

Activity Instructions

There are several different ways to make stars using the one cut method and two are included in this activity: one set of instructions is included in this document and the other is provided in the *Shapes* section.

How to Fold a One Cut Star

The following items will be needed for this activity:

- scissors
- sheet of paper (8 1/2 in. by 11 in.)

Step 1

Fold a letter size sheet of paper (8 1/2 in. by 11 in.) in half so that the two 8-1/2 in. edges touch (**Figure 1**).

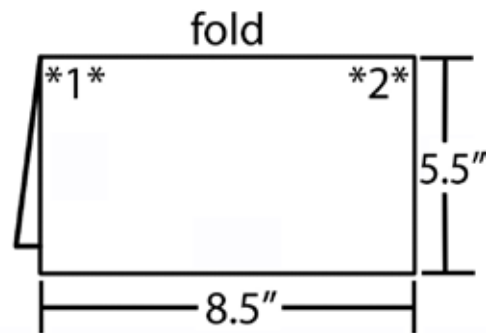


Figure 1

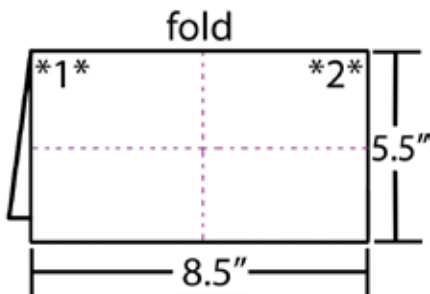


Figure 2

Step 2

Fold the paper in half both length-wise and width-wise. Unfold the paper as shown in **figure 2**, where the dashed lines indicate the creases made by folding. In the following steps, the two creased lines are referred to as horizontal and vertical.

Step 3

Fold corner *1* over to the furthest end of the horizontal crease line (**Figure 3**).

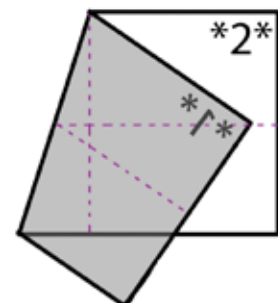


Figure 3

Step 4

Fold corner *1* towards the left edge of the folded sheet (**Figure 4**).

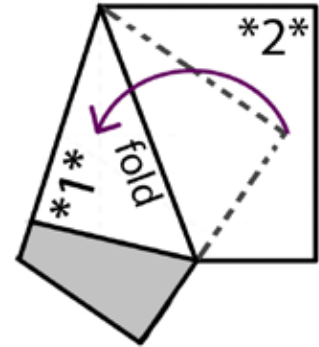


Figure 4

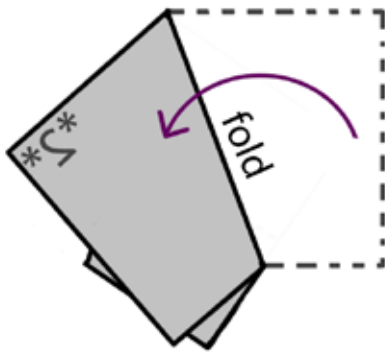


Figure 5

Step 5

As shown in **figure 5**, fold corner *2* to the left, over the folded edge made in the previous step.

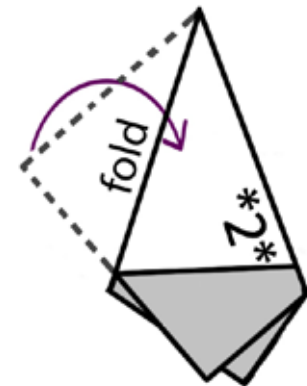


Figure 6

Step 6

Fold corner *2* to the right, over the folded edge made in the previous step (**Figure 6**).

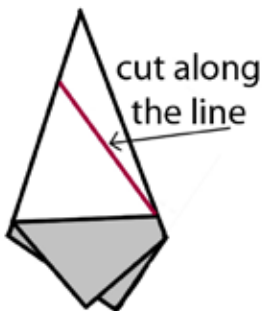


Figure 7

Step 7

Draw a line similar to the red line in **figure 7** and cut along the line. Unfold the smaller piece of paper to see the star.

How to Fold Any One Cut Letter

The following items will be needed for this activity:

- scissors
- printed letter/shape templates

Step 1

Mountain fold (solid lines) - fold the sides of the paper away from you creating a peaked crease at the top of the sheet (**Figure 8**).

Valley fold (dashed lines) - fold the sides of the paper towards you creating a crease at the bottom of the sheet which resembles a valley (**Figure 8**).

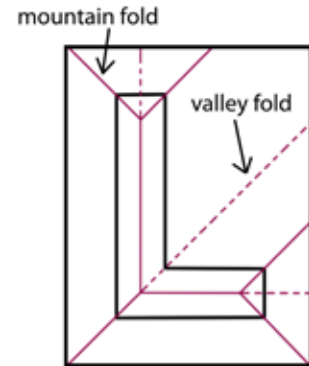


Figure 8

Step 2

Determine whether the letter has a midline. If it does, as illustrated in **figure 9**, create a mountain fold along the first line of symmetry (midline), creating two symmetrical halves. The midline, if present, should be folded before any of the other lines to allow all subsequent folds to go through both layers of the paper. If the letter has more than one line of symmetry (**Figure 9**), continue folding along the lines of symmetry. The order of the other fold lines is unimportant.

