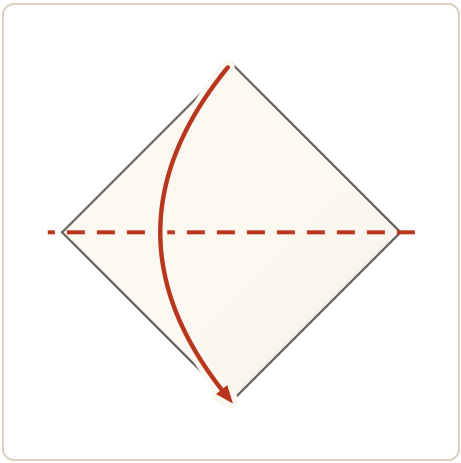


How to Fold an Origami Flapping Bird

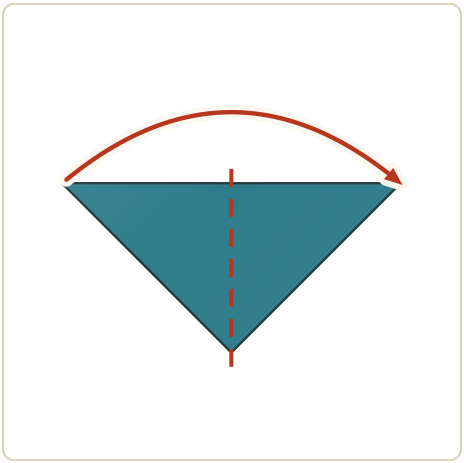
Medium level, 20 steps. Traditional. Earliest record: La Nature no. 621, 1885.

Every fold is animated at orikatado.com/flapping-bird

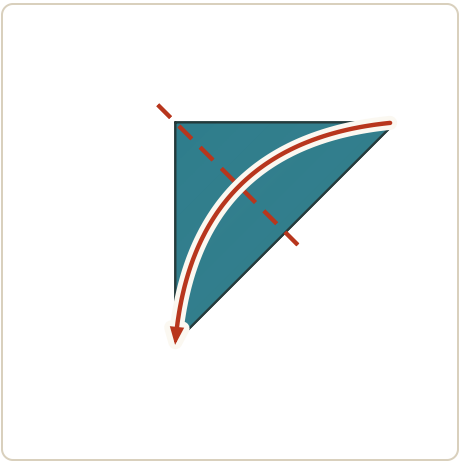
Valley fold: toward you Mountain fold: away from you



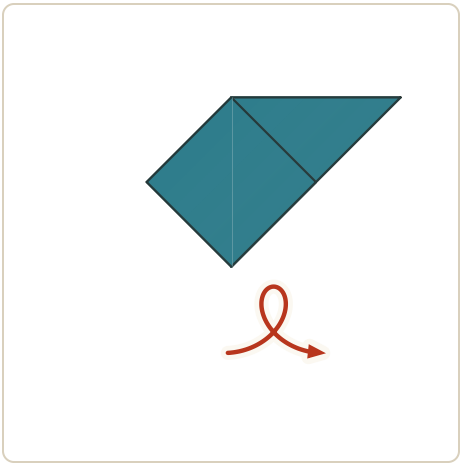
1 Start white side up. Fold the top corner down to the bottom corner.



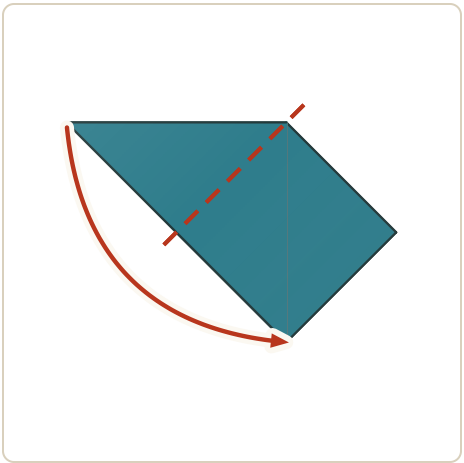
2 Fold the left corner over to the right corner.



