

Not a Cocotte / Giracotte / Swancotte

Designed by David Mitchell

The Cocotte / Pajarita is one of the oldest recreational paperfolds. In France, in particular, it was not only a popular toy, but also regularly featured in caricatures, cartoons, prints and paintings, and was used as a symbol both for childhood / childishness and for prostitution / promiscuity / infidelity. It is somewhat surprising, therefore, that a good number of these depictions are either inaccurately drawn or deliberately distorted, often having necks and tails that are disproportionately long. See example below.

In the Summer of 2020 it occurred to me to wonder whether it might be possible to convert a standard Cocotte / Pajarita into the long-necked kind featured in many of these odd depictions



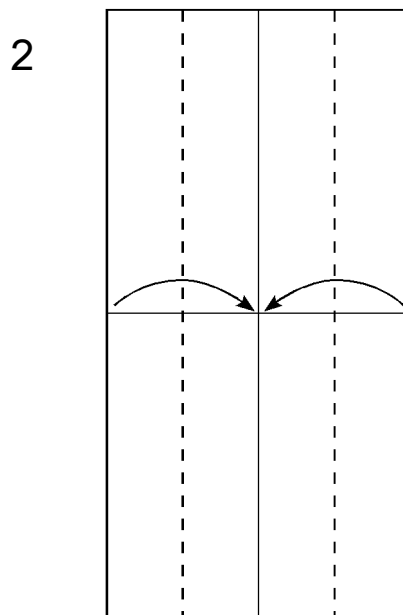
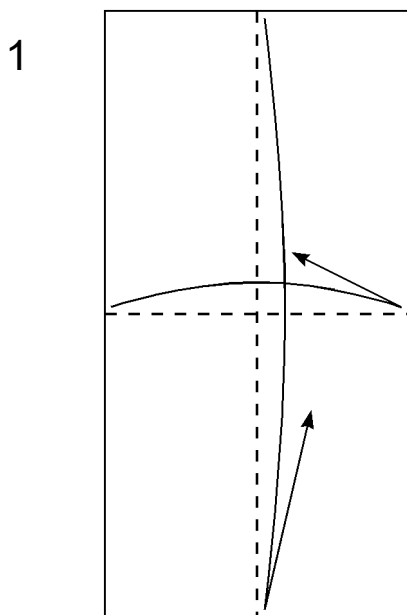
Converting the standard design proved problematic.

However it proved possible to create a design that looks like a Cocotte, from a 12x1 rectangle, using a totally different folding method. It was then simple to convert this Not a Cocotte design into the long-necked version by extending the length of the rectangle it was folded from. For obvious reasons, I call the long-necked version Giracotte.

As a bonus, I then discovered that the various versions of the Not a Cocotte design would transform into alternative versions of themselves, which I have, somewhat inevitably, christened Not Another Cocotte. Not Another Cocotte is explained in a separate pdf.

Not a Cocotte

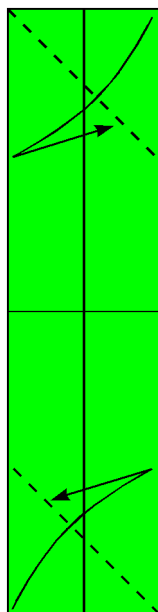
You will need a 2x1 rectangle of paper. Any kind of paper can be used. If you are using irogami begin with your paper arranged white side up.



1. Fold in half edge to edge, then unfold, in both directions.

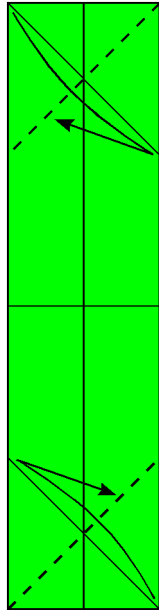
2. Fold both outside edges into the centre,

3

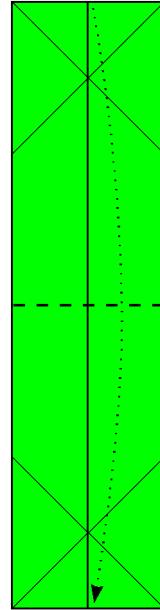


3. Fold the top edge onto the left edge, then unfold. Fold the bottom edge onto the right edge, then unfold.

4



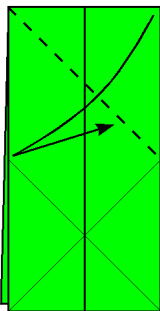
5



4. Fold the top edge onto the right edge, then unfold. Fold the bottom edge onto the left edge, then unfold.

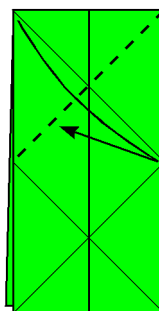
5. Fold in half downwards behind using the existing crease,

6



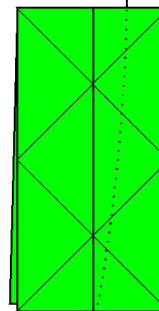
6. Fold the top edge onto the left edge, then unfold.

