Slide

Designed by David Mitchell

Slide is a complex but, I hope, attractive, macromodular sculpture which combines Columbus Cubes and Paul Jackson Cubes with Mark Two macromodules, using joining pieces. Mark Two macromodules are made by inverting the two right angle corners of Molly Kahn Hexahedra. They are the same shape as Tricorne macromodules but made in a different way.

In its original version, Slide was a variation of the Columbus Pyramid in which, in order to let light inside the sculpture, the link units were replaced by macromodules. I then found that I could separate the cubes in each tier and allow the joining pieces linking them to the macromodules to slide, hence the name, down the pockets to allow the development of an entirely new form.

Diagrams for the Paul Jackson Cube and the Columbus Cube can be found in the Diagrams section of this site. This pdf shows you how to make the Mark Two macromodule and how to put all the disparate pieces together to create a seven tier version of Slide.

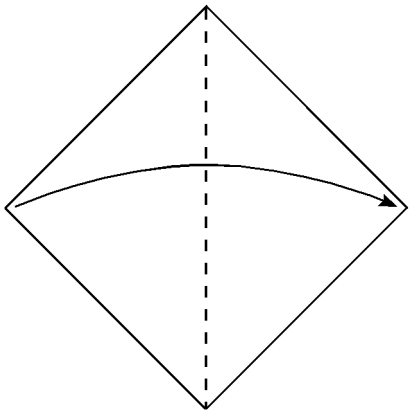
Diagrams for Slide were originally published in the Second Edition of my book Building with Butterflies, but the diagrams stated, incorrectly, that Tricorne, rather than Mark Two, macromodules were to be used. Since the joining pieces cannot be linked to Tricorne macromodules this meant that the sculpture became impossible to assemble. This error is corrected here.

Slide was designed in 2010.

Making the Mark Two macromodule

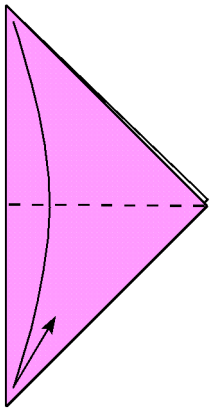
You will need three squares of paper for each micromodule. Any kind of paper can be used. If you are using irogami begin with your paper arranged white side up. For the sake of clarity each of the three modules is shown in a different colour but for best effect you should use only one colour when making your macromodules.

1



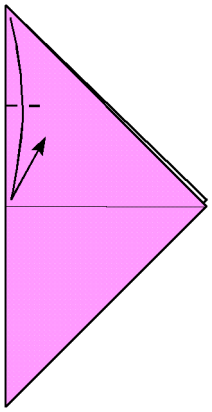
1. Fold your first square in half diagonally from left to right.

2



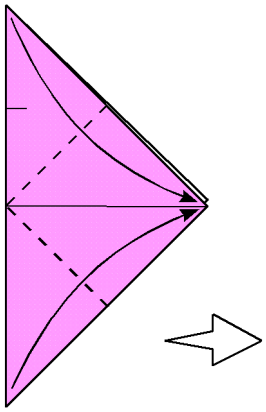
2. Fold in half upwards, then unfold.

3



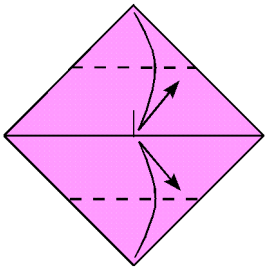
3. Fold the top point down to the centre of the left edge, make a tiny crease, then unfold.

4



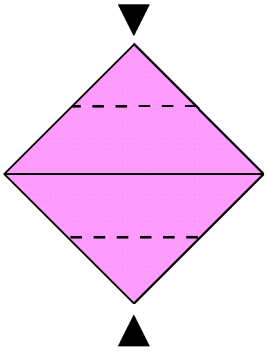
4. Fold both the top and bottom points onto the right corner. The next picture is on a larger scale.

