LABBEASY

FRÖBEL EDITION

Simple Paper Folding

16 worksheets for folding simple
original Fröbel figures

PDF 4105-EN

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PRINT SETTINGS

Please use Acrobat Reader to print and make sure that the settings 'Actual size' and 'Auto portrait/landscape' are selected.

SAVE PAPER & TONER

Only print out the pages you need.

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Friedrich Fröbel

Friedrich Fröbel (1782 -1852) was one of the first educators to recognize the importance of early childhood. He's the founder of "kindergartens" (1840). Education, upbringing and care are the foundations of what make up his work. The central theme of his pedagogical work is how playing is an essential part of a child's life. Fröbel believes that children express themselves and discover many things through playing. Children can become prepared for the adult world through games, crafts and music. With this goal in mind, he developed a system of so-called "play gifts". By playing with these play gifts, children are introduced to the world and its rules and regulations.

The play gifts consisted of geometric elements made of wood, paper and other materials, which helped children to develop structures that were divided into three basic categories: forms of nature, forms of mathematics and forms of art. So, the first Fröbel gift is a soft ball. The second play gift consists of three solid objects made of wood: a sphere, a cube and a cylinder. There are ten play gifts in total. In addition to the play gifts, Fröbel also developed the Froebelian occupations, which are now used in every kindergarten around the world: paper folding, weaving, sewing, paper cutting, paper pricking, painting, drawing and clay modeling.

In recent discussions internationally, Fröbel has been seen as an inspirer of modern art and modern architecture and as an educator of abstraction in general. A whole generation of modern artists such as Piet Mondrian, Wassily Kandinsky, Georges Braque and Juan Gris and avant-garde architects such as Le Corbusier, Walter Gropius and Frank Lloyd Wright folded, wove, pin-pricked, played and tinkered with Fröbel's geometric and abstract forms as children in kindergarten.

The similarity between a composition of red, blue and black strips of paper, which a child glued in kindergarten, and a painting by Piet Mondrian (who, by the way, was a teacher in a Fröbel kindergarten at one point) can be uncanny. Critics of modern art therefore like to say: "My five year old could have done that in kindergarten...!"

With the Fröbel Edition we would like to show you the wide spectrum of Fröbel occupations. The templates provided are from around 1885.
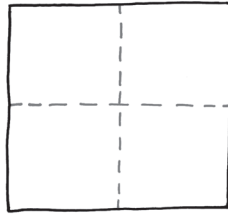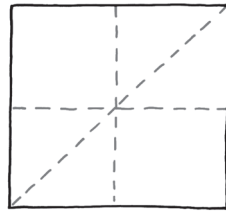
Micha Labbé

Basic Folding

1

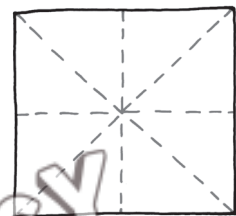Cut out the folding template and fold it in half.

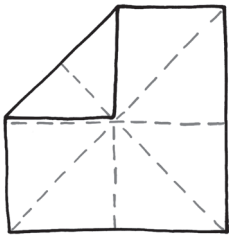**2**

Unfold and fold it in half the other way.
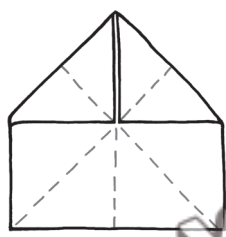
3

Fold it diagonally.

4

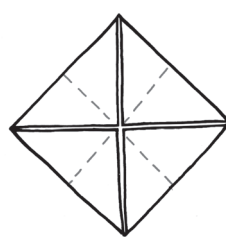Unfold and fold it diagonally the other way.

5

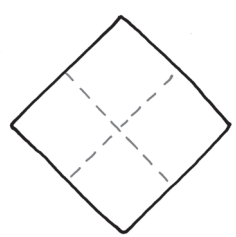Fold the upper left corner to the center.
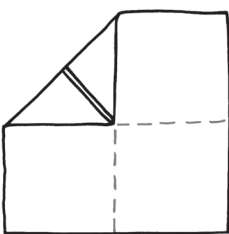
6

Fold the upper right corner to the center.
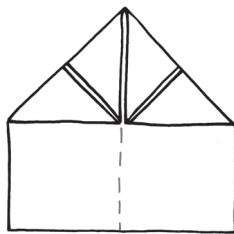
7

Fold the bottom corners to the center as well.

8

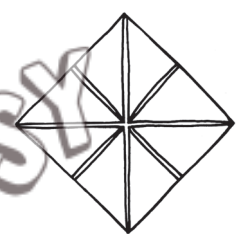Flip the paper over.

9

Fold the upper left corner to the center.

10

Fold the upper right corner to the center.

11

Fold the bottom left corner to the center.
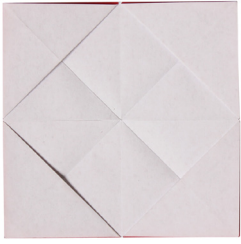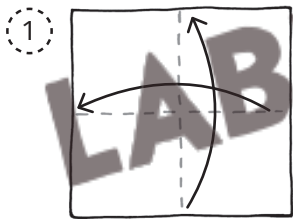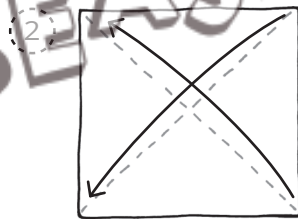
12

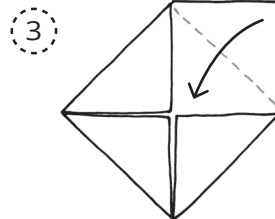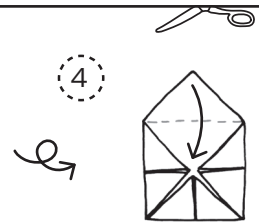Fold the bottom right corner to the center.

FIGURE I

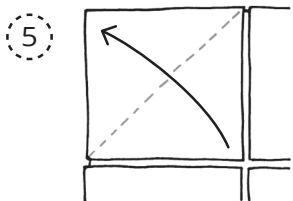① Cut out the folding template and fold it in half both ways.
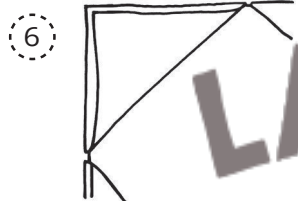
② Unfold and fold it diagonally both ways.

③ Fold all four corners to the center.

④ Flip the paper over and fold all four corners to the center again. Flip the paper back over.

⑤ Fold back each open corner to the outer edge.

⑥ This is what the finished fold looks like.