

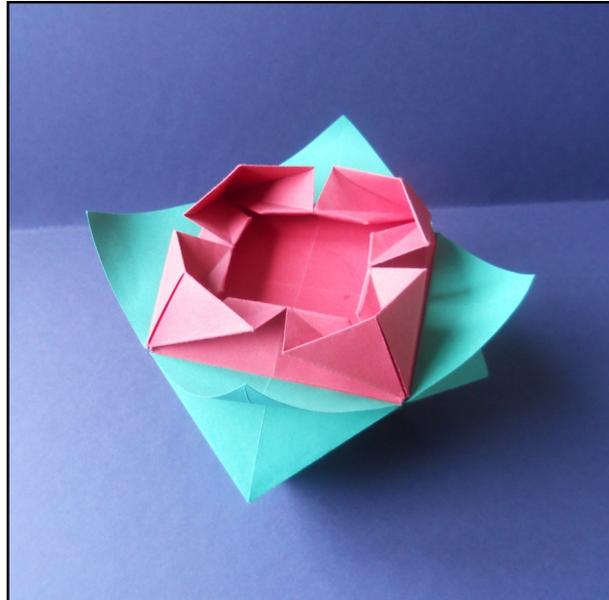
Floral Gift Box

Designed by David Mitchell

The Floral Gift Box is one of my earliest designs, dating from 1987, but it is still amongst my favourites. It is folded from two squares of the same size. The form of the base goes way back.

My input was:

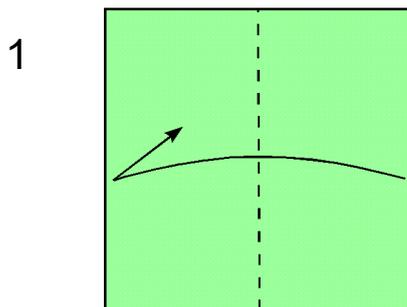
1. the way the base locks
2. the way the flaps are curled, not a common practice at that time as it is now
3. the addition of a lid.



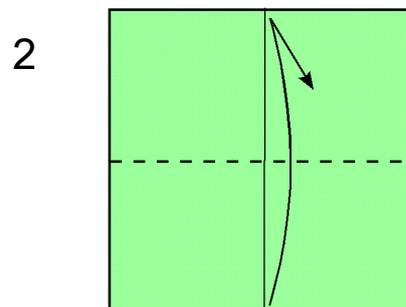
These diagrams show you how to fold the base from dark green / light green duo paper which makes the curled flaps look like greenery. If you were to use green/other colour duo they would look like petals. The lid can be folded from irogami. You could also easily colour change the centre of the lid by slipping another, smaller, square of paper inside it.

Making the Base

You will need a square of duo paper. Begin with the colour you want to show on top of the curled flaps uppermost.

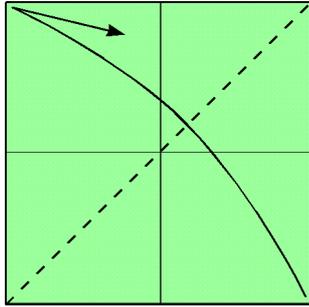


1. Fold in half sideways, then unfold.



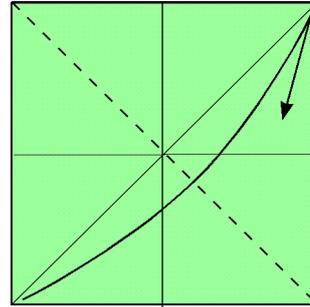
2. Fold in half upwards, then unfold.

3



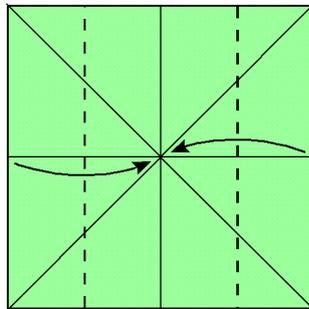
3. Fold in half diagonally, then unfold.

4



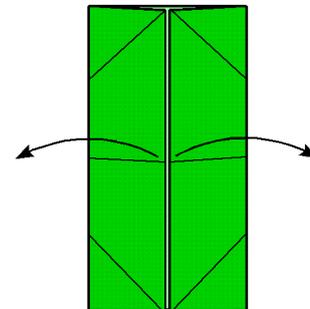
4. Fold in half diagonally in the opposite direction, then unfold.

