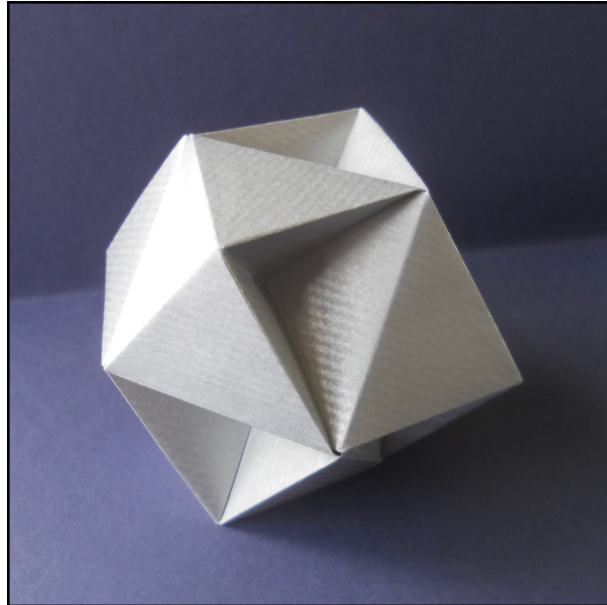# Artifact and Thingamy

Designed by David Mitchell

Artifact and Thingamy are both made from the same module, Artifact from six and Thingamy from two. I call the module the Artifact module.

When I showed Artifact to Wayne Brown in 1990, soon after I had created it, he told me that David Brill had already discovered the same form but had made it using three rather than six pieces of paper. The folding and assembly methods of both designs are essentially similar. David Brill calls his design a Waterbombic Dodecahedron.

Each Artifact is folded from a silver rectangle, that is a rectangle which has edges in the proportion 1:sqrt2. DIN paper sizes such as A4, A5 etc are good enough approximations of silver rectangles for practical paperfolding purposes.
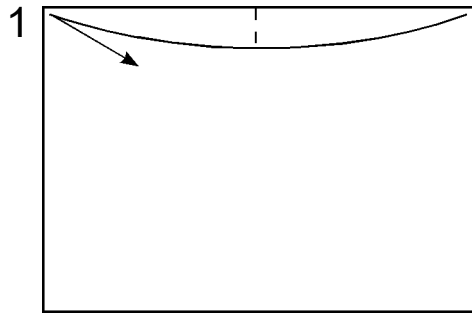
Thingamy is perhaps ideal for use as a hanging decoration in a set of earrings or on a Xmas tree.

Artifact is an attractive free-standing ornament in its own right but it will also function as a macromodule. I have used it in this way to create my Stargate and Nexus designs.
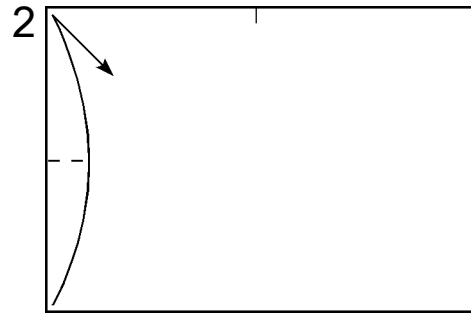
For clarity, the diagrams for both designs show you how to construct them from modules folded from paper of several different colours but both designs also look good when all the modules are folded from paper of the same colour or pattern.
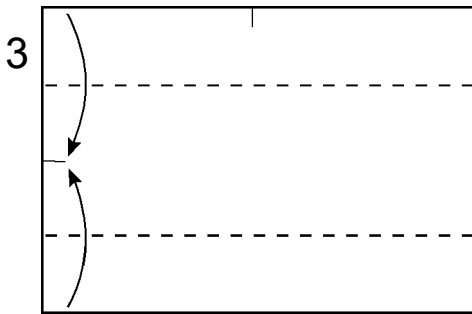
Folding the Artifact module

If you are using irogami begin with your paper arranged white side up.
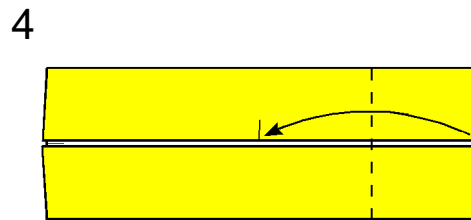
1

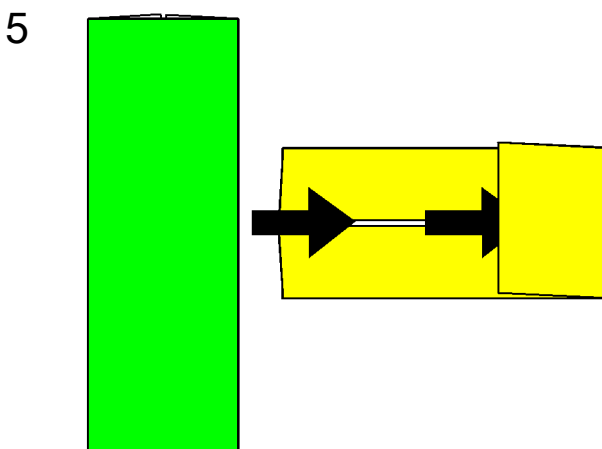1. Make a tiny crease in the centre of the top edge.