5



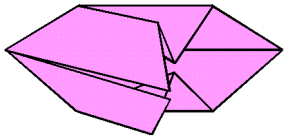
5. Fold both the top and bottom corners inwards to the centre as shown, then unfold.

6



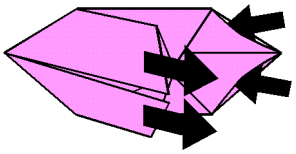
6. Turn both the top and bottom corners inside out in between the other layers using the creases made in step 5.

7



7. The result should look like this. The first module is finished. Make all three.

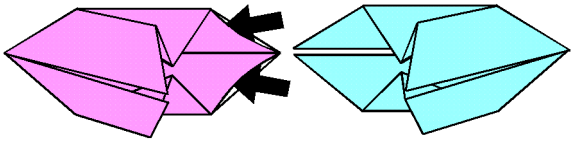
8



8. Each module has two tabs and two pockets, all marked with arrows here.

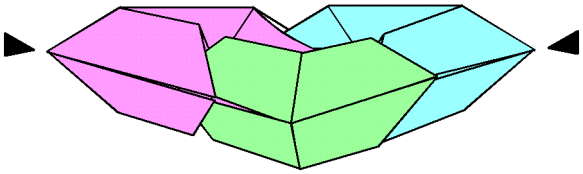
Assembling the Mark Two macromodule

9



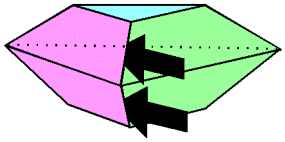
9. Slide the tabs of the right hand module a little way inside the pockets of the left hand module.

10



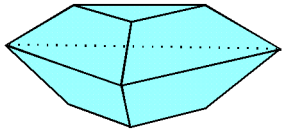
10. Add the third module to the assembly at the front like this. Gently nudge the corners of each module inwards until they fit firmly together.

11



11. There are pockets at each of the three corners of the macromodule.

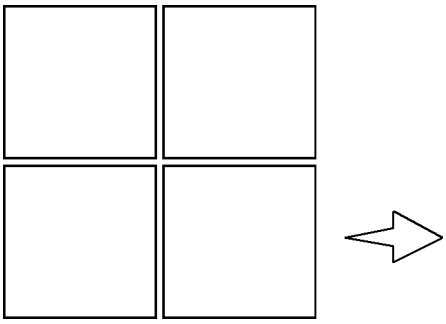
12



12. A finished, single-colour, macromodule should look like this.

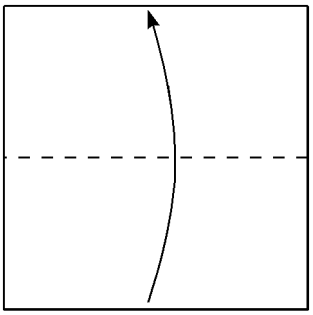
Folding the joining pieces

13



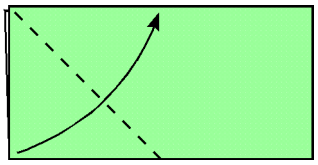
13. Each of the joining pieces is made from a square one quarter the size of the squares the Mark Two macromodules have been folded from. You will need three joining pieces for each macromodule.

14



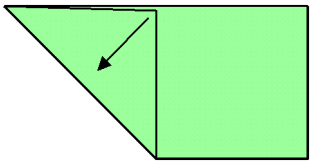
14. Fold in half upwards.

15



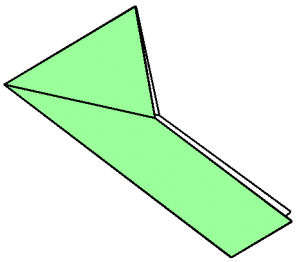
15. Fold the left edge onto the top edge.