5



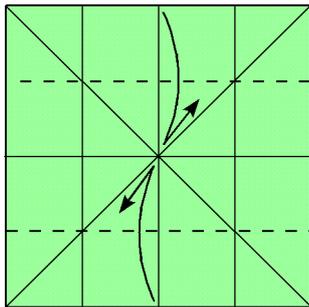
5. Fold two opposite edges into the centre so that they touch each other.

6



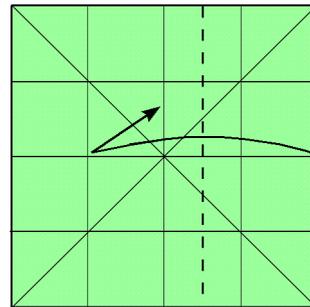
6. Open out. Try to avoid flattening the creases completely.

7



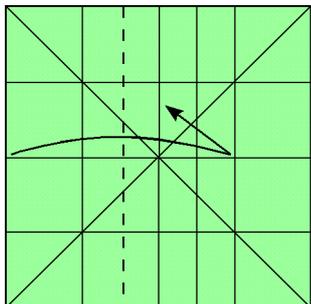
7. Fold the other two edges into the centre so that they touch each other, then unfold.

8



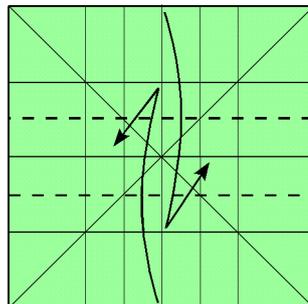
8. Fold the right hand edge onto the upright crease nearest the left hand edge, then unfold.

9



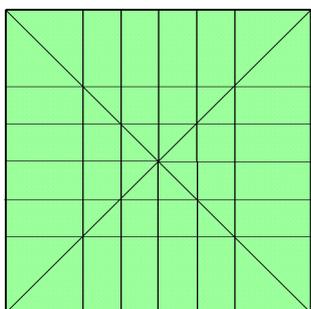
9. Fold the left hand edge onto the upright crease nearest the right hand edge, then unfold.

10



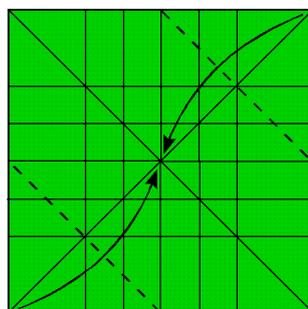
10. Fold the top and bottom edges inwards in a similar way, then unfold.

11



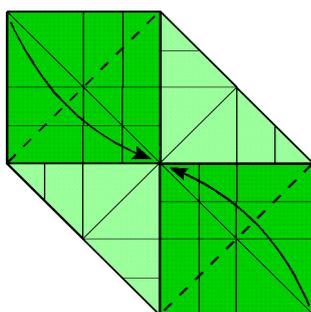
11. Before moving on check that you have made all these creases. Turn over sideways.

12



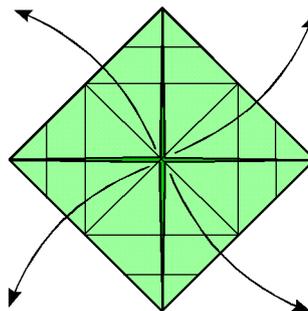
12. Fold two opposite corners in to the centre.

13



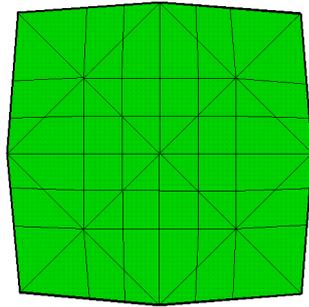
13. Fold the other two corners in to the centre.

14

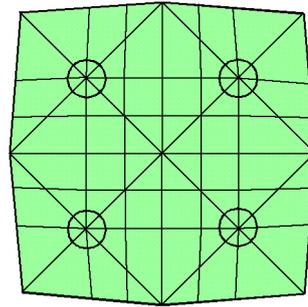


14. Undo the last four folds. Try to avoid flattening the creases completely as you do this.

15



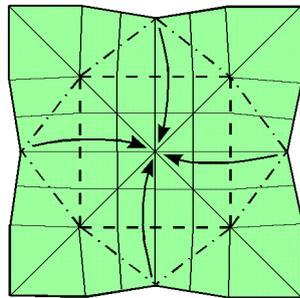
16



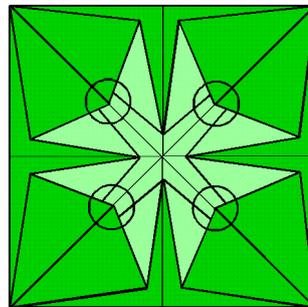
15. Before moving on check that all these creases are present. Turn over sideways.

