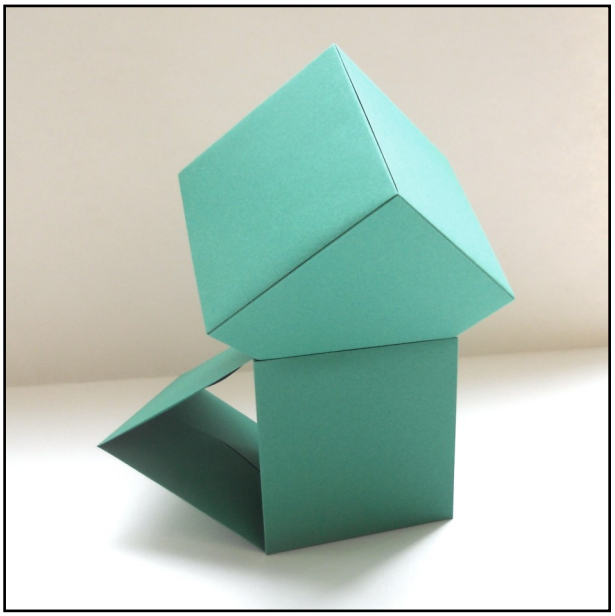
Abstract Fox / Digitalis

Designed by David Mitchell



These two macromodular sculptures are made by combining equilateral twin open prisms with the Paul Jackson Cube.

There are several ways to make an equilateral twin open prism. The method of making this shape I have chosen to diagram here, because it gives a clean result, uses two mirror-image modules, but any other method will probably work equally well.

The Abstract Fox arose out of a challenge to myself to try to design a truly abstract representational design (if that is not a complete contradiction in terms). Looking for a form I could base the sculpture on, I realised that the equilateral twin open prism could function as an abstract body and tail. I then played around with using various types of cubes as a head but finally decided that the Paul Jackson Cube was the only one that gave the clean effect I was looking for.

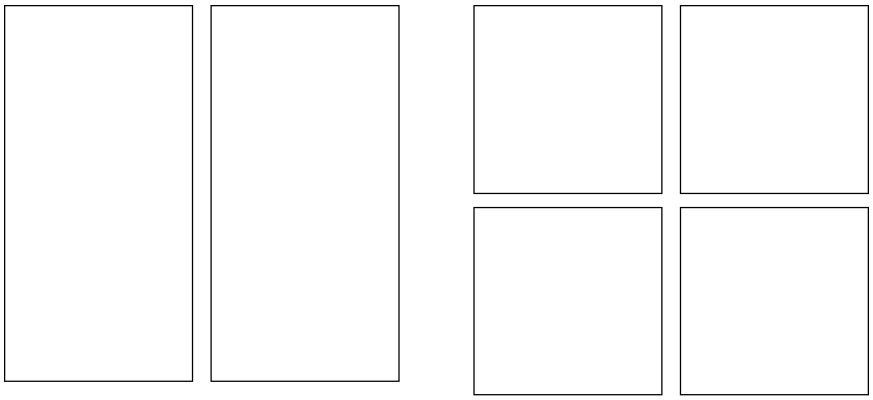
I thought at first that Abstract Foxes were unlikely to stack to good effect. Then I tried it and found the result works well as a macromodular tower. I call it Digitalis for obvious reasons.

Both sculptures were designed in 2020.

If you are not familiar with the Paul Jackson Cube diagrams can be found on the Diagrams for Modular Designs page on my website.

Preparing the paper

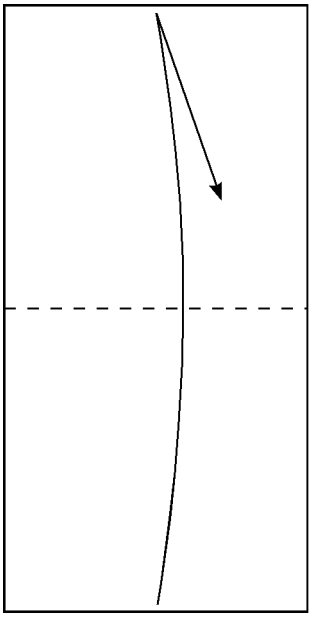
You will need two 2x1 rectangles to make each equilateral twin open prism and 6 squares to make each Paul Jackson Cube. Any kind of paper can be used. The equivalent size of the 2x1 rectangles and squares required is shown in the picture below.



