LABBEASY

Perspective

The City of Stairs - Working With Parallel Perspective

A group project to create an endless city in three different sizes

PDF 4413-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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INTRODUCTION

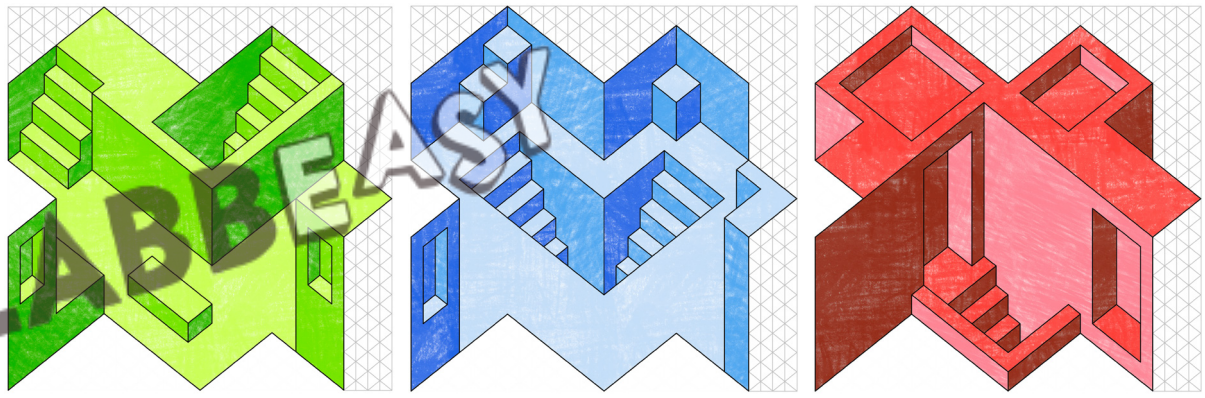
The City of Stairs - Working With Parallel Perspective

Perspective can give the illusory impression of depth and apparent reality to a two-dimensional image. With the discovery of perspective in Italy during the 15th century, paintings acquired a never-before seen spatial depth.

Architects like to work with parallel perspective because you can use this method of representation to show both dimensions and also to represent buildings further back at the same scale.

Space has three dimensions: Height, depth, and width. Paper, on the other hand, has only two dimensions: Height and width. For this reason, sketching using parallel projection is a really complicated geometrical-mathematical technique in which each line has to be precisely drawn. Coloring in pre-printed parallel perspective drawings is, on the other hand, child's play! And the result is always fascinating.

Parallel perspective depends on the interplay of light and shade. Whilst coloring, the three dimensions – the 'horizontal' planes (ground), the 'right-hand' planes (shadow side), and the 'left-hand' planes (sun side) are colored in using different colors or shades to give the impression of three-dimensionality. The city of stairs is particularly impressive if you color it in using monochromatic shades, such as dark blue, medium blue, and pale blue.



The city of stairs consists of eight different building- and stair-elements that you can color in. After being colored in, the elements are cut out and stuck together to form a city of stairs.
The city of stairs can be built with any number of elements to form an infinitely large city with an endless number of stairs and buildings. It's a great project for group work!

Micha Labbé

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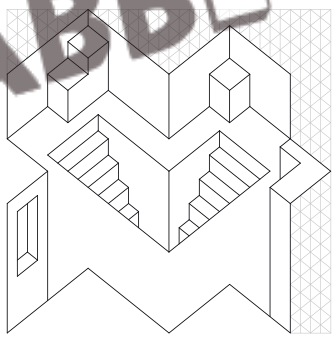
HOW TO DO IT

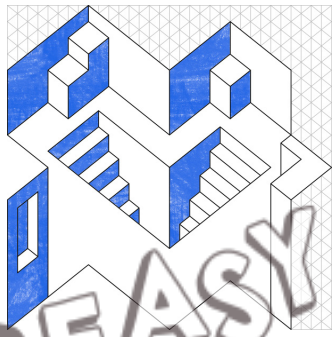
The City of Stairs - Working With Parallel Perspective

1



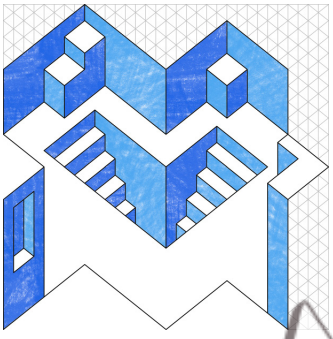
Print out the stair motif that you want to make. The city of stairs is particularly impressive if you color it in using shades of the same color, such as dark blue, medium blue, and pale blue.

2



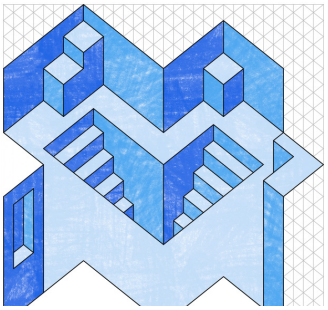
Color in all the right-facing planes (shadow side) using the darkest color.