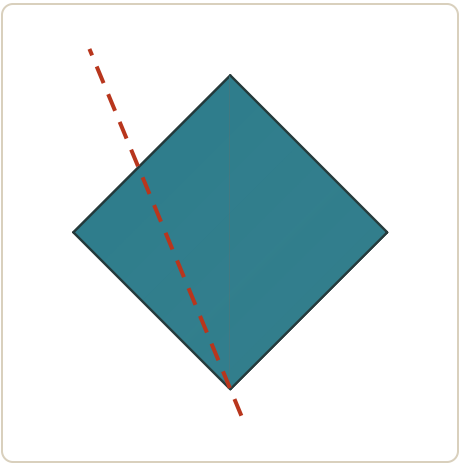
3 Lift the top flap, open it, and squash it flat into a square.



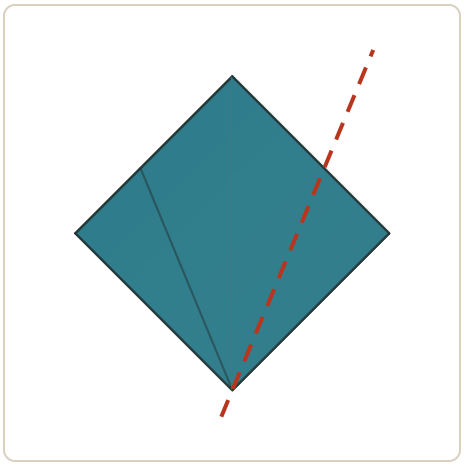
4 Turn the paper over.



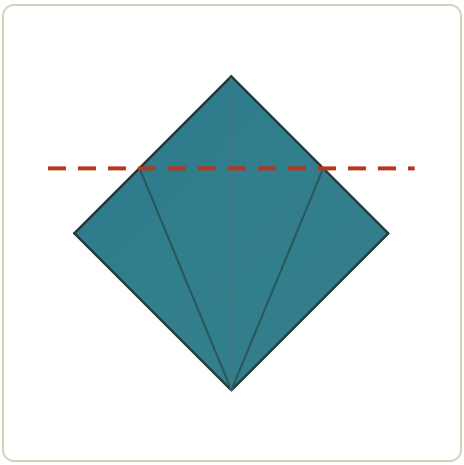
5 Squash this flap into a square to match.



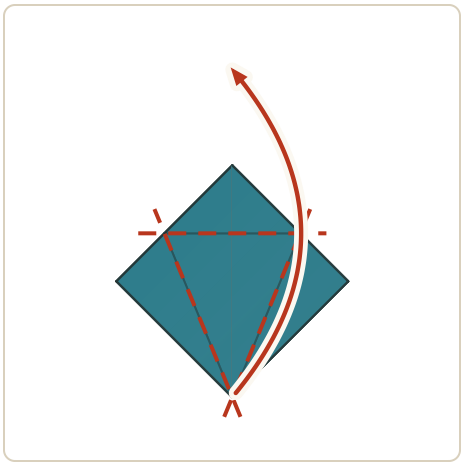
6 Fold the lower left edge of the top layer to the center line, then unfold.



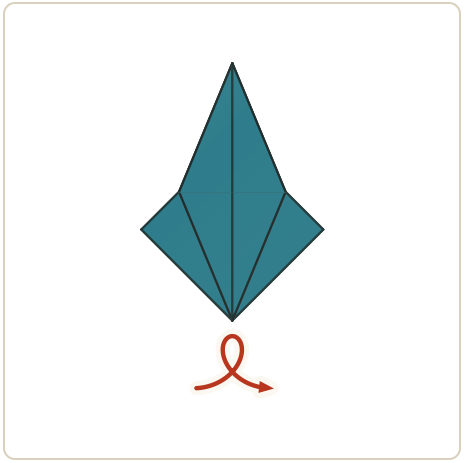
7 Fold the lower right edge to the center line, then unfold.



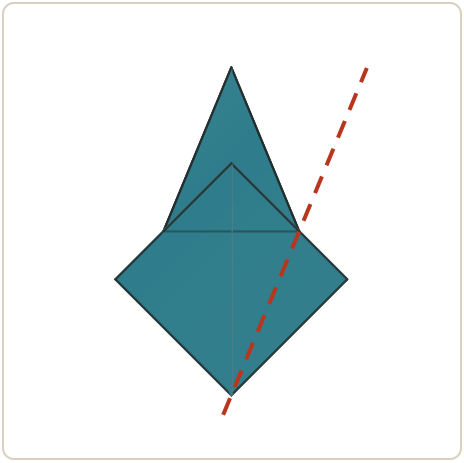
8 Fold the top triangle down over them, then unfold.



