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Origami: Blow-Up Box

This classic Japanese origami design just looks like an interesting shape when you have finished folding it. However, if you blow into it, it inflates to make a three-dimensional box.

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Take a square of paper. Fold the square diagonally. Crease it firmly and open. Fold on the other diagonal, crease, and open. Turn the paper over so that your diagonal folds are mountain folds, as shown above.



Now fold up the bottom two corners to meet the top two corners and fold the paper in half horizontally. Crease, unfold, and then fold in half the other way to make a cross shape. Turn the paper over and place it as shown, so that the horizontal folds are mountain folds, and the diagonal folds are valley folds that dip down.





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Turn the paper over so that the diagonal folds are mountain folds and the horizontal folds are valley folds. Fold one of the diagonal folds and hold it by the corners. Push your hands downwards to form a triangle.



The triangle should have two flaps on either side.

Note If your origami bases have not turned out right, check these things:

- Make sure your folds are sharply creased.
- If your diagonal folds are mountain folds, your horizontal folds should be valley folds.
- Make sure the open end of the shape is at the bottom.

Need help? Click <u>HERE</u> for a video tutorial on YouTube* (credits: Stuart86)

*This video tutorial slightly differs from the PDF instructions (provided by EBSCO Arts & Crafts Reference Center) ONLY on Step 9. Both versions will produce the Blow-Up Box in the end.

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Fold the bottom corners of the two front flaps up to the top point.





Turn the paper over and repeat on the other side.



Bring the two outer corners of the front flaps into the center and crease as shown.





Turn the paper over and repeat.



The box should now inflate.

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Make sure the loose points are at the top and tuck the front two loose points in the triangle pockets as far as you can. They will not go all the way in. Turn the paper over and repeat.



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