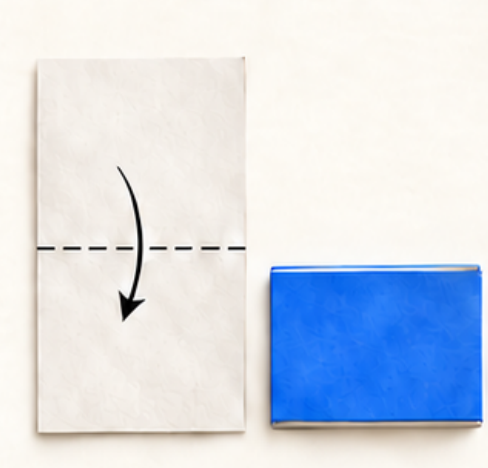
Origami paper boat

Storyboard · 1–3

One thin A4 rectangle, 21 × 29.7 cm; colored and pale sides. No cutting or glue.



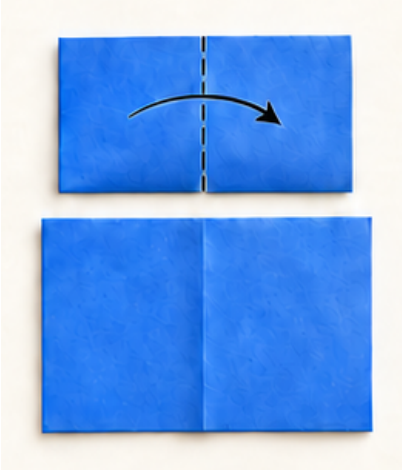
1. Fold the rectangle

With the pale side up, fold the top short edge down to the bottom edge. Match the corners; keep the closed edge above.

Why: The closed edge supports the roof; open edges become separate flaps.

Check: Wide two-layer rectangle, closed above and open below.

Repair: Reopen and match the corners before pressing.



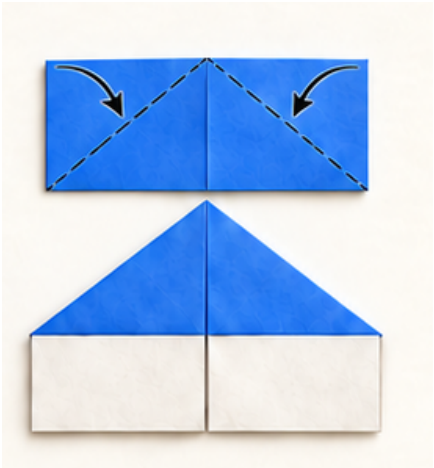
2. Mark and reopen the center

Fold the left edge to the right edge, crease lightly, then reopen that fold. Keep the first fold closed.

Why: The center guides two equal roof corners.

Check: Wide rectangle with one vertical center crease.

Repair: Keep the first fold closed; remake it if the full sheet opened.



3. Fold the roof

Bring both top corners down, through both layers, so their top edges meet the vertical center crease. Leave the bottom strips loose.

Why: One reference keeps both roof halves balanced.

Check: Pointed roof above two strips; center edges meet without overlapping.

Repair: Open the uneven corner and aim its edge at the center.

Origami paper boat

Storyboard · 4–6

One thin A4 rectangle, 21 × 29.7 cm; colored and pale sides. No cutting or glue.



4. Raise the front strip

Separate the bottom strips. Lift only the front strip along the horizontal base of the roof; leave the rear strip down.

Why: Each outside wall needs its own rim.

Check: One raised rim; a second strip remains below.

Repair: Lower the rear strip if both layers moved.



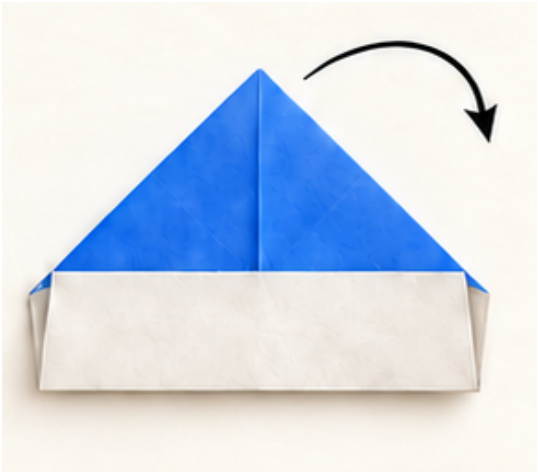
5. Wrap the front corners

Fold each projecting end of the raised strip around the sloping roof edge to the back. Keep the roof itself flat.