3



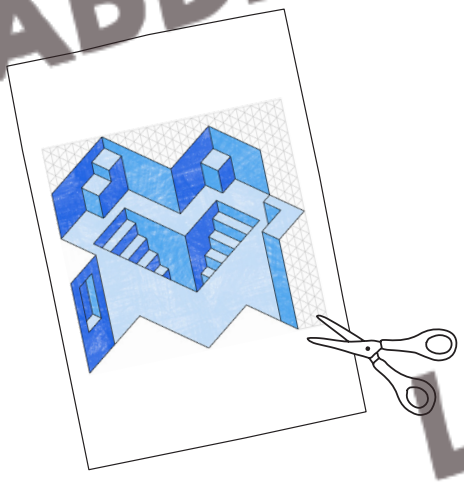
Color in all the left-facing planes (sun side) using the medium color.

4



Color in all the upward-facing planes (ground) using the lightest color.

5



Cut out all of the stair motifs including the grey grids, which are for glueing the sheets together.

6

Put glue on the gridded parts and stick one stair element to the next, etc., etc. ... to build an infinitely large city of stairs. AWESOME!

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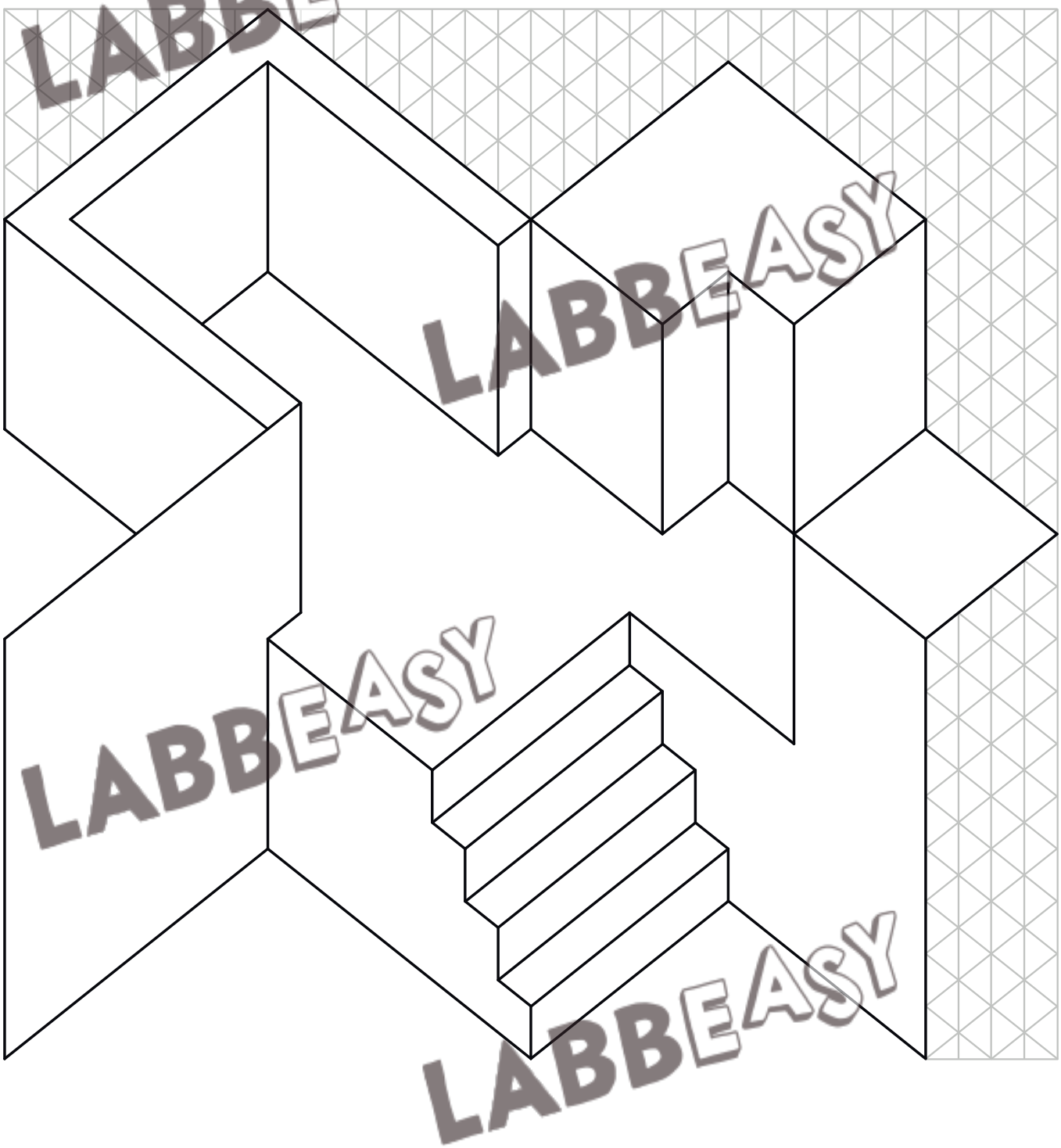
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