16



16. Open out the front flap so that the joining piece looks like picture 17.

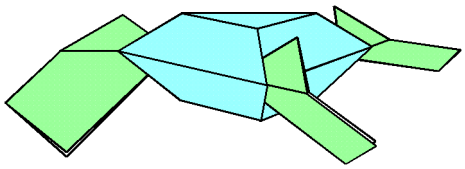
17



17. The first joining piece is finished.

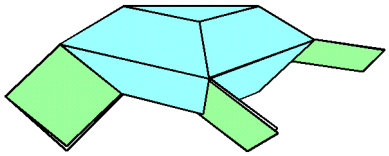
Adding the joining pieces to the macromodules

18



18. Insert three joining pieces inside the pockets to be found at the corners of the macromodule.

19



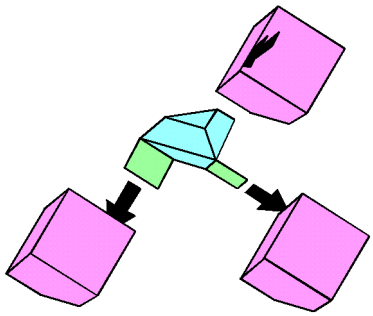
19. The result should look like this.

Assembling Slide

For a seven tier Slide sculpture you will need ten Columbus Cubes, nine Paul Jackson Cubes, nine Mark Two macromodules and twenty-seven joining pieces. The modules for the Columbus and Paul Jackson cubes should be folded from the same size of square as you used to fold the modules for the Mark Two macromodules. For the sake of clarity each of these elements is shown in a different colour here. However, Slide looks best if all the elements are made from the same colour of paper.

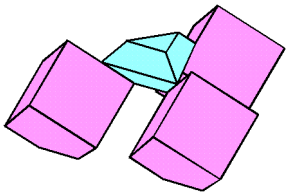
Begin by putting the base layer together. For the base layer you will need ten Columbus Cubes, six Mark Two macromodules and eighteen joining pieces.

20



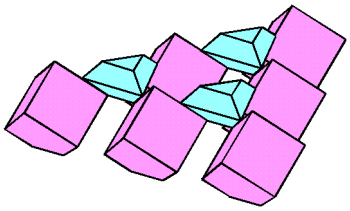
20. Insert the joining pieces into the pockets along the edges of three Columbus Cubes.

21



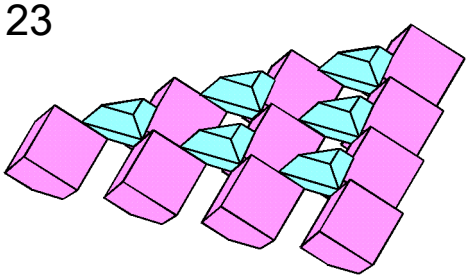
21. Move the cubes apart so that the joining pieces slide to the bottom of the pockets.

22



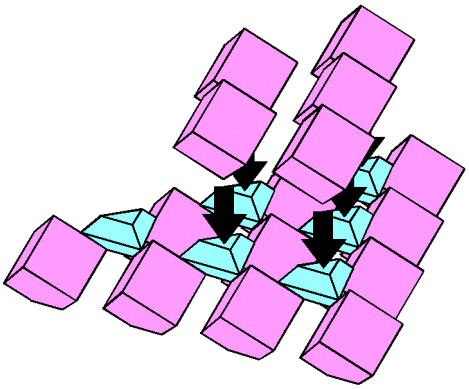
22. Add a row of three more Columbus Cubes to the base layer, using two further Mark Two macromodules to link them together.

23



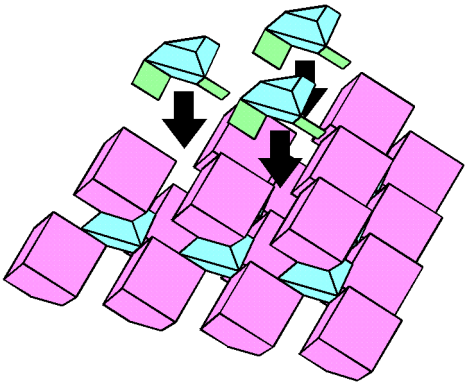
23. Add another row of four Columbus cubes and three Mark Two macromodules in the same way. Make sure the edges of all the cubes are lined up with each other. The base layer is finished.

