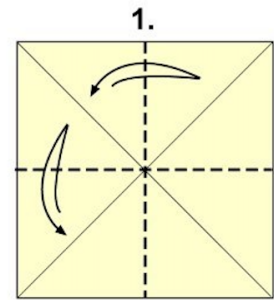


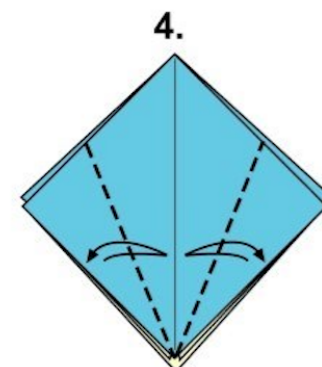
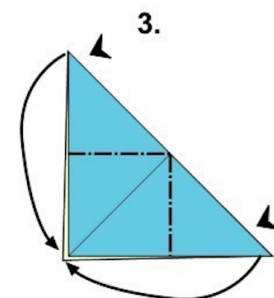
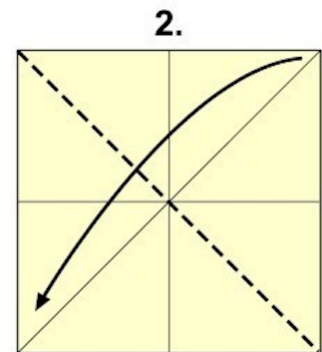
# Origami Swan Instruction Guide

Welcome to making your own origami swan! This activity is recommended for ages 8+ (for under-8's or those who might struggle with precise folding, we have a WAY swan you can colour in/decorate however you like!) The best paper to use is 15 cm x 15 cm origami paper, which you can find online or from a local craft store.

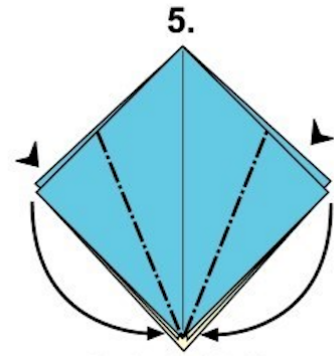
1. Fold the paper in half backwards and forwards horizontally to create a crease. Then lay the paper flat.
2. Repeat Step 1, but vertically to create a second crease. (Image 1)
3. Repeat step 1 twice, once along each diagonal line (corner to corner). You should now have four creases (so you can sort of see eight triangles in your paper). (Image 2)



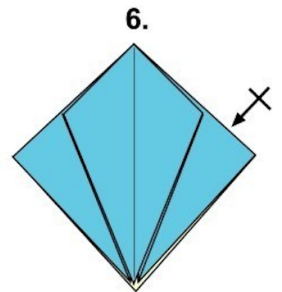
4. Fold the top right corner to the bottom left corner. (Image 3)
5. Tuck the top left and bottom right corners inwards, toward the bottom left corner. The paper should buckle easily along the creases you created earlier. (Image 3)
6. Turn the paper so that the opening (bottom left corner) is now at the bottom.
7. Fold and unfold the two side corners on the front layer inwards to the centre fold to create two new creases. (Image 4)



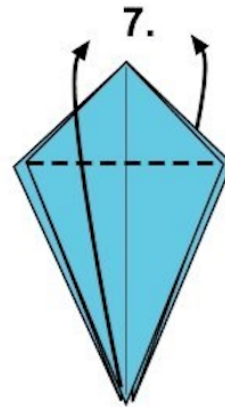
8. Tuck the side corners into the centre, as in step 5. (Image 5)



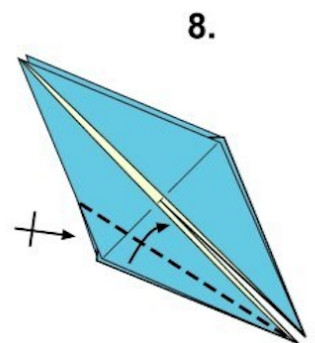
9. Flip the paper over and repeat steps 7 and 8. (Image 6)