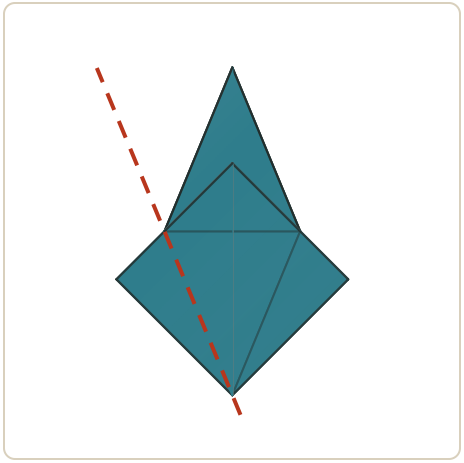
9 Lift the bottom corner of the top layer up along the crease. The sides fold in to meet at the center.



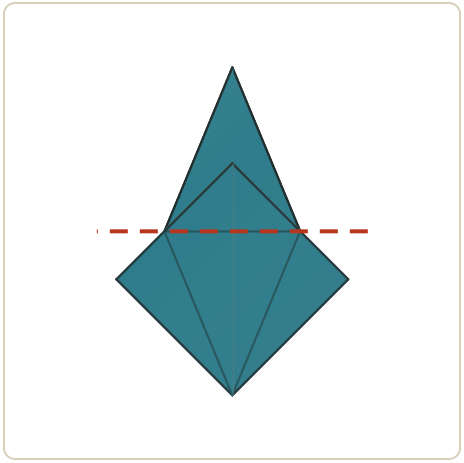
10 Turn the paper over.



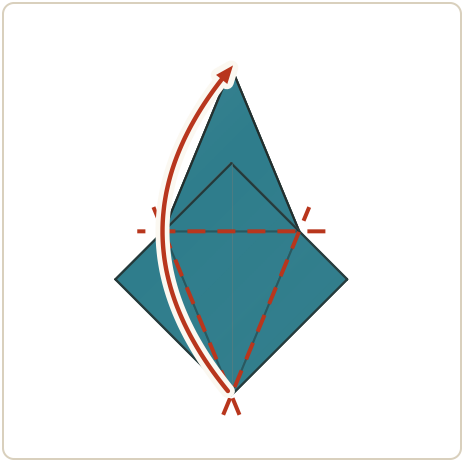
11 Fold the lower edges to the center line, then unfold.



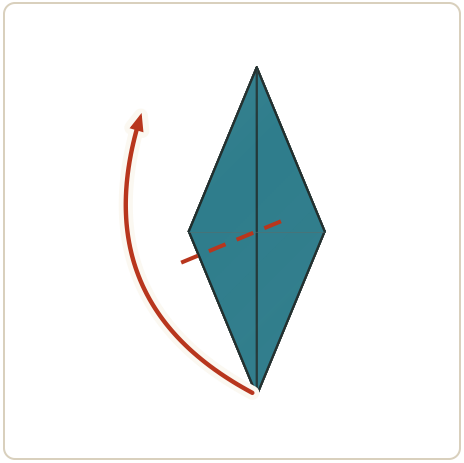
12 Fold the other lower edge to the center line, then unfold.



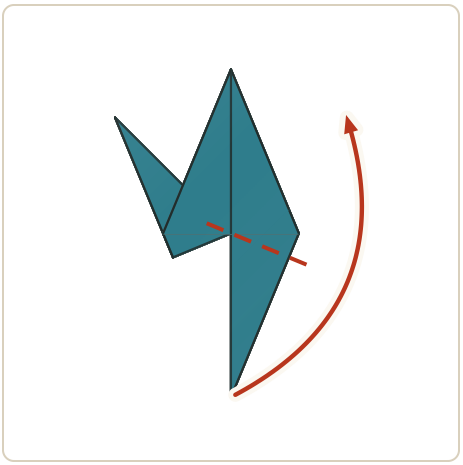
13 Fold the top triangle down, then unfold.