2

2. Mark the middle of the left hand edge in a similar way.

3

3. Fold both the top and bottom edges into the centre using the crease made in step 2 to locate the folds. Fold all six modules to this stage.
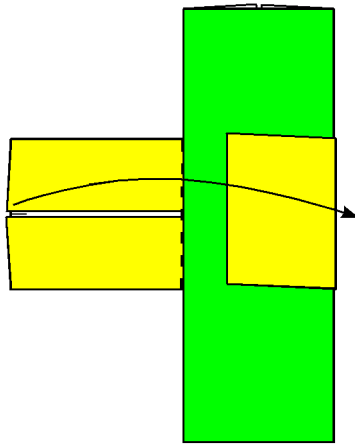
4

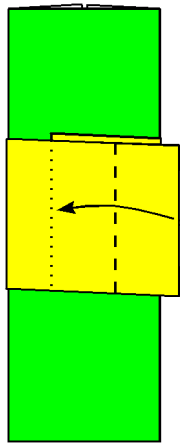4. Fold the right hand edge inwards using the crease made in step 1 to locate the fold.

5

5. Insert a second partly folded module underneath the front flap to act as a template.

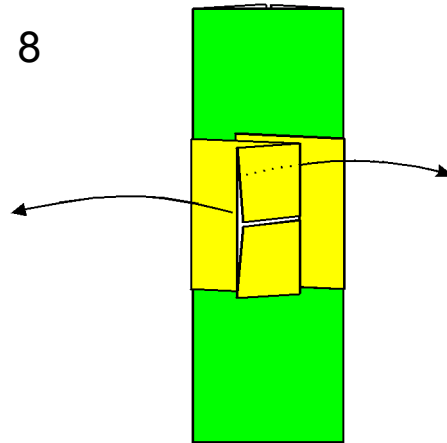David Mitchell / Artifact and Thingamy

6

6. Wrap the right hand edge of the first module around the template as tightly as possible without damaging either. Crease firmly.

7

7. Fold the right hand edge of the front layers across to the right and align it to the left hand edge of the layer underneath.
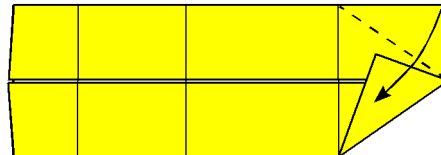
8

8. Open out the folds made in steps 4, 6 and 7 and remove the template.

9

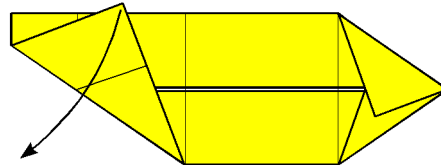9. Fold the lower right hand section of the module in half diagonally upwards.

10

10. Fold the top right hand section of the module in half diagonally downwards.
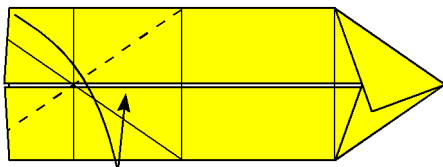
11

11. Fold the lower left hand section of the module in half diagonally upwards making sure the crease goes through the point marked with a circle.
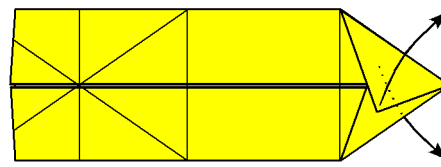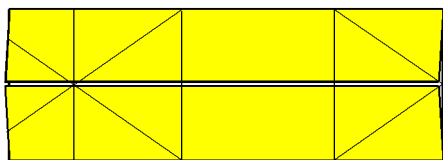
12

12. Open out the fold made in step 11.

13

13. Repeat fold 11 on the top left hand corner in a similar way.
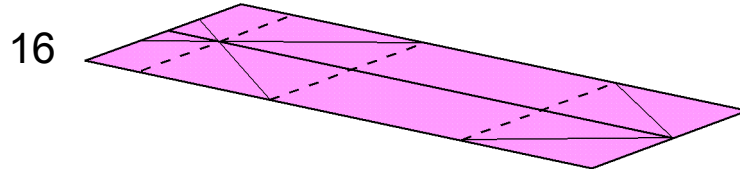
14

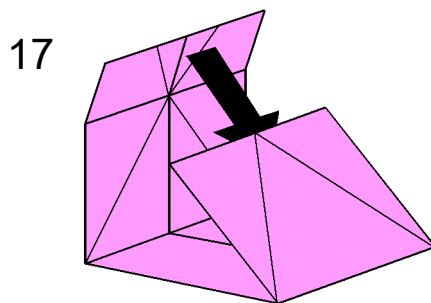14. Open out the folds made in steps 9 and 10.