Why: Wrapped corners do not snag during opening.

Check: No front-strip ends project past the roof slopes.

Repair: Unwrap the loose corner and crease along the roof edge.



6. Turn the whole model

Turn the entire model over from left to right. Keep the roof point above and all folds closed.

Why: Turning exposes the remaining bottom strip.

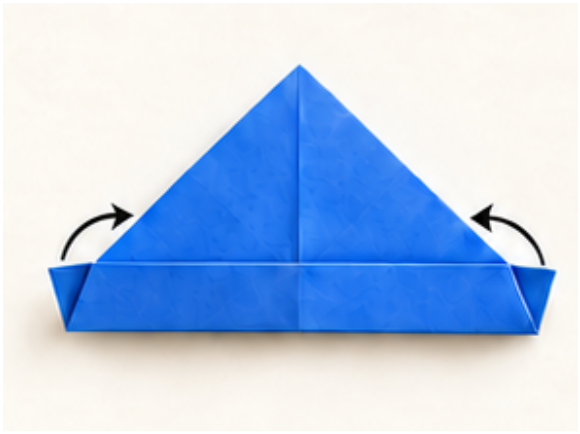
Check: Loose strip in front, first rim behind.

Repair: Repress any opened corner against the slope.

Origami paper boat

Storyboard · 7–9

One thin A4 rectangle, 21 × 29.7 cm; colored and pale sides. No cutting or glue.



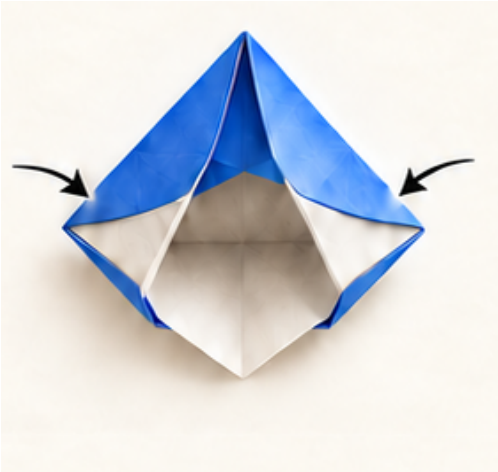
7. Make the second rim

Raise the remaining strip along the roof base. Wrap its projecting corners behind the slopes, leaving the opening between the two rims free.

Why: Two outside rims make an open paper hat.

Check: Flat triangular hat with an opening between its rims.

Repair: Keep both rims outside; remove a rim blocking the mouth.



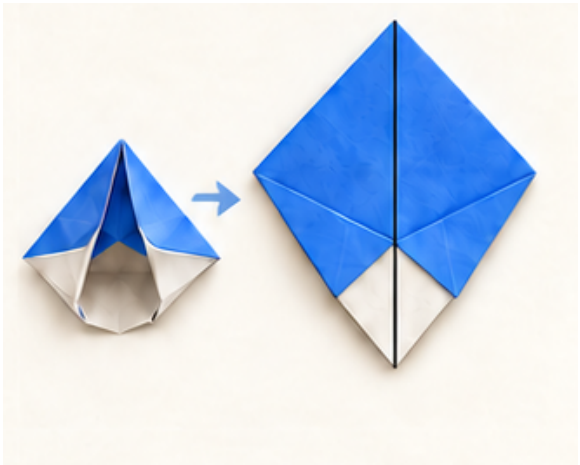
8. Open the hat pocket

Separate the front and back rims at the bottom. Look into the pocket; bring the left and right rim ends toward each other.

Why: Open walls allow a change of folding direction.

Check: Hollow pocket; old side ends approach.

Repair: Separate the walls first; let wrapped corners slide.



9. Flatten the first square

Bring the old rim ends together and flatten the open pocket. Set the square as a diamond, with its two loose points below.

Why: The diamond exposes a separate flap on each side.

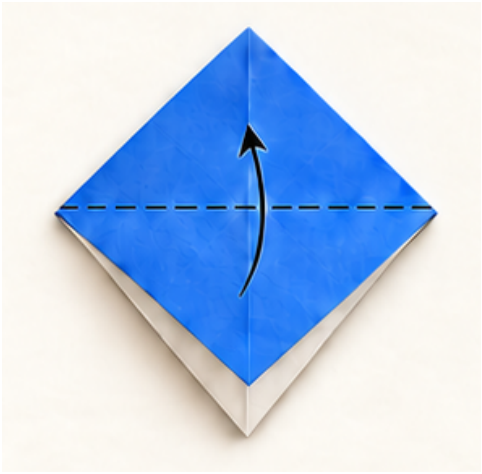
Check: Diamond with two loose bottom points and overlapping rim edges.

