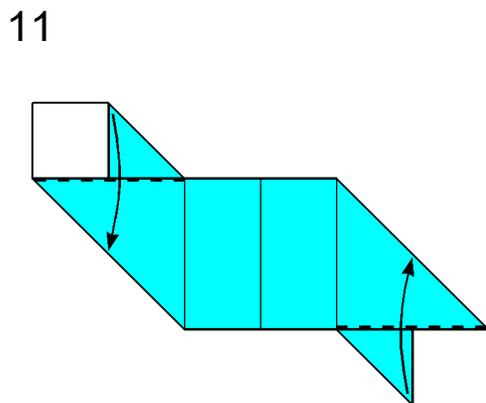
9. Fold the top left and bottom right corners diagonally inwards as shown, using the creases made in steps 7 and 8 to locate the folds.



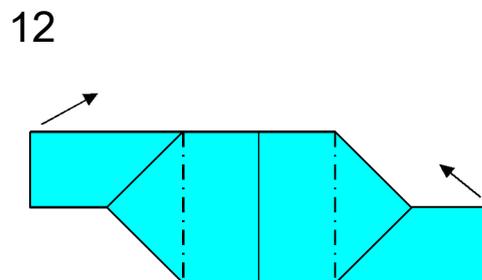
9. Turn over sideways.



10. Fold the top and bottom inside corners inwards as shown.

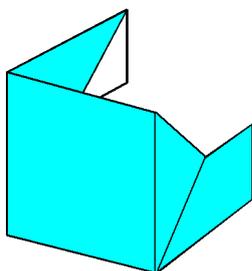


11. Fold the top and bottom edges inwards along the line of the edges of the layers in front of them.



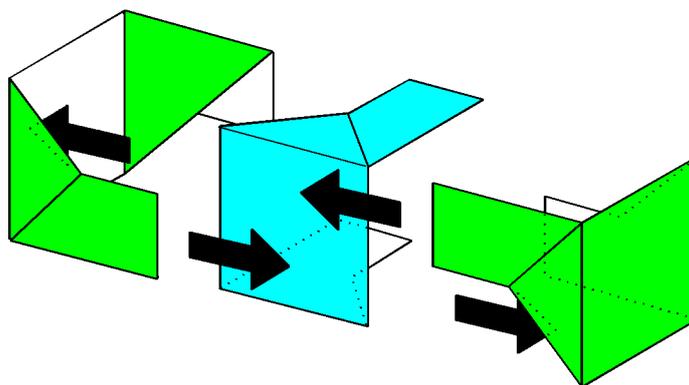
12. Fold both ends backwards at right angles using the creases made in steps 7 and 8.

13



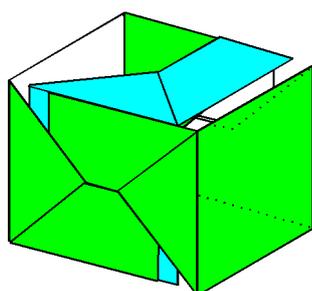
13. The result should look like this. The first module is finished. Make all six.

14



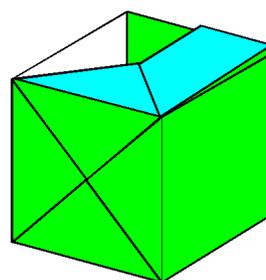
14. Each face of the Mystery Box is double-layered. The inner layer of each face is formed from the central square of a single module and the outer face from the arms of two other modules which link across it. The single-thickness flaps on the end of each module tuck underneath the double-thickness area of the opposite module to hold the assembly together. The design is not completely stable until all the modules are in place.