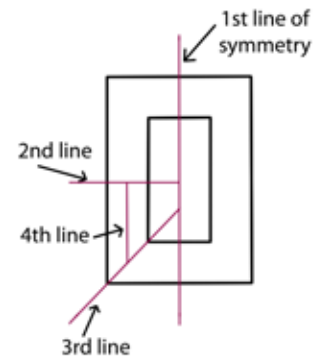


Figure 9

Step 3

Crease the remaining lines as crisply and exactly as possible (**Figure 10**). Do not extend a fold past its fold line (**Figure 11**). Being off by as little as a couple degrees can change the shape of the final product, especially for the more difficult letters.



Figure 10

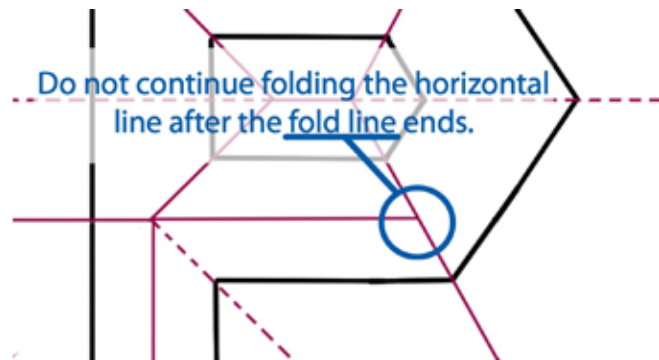


Figure 11

Step 4

Collapse all the folds (**Figure 12**). When the letter is collapsed, the thick solid lines of the letter should lie on top of each other. Make one straight cut along the thick solid line (**Figure 13**).

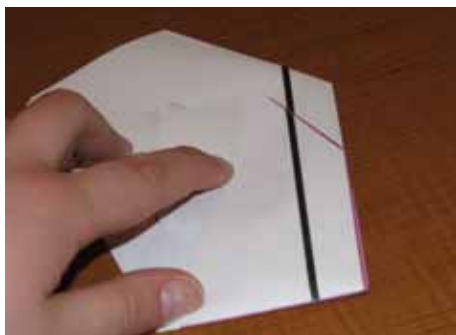


Figure 12

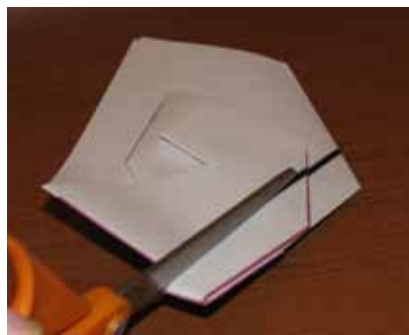


Figure 13

Step 5

Figure 14 shows which piece of paper is the letter. Unfold to see the final product (**Figure 15**).



Figure 14

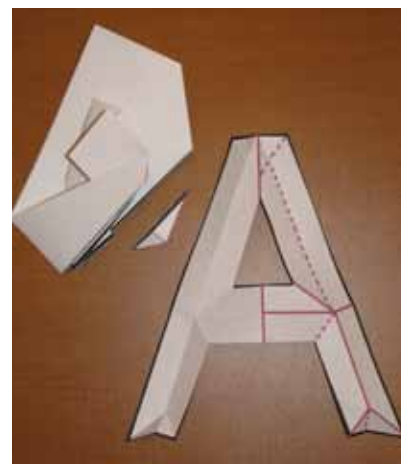


Figure 15

How to Fold the One Cut WOW

The following items will be needed for this activity:

- scissors
- printed WOW template

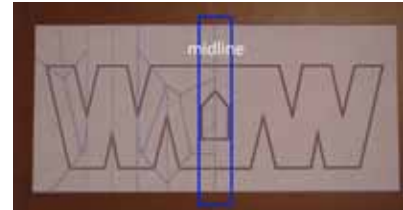


Figure 16

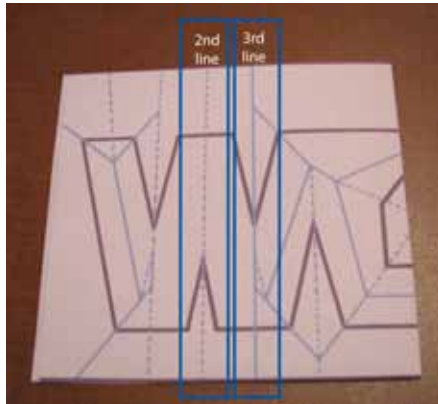


Figure 17

Step 1

Fold the paper in half along the midline. **Figure 16** shows the midline of the WOW.

Step 2

Fold the second and third vertical lines, which are highlighted in the blue boxes shown in **figure 17**. Once folded, the shape will read "VC" (**Figure 18**).



Figure 18

Step 3

Fold all of the remaining lines as seen in **figure 19**. Be precise when creasing the lines through all of the paper layers.

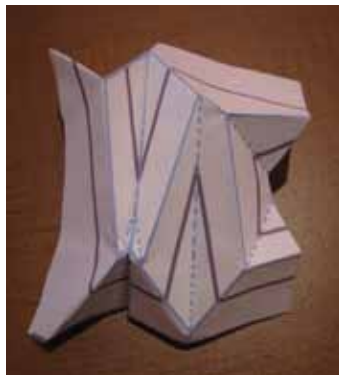


Figure 19

Step 4

Collapse the folded paper as shown in **figure 20**. At this point, the thick solid lines should fall on top of each other (**Figure 20**).



Figure 20

Step 5

Make one straight cut along the thick solid line (Figure 21).

Step 6

Unfold to see the final product (Figure 22).



Figure 21



Figure 22