16. Flip each corner of the paper towards you in turn so that all four points marked with circles become concave.

17



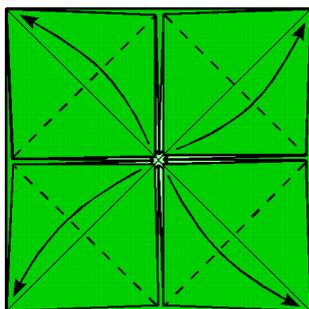
18



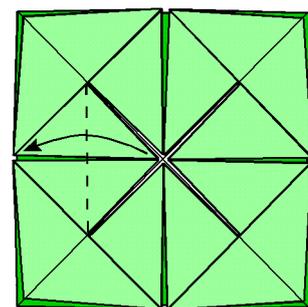
17. The result is a form like a shallow dish. Fold the middle of each side into the centre of the dish without altering the direction of any of the creases.

18. Flatten these folds completely so that all the points marked with circles end up in the centre.

19



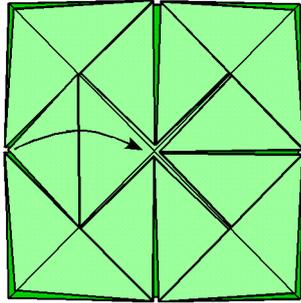
20



19. This is the traditional form known as the windmill base. Fold all four front flaps in half outwards.

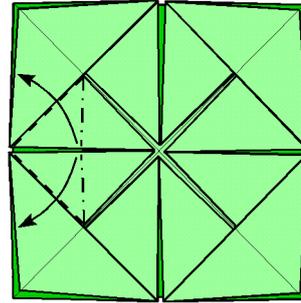
20. Fold the all the middle layer flaps in half outwards as well.

21



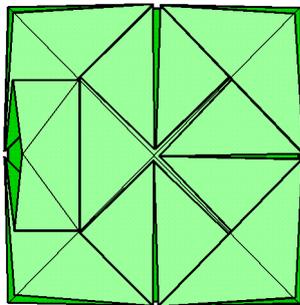
21. Undo one of the last four folds.

22



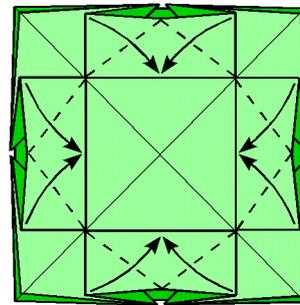
22. Make both these folds simultaneously, using the creases you made in step 20.

23



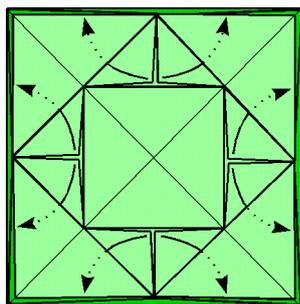
23. This is what the result should look like. Repeat folds 20 to 22 on the other three central points.

24



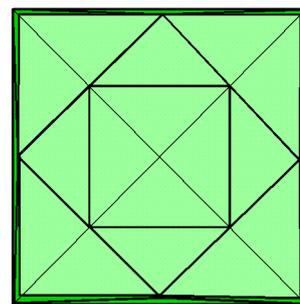
24. You have created eight small flaps at the front. Fold them all inwards.

25



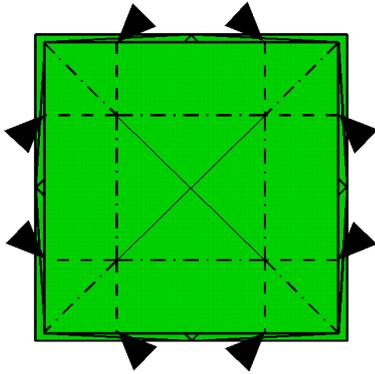
25. There is a pocket behind each of the large front corner flaps. Fold the eight small front flaps outwards into these four pockets.

26



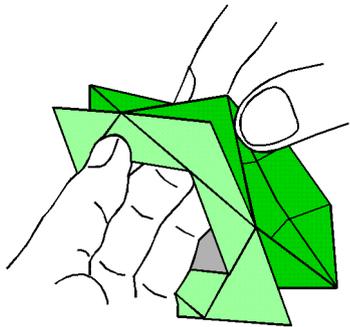
26. The result should look like this. Turn over sideways.

