Octagonal Wreath

The Octagonal Wreath is a simple yet elegant design. It is interesting for the way in which the fold made in step 5 divides the visible surface of the module into two equal triangular parts, makes the locking mechanism possible and directly determines the form of the central hole, and somewhat unusual in that each successive module is used as a template to locate the crucial fold in the module that is added next.

When made from sufficiently small paper this wreath makes an ideal decoration for a Xmas tree.

You will need eight squares of paper, four in each of two contrasting but complementary colours. If you are using irogami begin with your paper arranged white side up.

1. Fold in half from bottom to top.

2. Fold all eight modules to this stage before continuing.
3. Fold the right sloping edge onto the bottom edge, then unfold. Make this fold in the front layer only.

4. Fold the bottom left corner onto the other end of the crease made in step 3.

5. Unfold.

6. Fold the bottom right corner diagonally upwards like this. Note that the new crease begins where the crease made in step 4 intersects the bottom edge (marked with a circle) and that the lower part of the right sloping edge is folded onto the top part of the same edge.

7. Turn over sideways.

8. Fold the top corner of both the front layers downwards like this.

9. Turn over sideways.
10. Fold the bottom edge of the second module diagonally inwards so that it lies along the right edge of the first module. This is the same fold that you made in step 6 except that it is easier to make now that you have an upright edge to line it up with.

11. Insert a second module into the pocket in the first module, making sure it goes all the way in.

12. Fold the bottom edge of the second module diagonally inwards so that it lies along the right edge of the first module. This is the same fold that you made in step 6 except that it is easier to make now that you have an upright edge to line it up with.

13. Unfold.

14. Fold the top corner downwards using the crease made in step 12 as a guide. Make this crease through all the layers and through both modules.
15. Remake the fold you made in step 12.

16. Rotate 45 degrees clockwise to look like the modules shown in picture 17.

17. Insert a third module into the pocket in the second module, making sure it goes all the way in, then repeat steps 12 through 15 again. Add all the remaining modules in the same way.

18. Complete the wreath by inserting the last module inside the first and lock it into place by remaking fold 8. The result will look like this. Turn over sideways.

19. The Octagonal Wreath is finished.

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