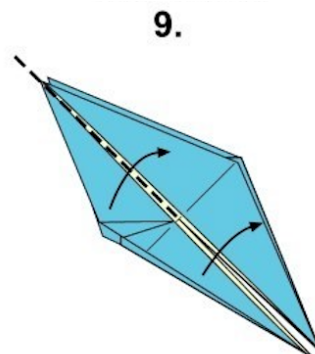
10. Fold the points on the back and front directly upwards to create a long diamond shape. (Image 7)



11. Fold the front layer on the left side into the centre fold, towards you. (Image 8)

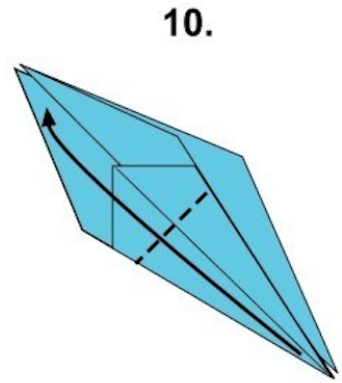


12. Flip the paper over and repeat step 11.

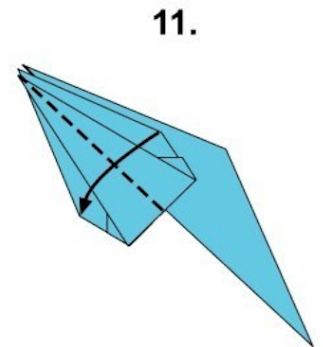


13. Open the left side and press it flat. (Image 9)

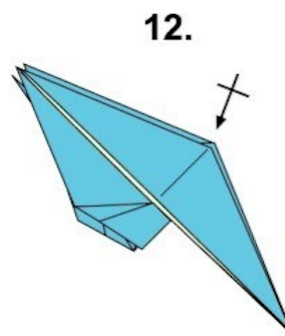
14. Fold up the point of the flat layer you've just created. (Image 10)



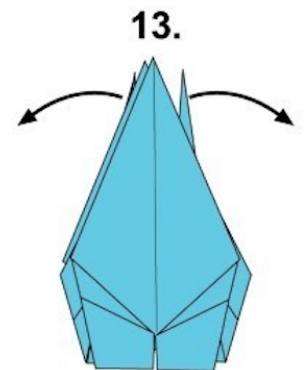
15. Tuck the point into its new location and fold it back in half, to your left. (Image 11)



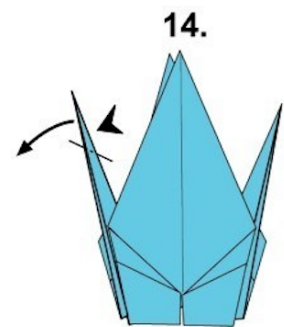
16. Repeat steps 11-15 on the right side. (Image 12)



17. Gently pull the left and right points out. These are the tail and head/neck. (Image 13)

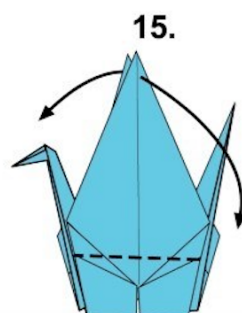


18. Fold the left tip down and out along a diagonal fold, about 1/3 of the way down the neck. (Image 14)



19. You can leave this as the head. Or you can unfold, then gently push the head in and back along its centre crease, in a reverse fold.

20. Fold the front and back points down. Then let them rise out to each side to create the wings. (Image 15)



Congratulations! Remember, a little unevenness in the folds or from one side to another is totally fine. Just like every bird, every origami piece is unique.

Top tip: If you make a few mistakes on your first piece, it might be worth starting again on a new piece of paper, as a number of re-done creases can affect the structure of the piece. Feel free to keep your last try handy to remind you which folds worked well and which didn't work out so well.

Instructions written by Griffyn Gilligan. Images purchased from Shutterstock.