27



27. The base of the box is formed from the front layers of the design by squeezing the sides of each corner together in turn. The small central square, which forms the bottom of the box, rises up towards you. Picture 28 shows you how to do this.

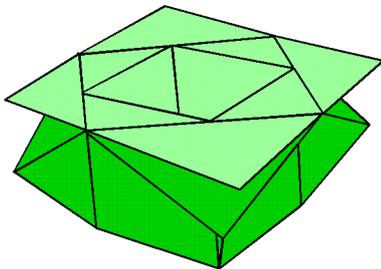
28



28. Insert two fingers inside the box to open up the layers then use the thumb and forefinger of the other hand to squeeze the corner into shape. Do this with each of the corners in turn. All the creases you need to form the box are already there.

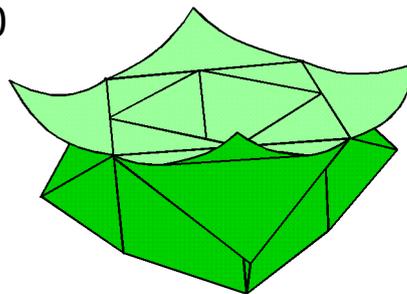
Some of the small flaps formed in step 22 may slip out of their pockets as you do this. It is however a simple matter to tuck them in again afterwards.

29



29. The result should look like this. Curl the four flaps at the top upwards slightly to resemble greenery or petals.

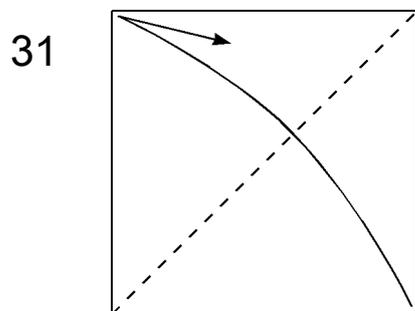
30



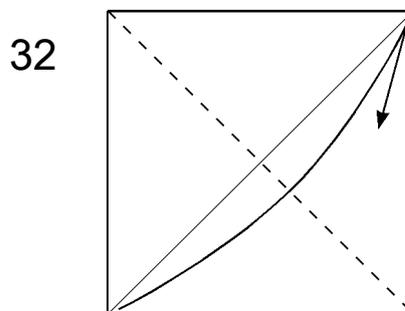
30. The base is finished.

Making the lid

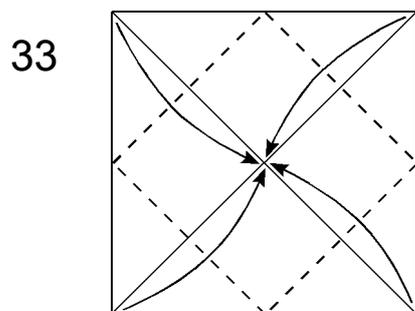
You will need a square of irogami. Begin coloured side up.



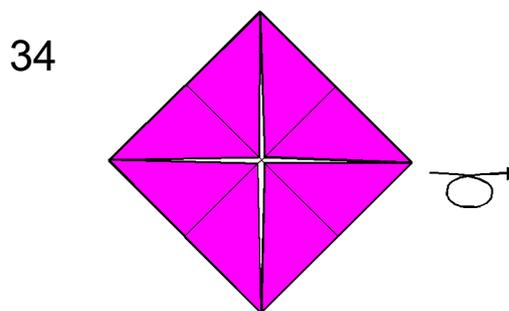
31. Fold in half diagonally, then unfold.



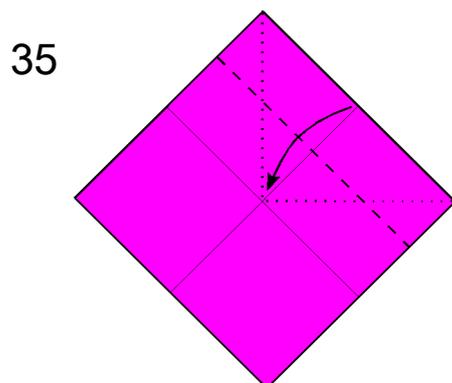
32. Fold in half diagonally in the opposite direction, then unfold.