15



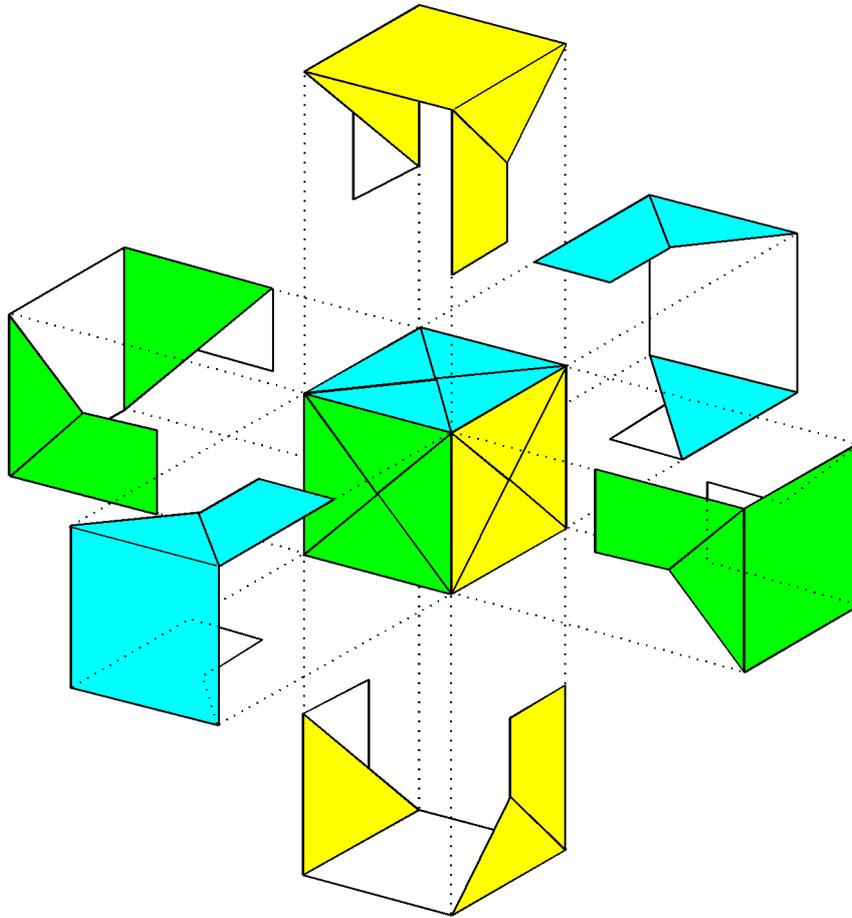
15. This picture shows how the flaps of the second and third modules slide under each other to complete the first face

16



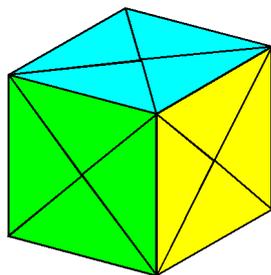
16. ... like this.

17



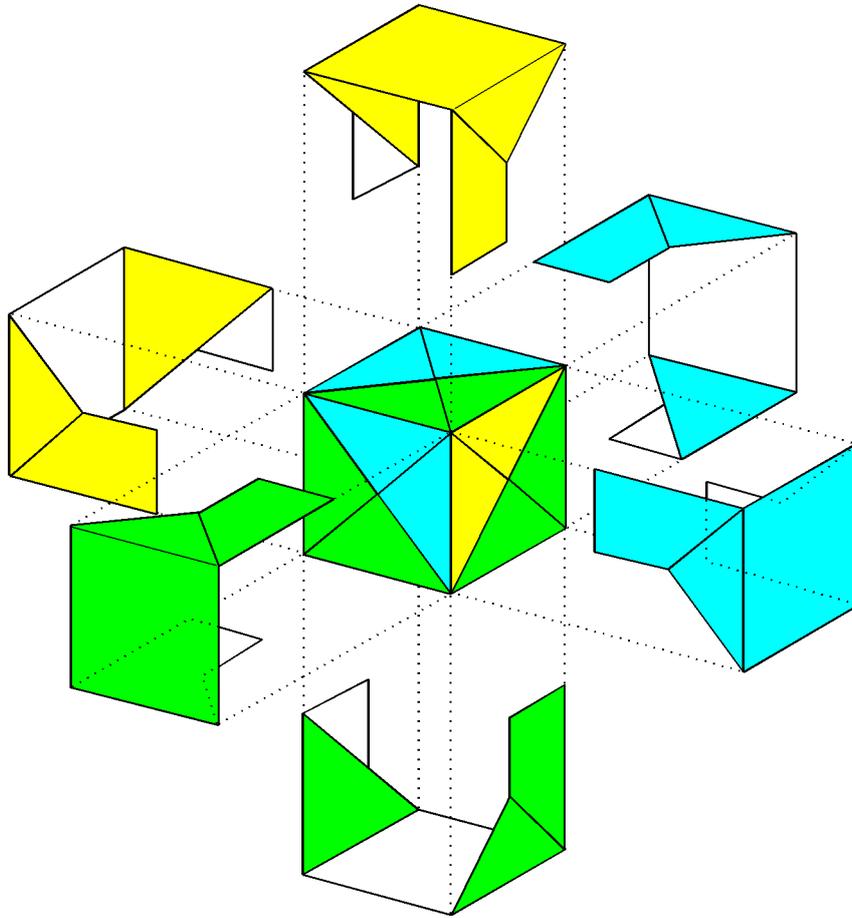
17. This exploded diagrams shows how all six modules of the same colour can be arranged opposite each other to create a New Mystery Box whose faces are each a single colour.

18



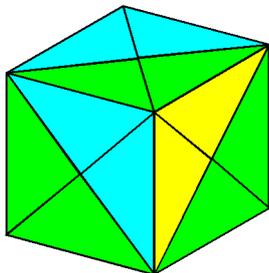
18. The finished design will look like this.

17



17. Alternatively modules of the same colour can be arranged adjacent to each other to produce the pattern of colours shown below. It is also possible to arrange the modules so that two pairs of the same colour are opposite each other and one pair adjacent to each other.

18



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