

Alien

Designed by David Mitchell

Alien (originally known as Self-portrait as an Alien, for obvious reasons) is a very simple design but I am very proud of it. The early folds are all well located, which means that your sketch will be the same as mine until half way through step 7. The judgement folds that follow, however, mean that Alien will come out looking slightly different every time it is folded, which offers variety as well. If initially folded

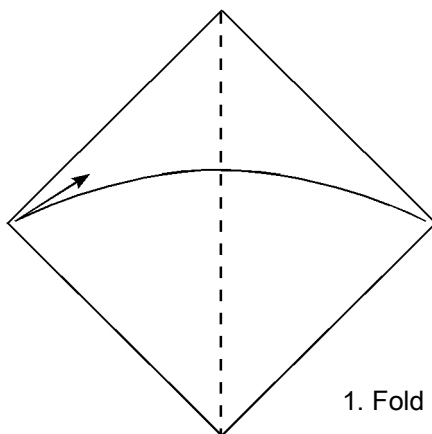


upside down, Alien can also be taught as a surprise denouement design where the folder has no idea what they are folding until the finished design is turned face upwards. Alien was designed in 1997.

Alien is also precious to me because I had the privilege of teaching it to a class of Palestinian schoolgirls in East Jerusalem when I was the guest of Miri Golan and Paul Jackson at the Israeli Origami Centre convention .

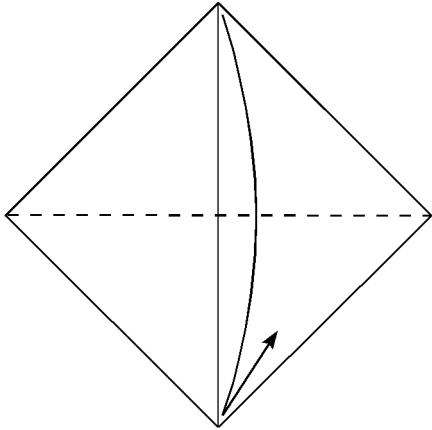
You will need a single square sheet of irogami. Begin with your paper arranged white side up.

1



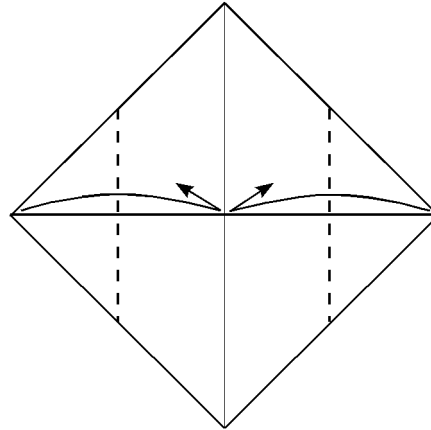
1. Fold in half sideways, then unfold.

2



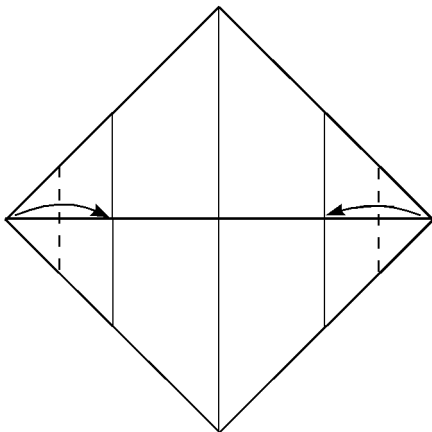
2. Fold in half downwards, then unfold.

3



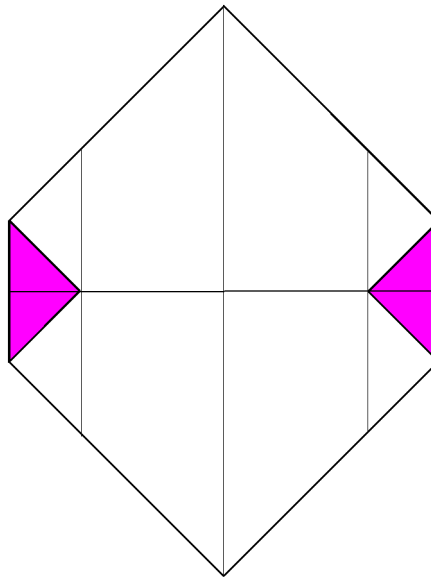
3. Fold both the left and right hand corners into the centre, then unfold.

4



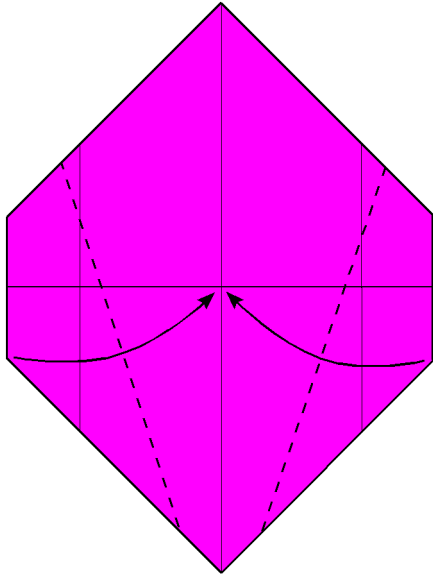
4. Fold both the left and right hand corners inwards as shown.