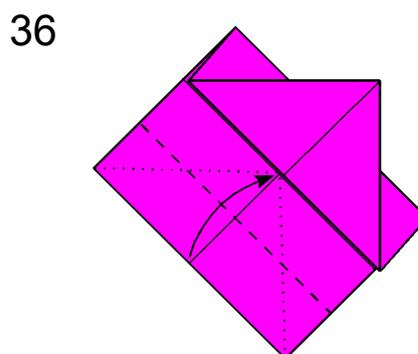
33. Fold all four corners to the centre. For the most accurate result fold two opposite corners in first.



34. Turn over sideways.

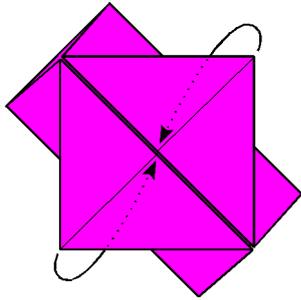


35. Fold one edge into the centre, allowing the triangular flap behind the edge to flip to the front as you make the fold.



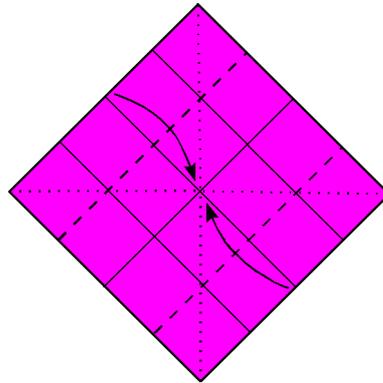
36. Repeat this fold on the opposite edge.

37



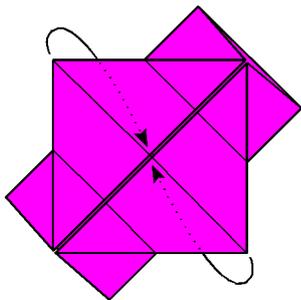
37. Undo the last two folds.

38



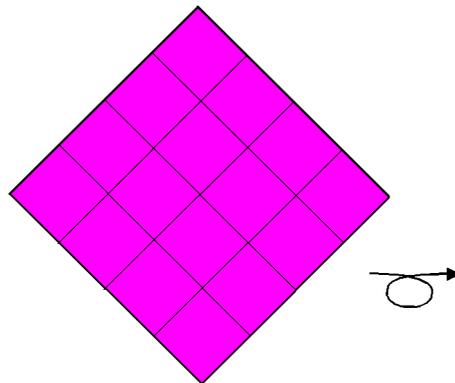
38. Repeat fold 35 on the remaining edges.

39



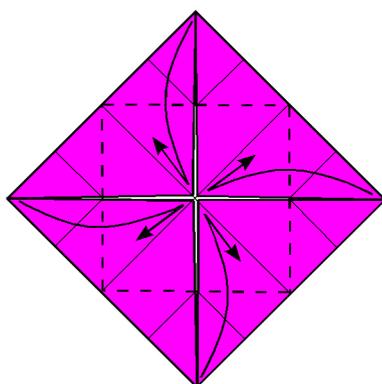
39. Undo the last two folds.

40



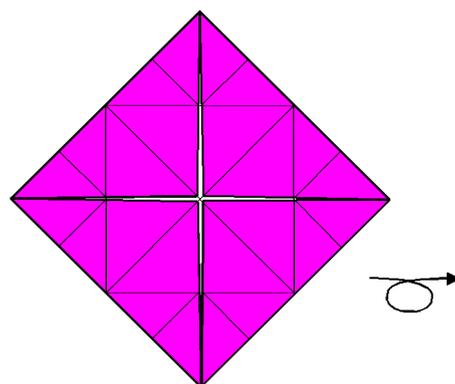
40. Turn over sideways.

41



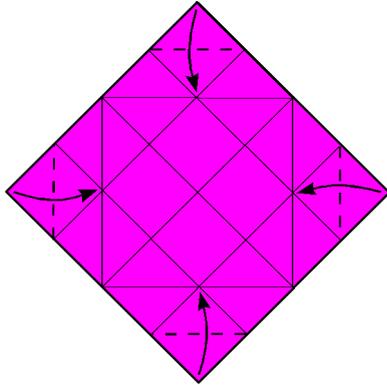
41. Fold all four corners to the centre, then unfold.

42



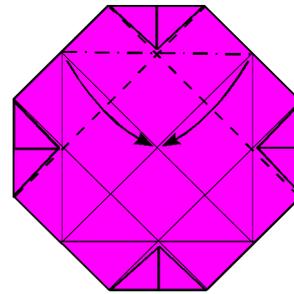
42. Turn over sideways.