Repair: Return to step 8 if it stays triangular.

Origami paper boat

Storyboard · 10–12

One thin A4 rectangle, 21 × 29.7 cm; colored and pale sides. No cutting or glue.



10. Lift the front point

Raise only the front bottom point to the top point. Crease between the side corners; leave the rear point below.

Why: Each side needs its own independently folded flap.

Check: Front triangle over a diamond; rear bottom point remains down.

Repair: Lower the rear layer and fold only the front.



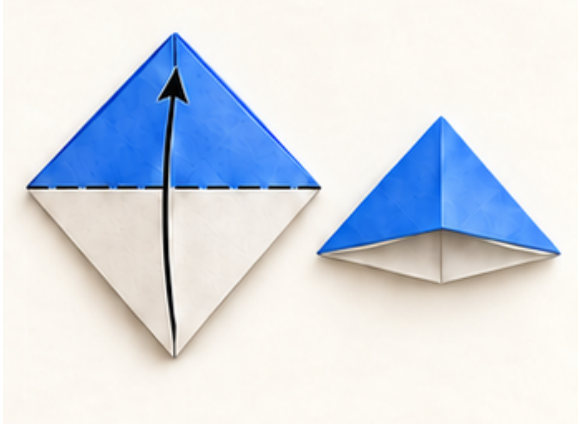
11. Turn the diamond

Turn the whole model over from left to right, keeping the top point above and the first flap closed.

Why: Turning exposes the second bottom point.

Check: Diamond in front; first triangle behind.

Repair: Refold an opened flap before turning.



12. Lift the second point

Bring the remaining bottom point to the top point. Align the tips, then press the fold between the side corners.

Why: Both flaps make the smaller open hat.

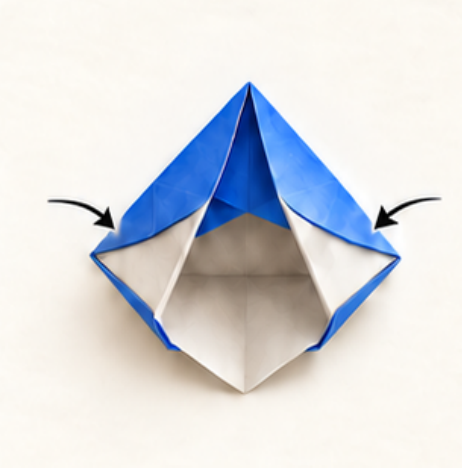
Check: Small triangle with a mouth along its long base.

Repair: Reopen this flap and align its tip with the top.

Origami paper boat

Storyboard · 13–15

One thin A4 rectangle, 21 × 29.7 cm; colored and pale sides. No cutting or glue.



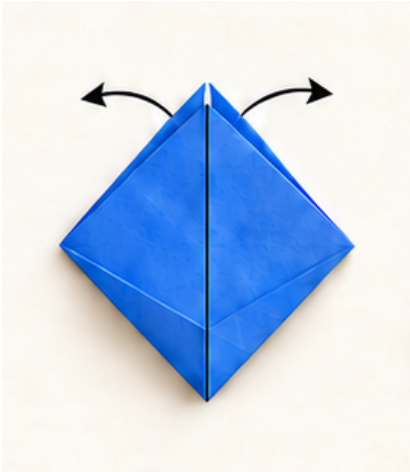
13. Open the smaller pocket

Separate the front and back walls along the triangle’s bottom edge. Bring its left and right base corners toward each other.

Why: The pocket changes direction again.

Check: Open small pocket; base corners approach.

Repair: Spread the walls instead of pulling a tip.



14. Flatten the smaller square

Bring the old base corners together and flatten. Place the small diamond with its two loose outer tips at the top.

Why: Outer tips will become opposite hull ends.

Check: Small diamond with two separate outer tips above.

Repair: Reopen step 13 if it stays triangular.



15. Open the boat

Hold one loose outer top tip in each hand. Pull left and right gently until the central peak rises; ease the hull walls apart.

Why: Outer layers open around the inner peak.

Check: Long open hull, two pointed ends, central triangle.

Repair: Separate the outer tips on the small diamond; stop if paper resists.

On a fresh smaller rectangle with the same proportions, fold another boat. Predict which walls open and which corners meet before each pocket movement; compare both hulls.