Making the equilateral twin open prism

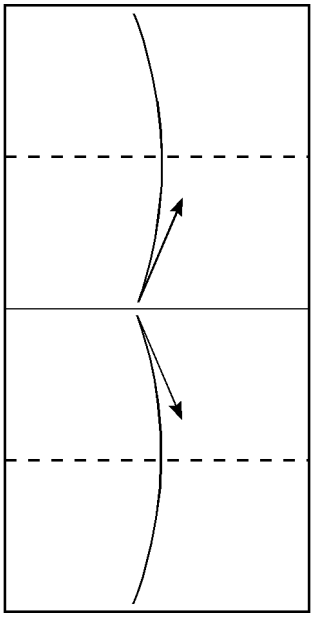
You will need two 2x1 rectangles.

1



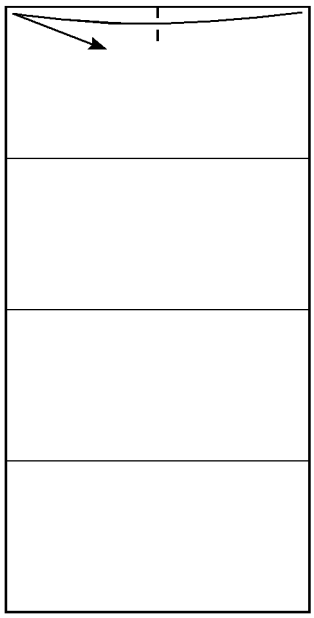
1. Fold in half upwards, then unfold.

2



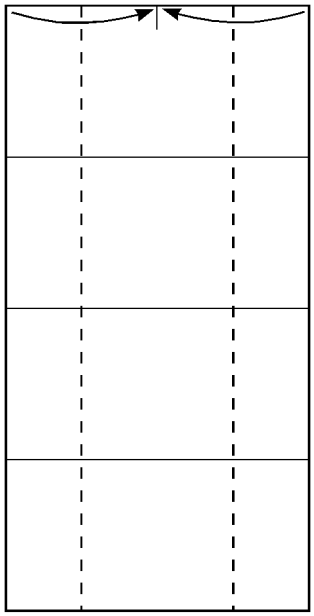
2. Fold the top and bottom edges onto the central crease, then unfold.

3



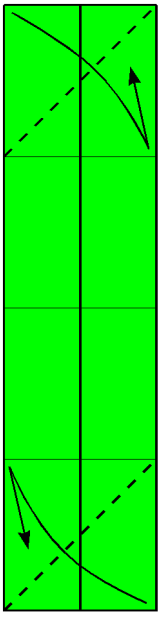
3. Make a tiny crease to mark the centre of the top edge.

4



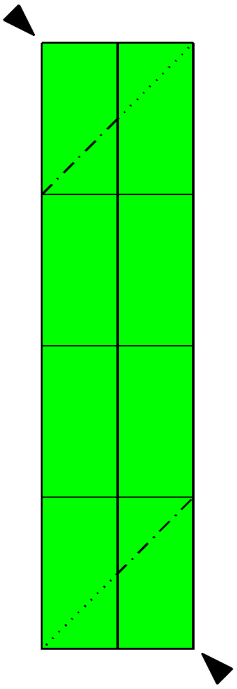
4. Fold the left and right edges into the centre, using the tiny crease made in step 3 to locate the folds.

5



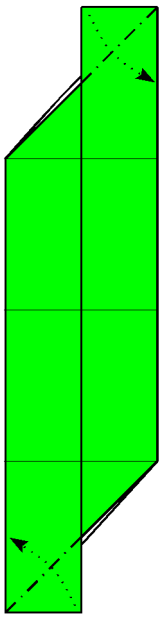
5. Fold the top left and bottom right corners inwards as shown, then unfold.