7



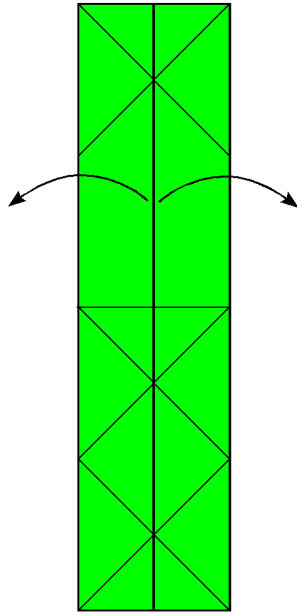
7. Fold the top edge onto the right edge, then unfold.

8



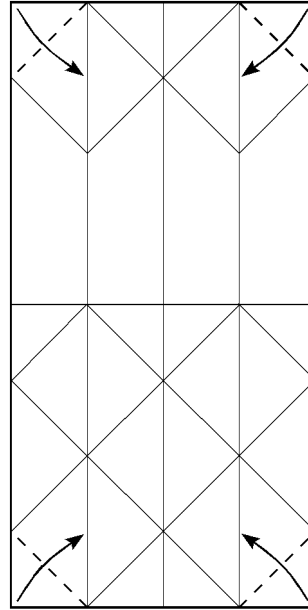
8. Undo the fold made in step 5.

9



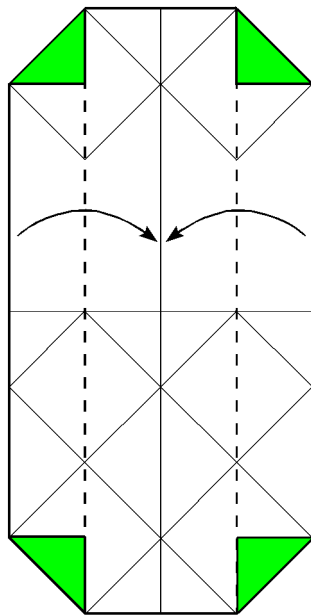
9. Open out.

10



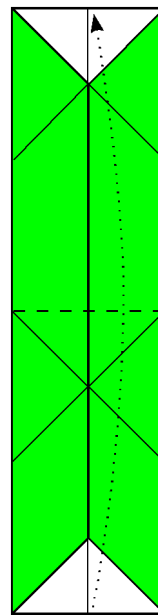
10. Fold all four corners inwards using the existing creases.

11



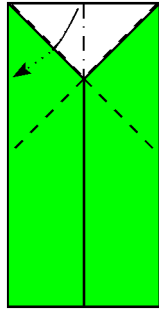
11. Fold both outside edges inwards using the existing creases.

12



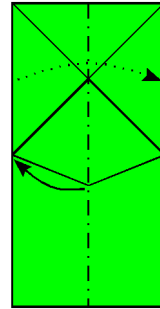
12. Fold in half upwards behind using the existing crease.

13



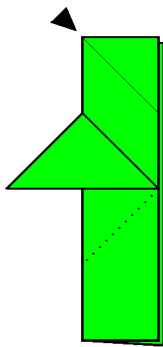
13. Form the head and beak by tucking the white area of the paper away into the pocket at the left hand side. The design will become three-dimensional as you do this.

14



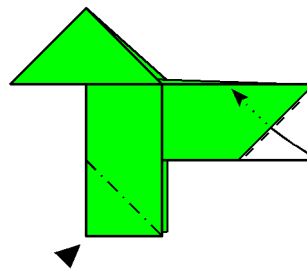
14. Fold in half behind from left to right, allowing the head and beak to flatten to the right. Picture 15 shows what the result should look like.

15



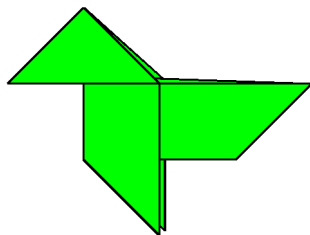
15. Fold the tail downwards in between the other layers, using the existing crease.

16



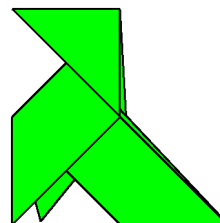
16. Fold the bottom right corner away in between the other layers. Tuck the left bottom corner diagonally upwards into the pocket in front of it as shown.