15

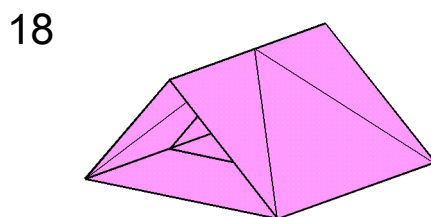15. The Artifact module is finished.

Assembling Thingamy

Begin by folding two Artifact modules in contrasting but complementary colours.
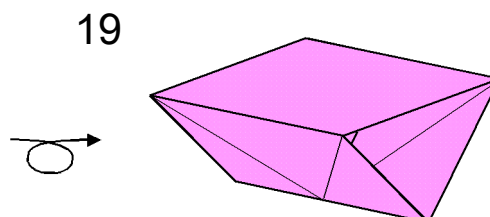
16

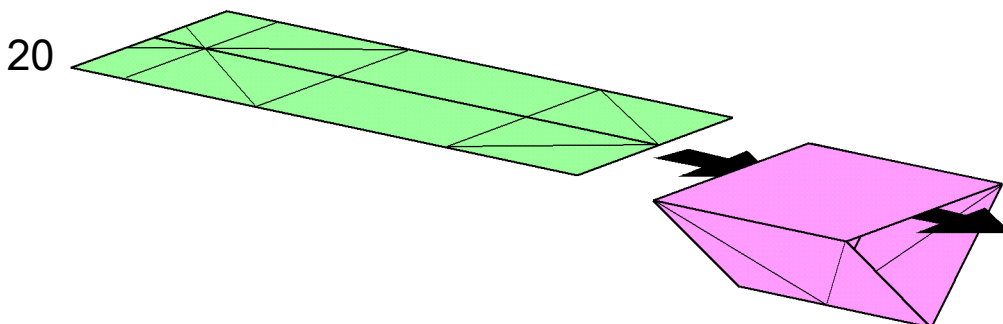16. Roll the first module up, using the existing creases, so that it looks like picture 17.

17

17. Tuck one end of the module inside the other end as shown.

18   19

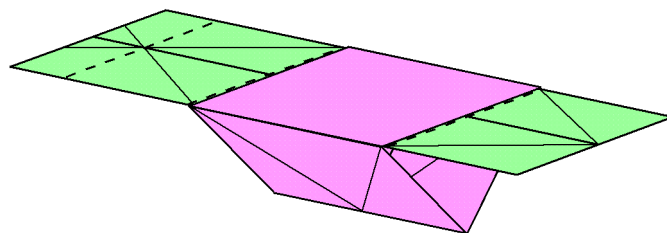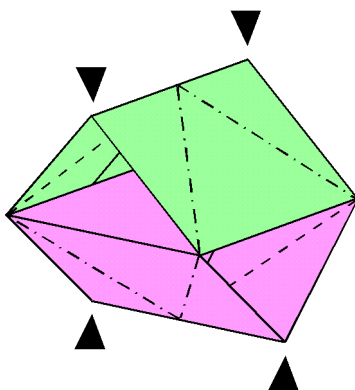18. Turn over sideways.   19. Your first module should now look like this.

20

20. Slide the second module through the first, making sure that it is the correct way up.
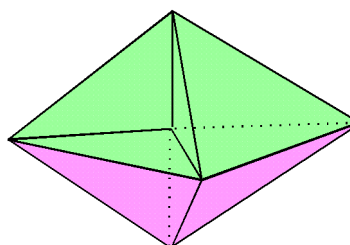
21

21. Roll the first module up in the same way as you rolled up the first in step 16 then insert one end inside the other in the same way as you did in step 17.
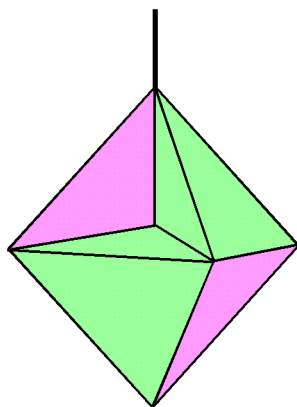
22