5



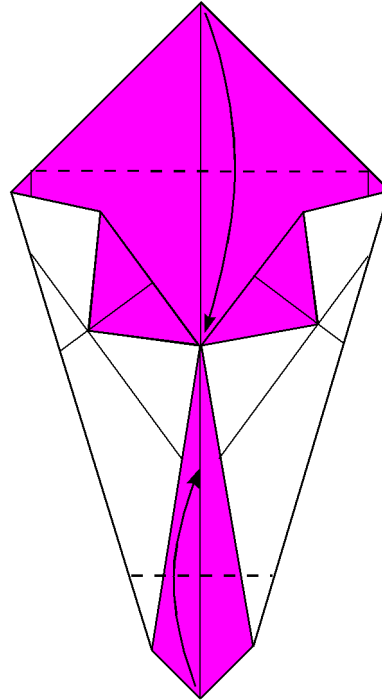
5. Turn over sideways.

6



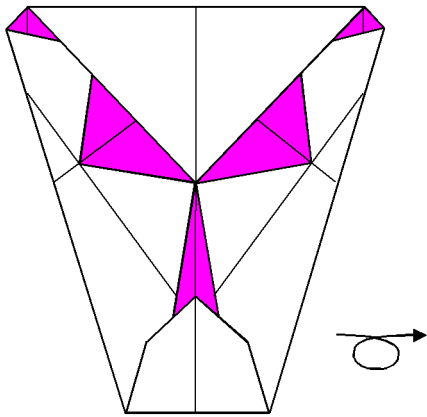
6. Fold two corners into the centre, like this.

7



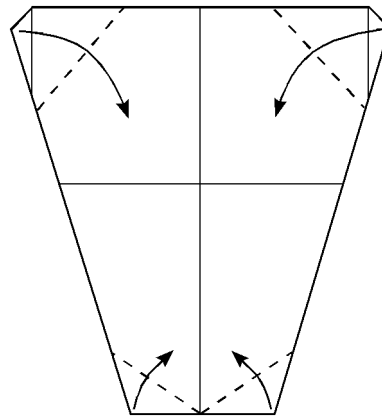
7. Fold the top corner down to the centre as well then fold the bottom corner upwards as shown. There is no exact location point for this fold. Experiment with different positions and see what happens.

8

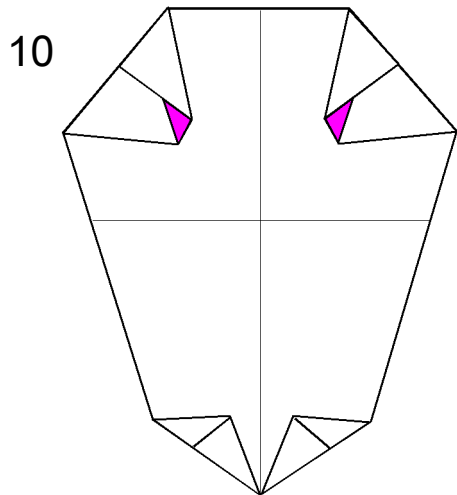


8. Turn over sideways.

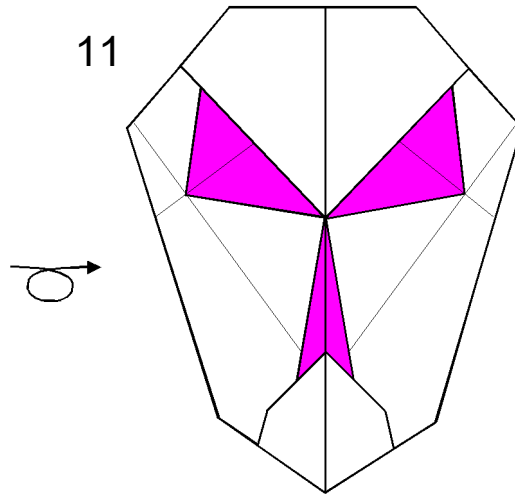
9



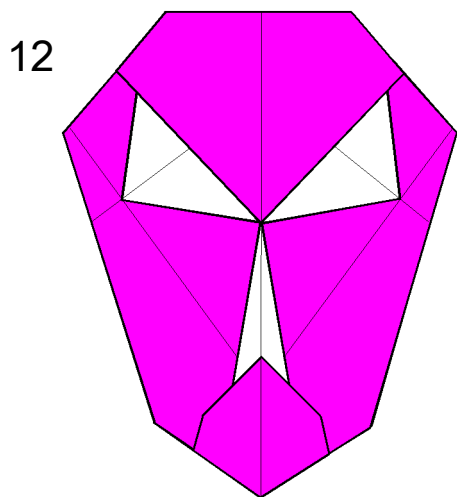
9. Fold all four corners inwards as shown. There are no location points for these folds.



10. Turn over sideways again.



11. Alien is finished.



12. If you begin with your paper coloured side up Alien will look like this instead.

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