43



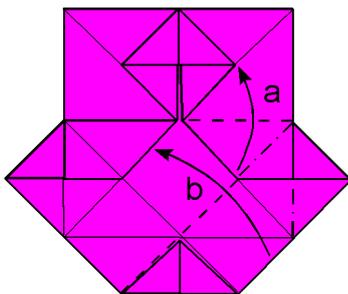
43. Fold all four corners inwards as shown.

44



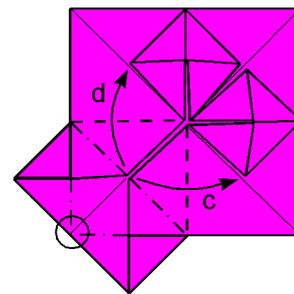
44. Fold the middle of two adjoining edges into the centre simultaneously and allow the back layers to flip into sight.

45



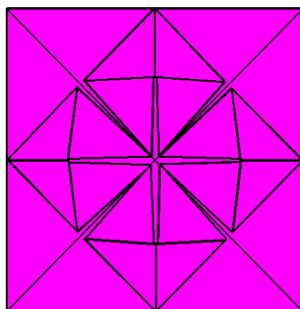
45. The result should look like this. Make fold a then fold the middle of a third edge into the centre by making fold b.

46



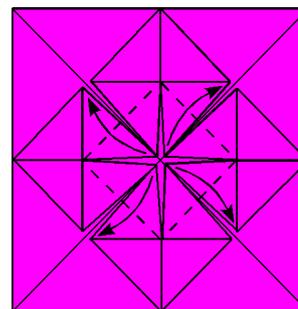
46. Make folds c and d simultaneously. The paper will end up in the shape shown in picture 47.

47



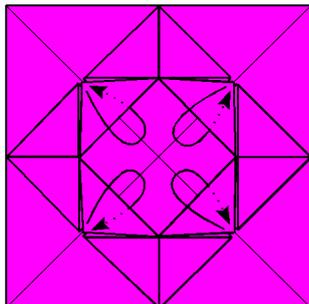
47. This is the result. Work around the model flattening all the creases.

48



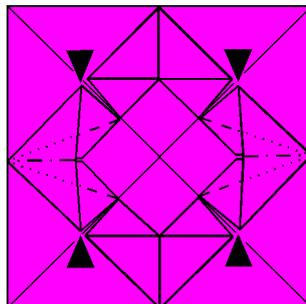
48. Fold all four central flaps outwards as shown.

49



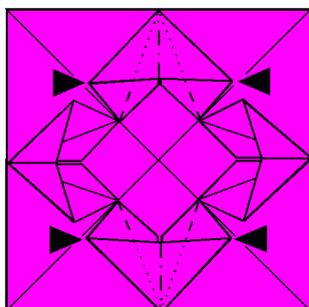
49. Swing the new flaps out of sight in between the layers by reversing the direction of the creases made in step 48.

50



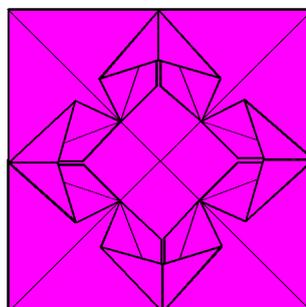
50. Add these new creases by squashing each side of each of these two front flaps in turn.

51



51. Do the same thing to the other two front flaps.

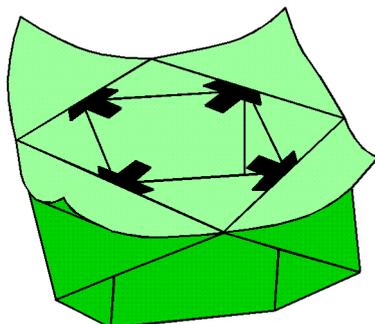
52



52. The lid is finished.

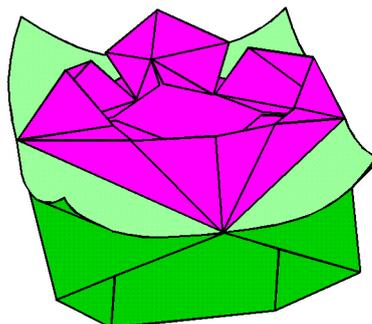
Adding the lid to the base

53



53. Insert the flaps at each corner of the lid into the pockets in the box which are marked by arrows here.

54



54. The Floral Gift-box is finished.

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