24



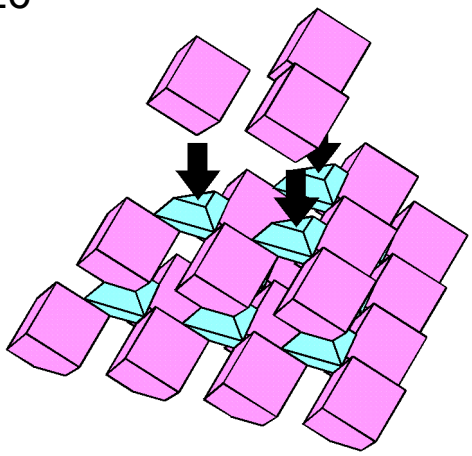
24. Five Paul Jackson Cubes sit on top of the Mark Two macromodules.

25



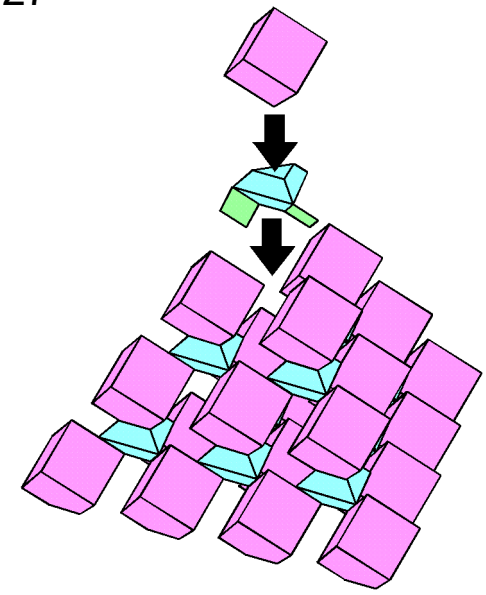
25. Three more Mark Two macromodules hold the cubes in place.

26



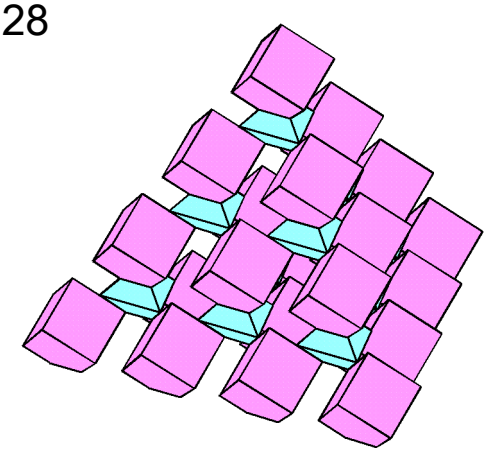
26. Three more Paul Jackson Cubes can be added to form the next layer.

27



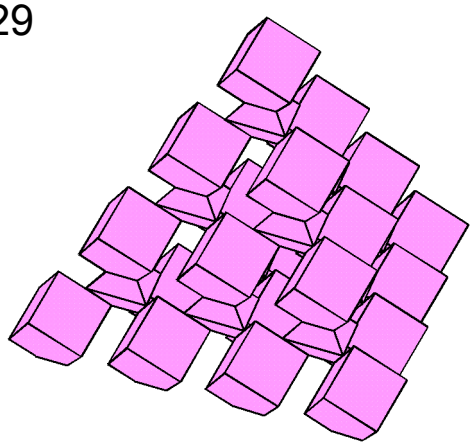
27. These three cubes are held in place by the last Mark Two macromodule. Finally place the last Paul Jackson Cube right on the top.

28



28. Slide is complete.

29



29. Made in a single plain colour, Slide looks like this.

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