22. The result should look like this. Push both the top and both the bottom corners inwards as shown to lock the modules firmly together and create the form.
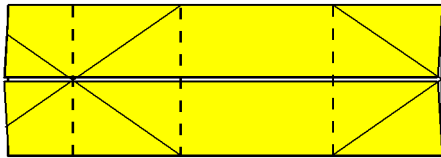
23

23. Thingamy is finished.

24

24. It is a simple matter to attach a thread to Thingamy to turn it into a hanging ornament.
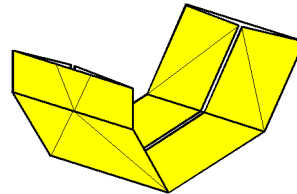
Assembling Artifact

Begin by folding six Artifact modules, two in each of three contrasting but complementary colours.
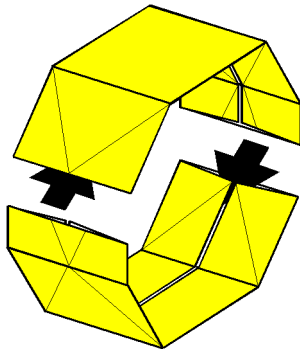
25

15. Roll the first module up, using the existing creases, so that it looks like picture 26.
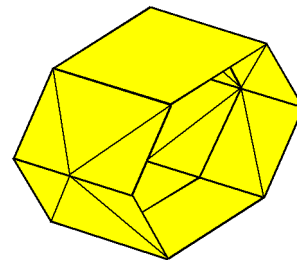
26

26. Prepare all six modules to this stage.
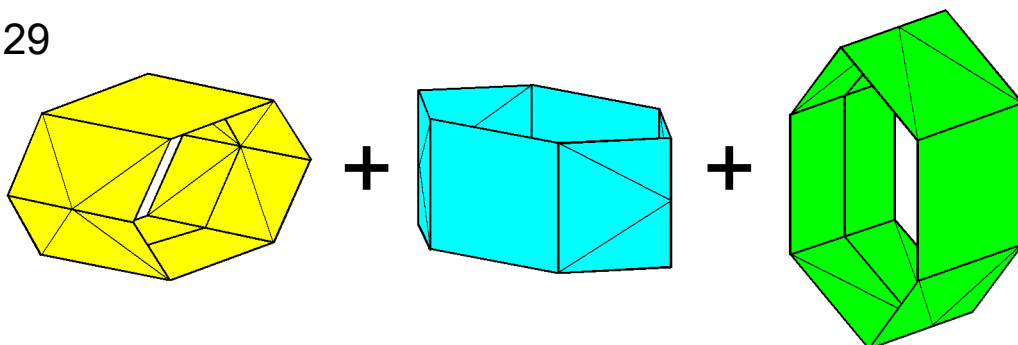
27

27. Form two modules of the same colour into a ring by inserting the shorter end flaps inside the longer ones.
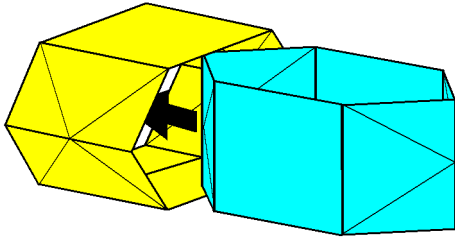
28

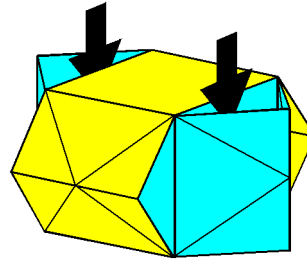28. The result should look like this.

29

29. Artefact is made by combining three rings in a Borromean relationship, like this:
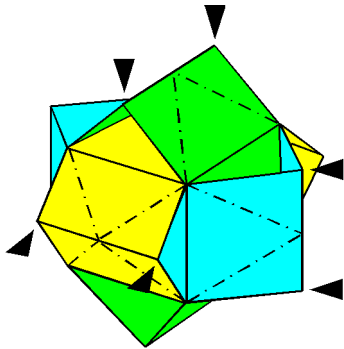
30

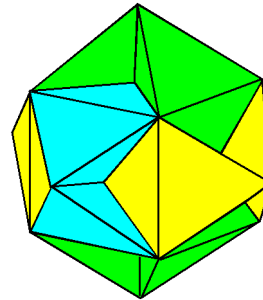30. Slide the second ring inside the first.

31

31. The remaining modules must be added individually through the holes between the first and second rings then linked together to form the third ring once they are in place.

32

32. Lock the rings together by turning all the corners inside out using the existing creases.

33

33. This is the result. Artifact is finished.