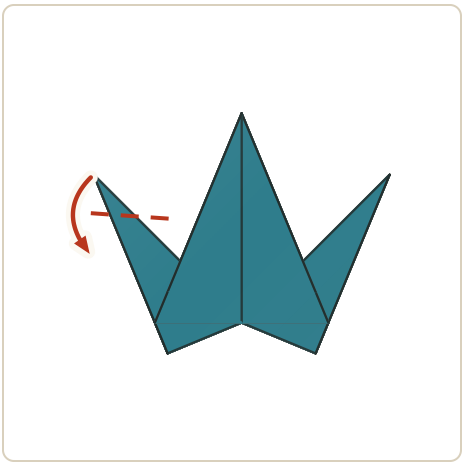
14 Petal fold this side the same way.



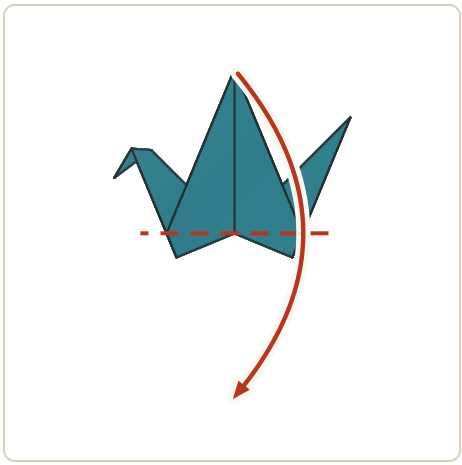
15 Inside reverse fold the left point up and out to make the neck.



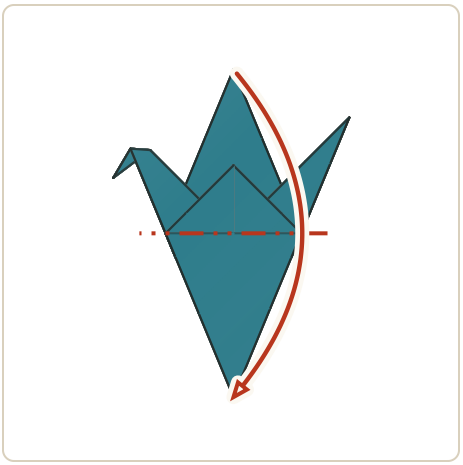
16 Inside reverse fold the right point up and out to make the tail.



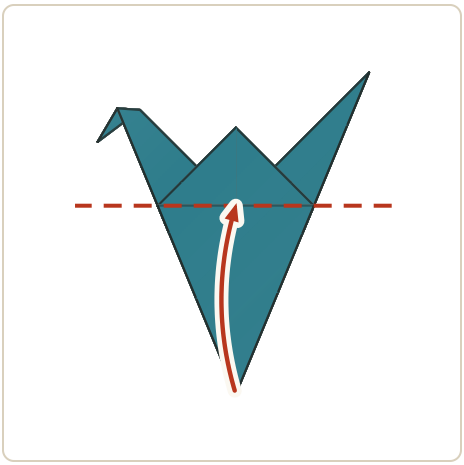
17 Inside reverse fold the tip of the neck down to make the head.



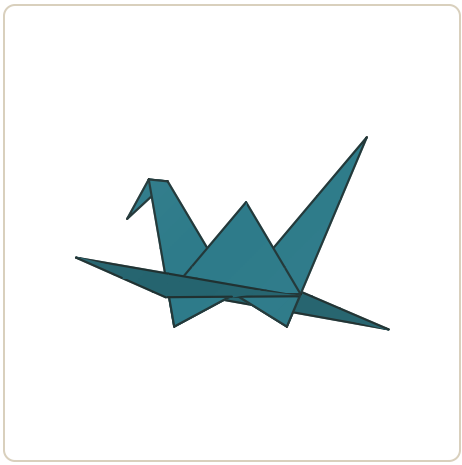
18 Fold the front wing down along the body.



19 Fold the back wing down behind.



20 Lift both wings until they stand out from the body.



Done Hold the base of the neck and pull the tail gently. The wings flap.