17



17. Separate the legs slightly. Rotate 90 degrees clockwise and stand upright on its feet and tail.

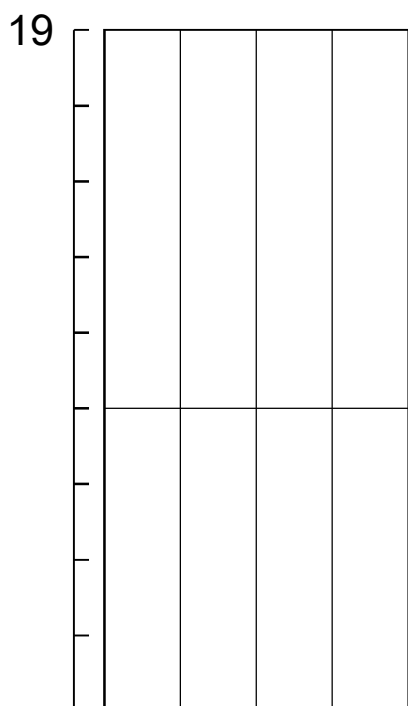
18



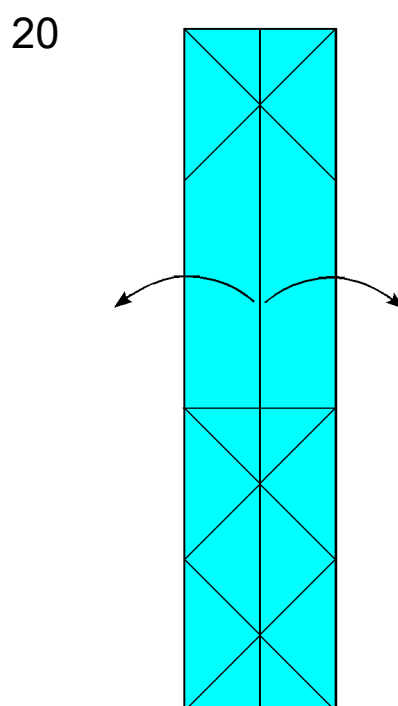
18. Not a Cocotte is finished.

Giracotte

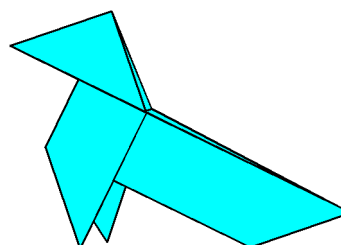
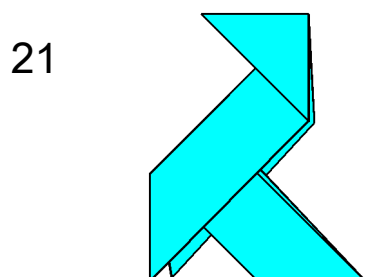
Giracotte is made from a 9x4 rectangle of paper, which is fairly easily obtained from A4 or US letter size paper. Any kind of paper can be used. If you are using irogami begin with your paper arranged white side up.



19. Begin by creasing the paper in the way shown here, then follow steps 3 through 8 on pages 2 and 3.



20. Open out, then follow steps 9 through 17 on pages 4 and 5.

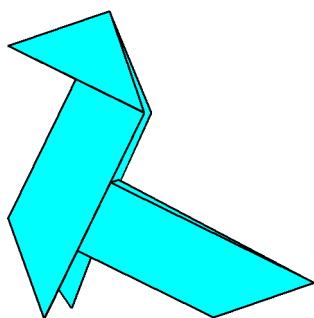


21. The result should look like the left hand picture. If you apply the Not Another Cocotte transformation to Giracotte it will transform to the shape shown on the right.

Swancotte

Swancotte is made from a 10x4 rectangle of paper, which is also fairly easily obtained from A4 or US letter size paper. Any kind of paper can be used. up. You will find it a simple matter to adapt the folding sequence to produce this result.

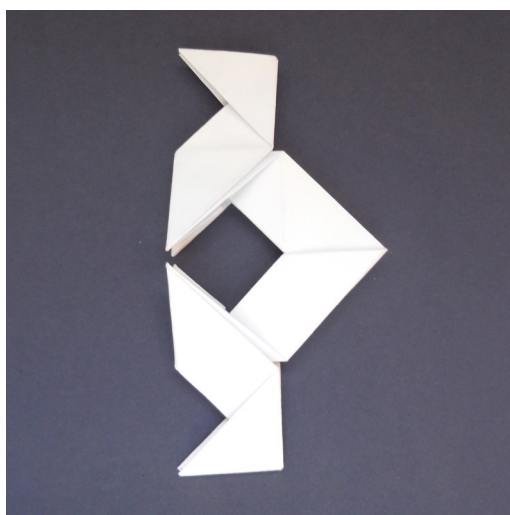
22



22. This is Swancotte .

Other related designs

You can obtain other related designs by using longer strips. The photo below shows one such possibility, which has been folded from a 1x4 rectangle. The possibilities, are probably endless ...



Cocotte Reflecting Pajarita

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