6



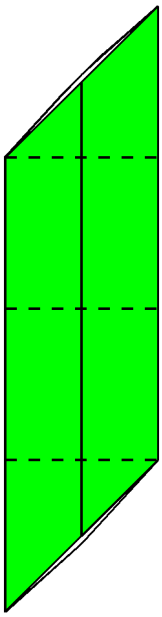
6. Turn the top left and bottom right corners inside out in between the other layers.

7



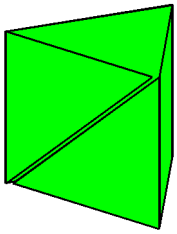
7. Fold these two small triangular flaps backwards into the pockets behind them.

8



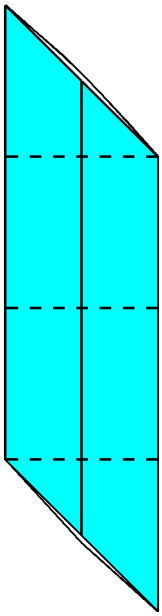
8. Roll the module into a loose triangular open prism using the existing creases.

9



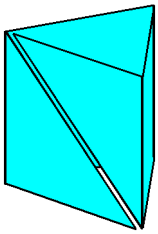
9. This is the result. The first module is finished.

10



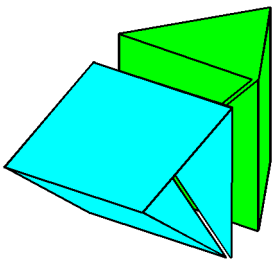
10. Make a second, mirror-image, module in a similar way and roll up as well.

11



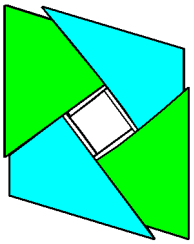
11. The mirror-image module is finished.

12



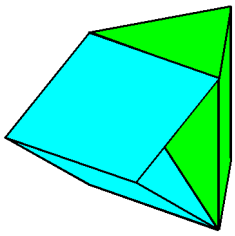
12. Arrange the modules and like this and put the flaps into the pockets in the way shown in picture 13.

13



13. For the sake of clarity only the flaps and pockets are shown in this picture.

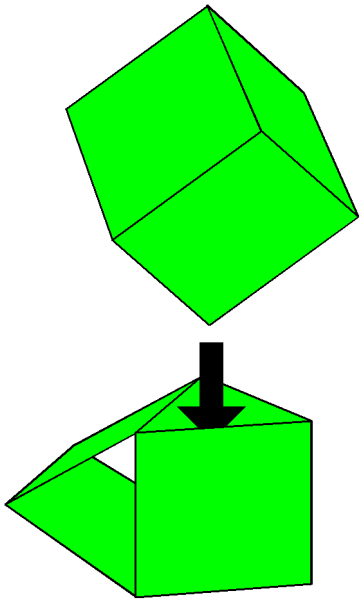
14



14. The finished equilateral twin open prism should look like this.

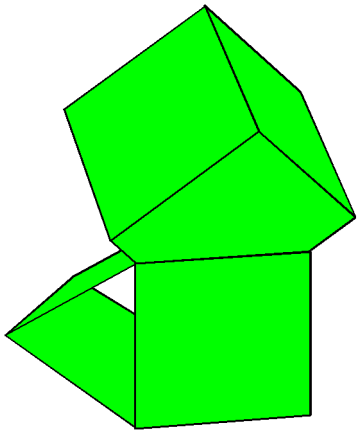
Making the Abstract Fox

15



15. Make the Paul Jackson Cube and simply place on top of the equilateral twin open prism like this.

16



16. The Abstract Fox is finished.

Making Digitalis

Digitalis is made by the simple expedient of stacking three Abstract Foxes on top of each other like this: