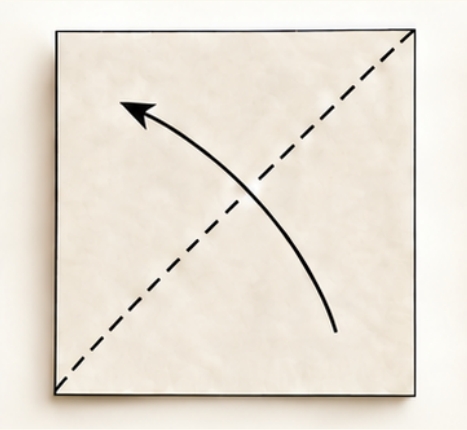
Paper butterfly

Storyboard · 1–3

One 15 × 15 cm square of thin paper. No glue or cuts.



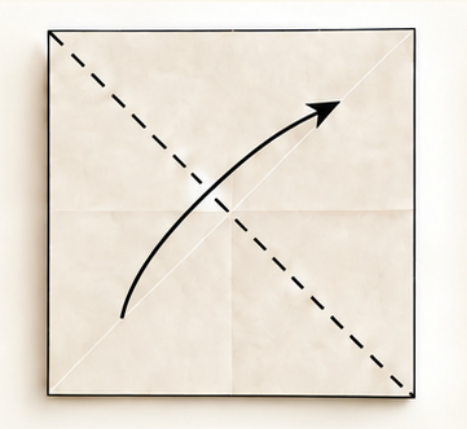
1. First diagonal

With the cream side up, bring the lower-right corner to the upper-left corner. Press and reopen.

Why: This crease provides a diagonal hinge.

Check: The crease runs from lower-left to upper-right.

Repair: Reopen and match both edges if the corners miss.



2. Second diagonal

Bring the lower-left corner to the upper-right corner. Press and reopen the square.

Why: The diagonals locate the center for the collapse.

Check: Two diagonal creases form an X.

Repair: Check that the original sheet is square if the intersection is off-center.



3. Horizontal reference

Turn the entire square over, orange side up. Bring the bottom edge to the top, crease, and reopen.

Why: Turning over reverses the new crease relative to the diagonals.

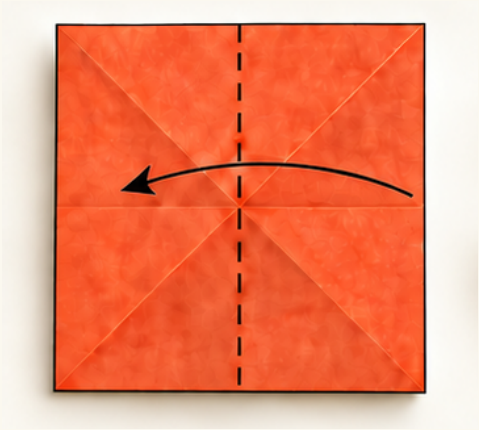
Check: A horizontal crease crosses the center.

Repair: If you forgot the turn, reopen, turn over and gently reverse this crease.

Paper butterfly

Storyboard · 4–6

One 15 × 15 cm square of thin paper. No glue or cuts.



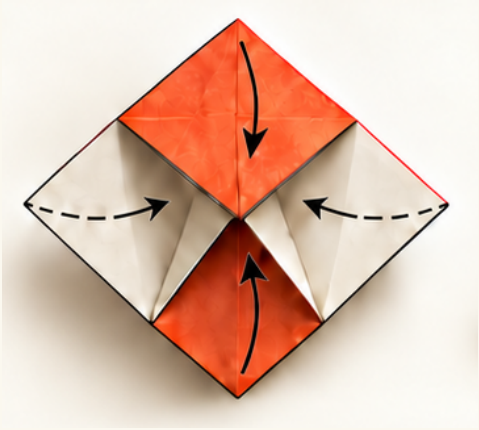
4. Vertical reference

Bring the right edge to the left edge, press, and reopen. Keep orange facing up.

Why: Both midpoint hinges let the sides tuck inward.

Check: An X and a cross meet at the center.

Repair: Match the complete edges before sharpening the fold.



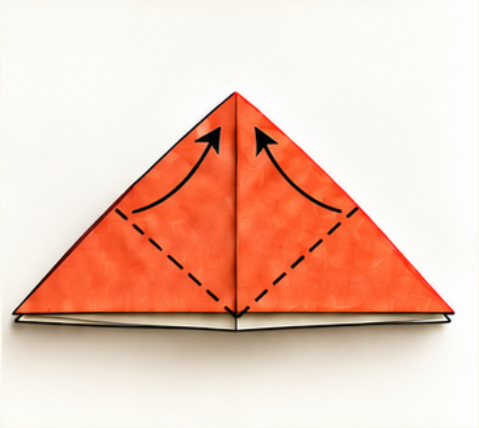
5. Start the collapse

Push the left and right edge midpoints inward. Bring top and bottom edges together while the center stays raised.

Why: Old creases guide this three-dimensional movement.

Check: A tent forms with side walls tucked inside.

Repair: Reopen if a wall bends outward; reverse its midpoint crease gently.



6. Flatten the base

Lower the tent into a double triangle, apex up. Flatten its faces; move only the two front bottom corners toward the apex.

Why: The base separates front flaps from an intact rear triangle.

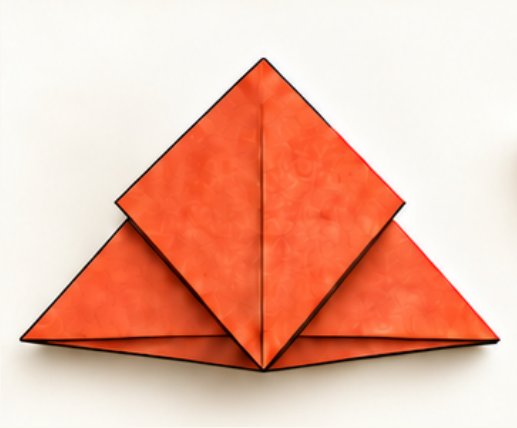
Check: The front corners move independently of the rear corners.

Repair: Reopen the corner fold if the rear layer moves too.

Paper butterfly

Storyboard · 7–9

One 15 × 15 cm square of thin paper. No glue or cuts.



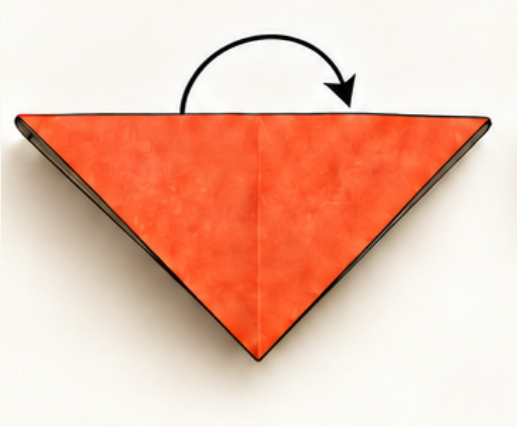
7. Match front flaps

Align both front tips with the top apex and press their folds. Leave the rear triangle unchanged.

Why: Matching flaps make the smaller wings symmetrical.

Check: A front diamond lies over a wider rear triangle.

Repair: Reopen only the uneven flap and match its tip again.



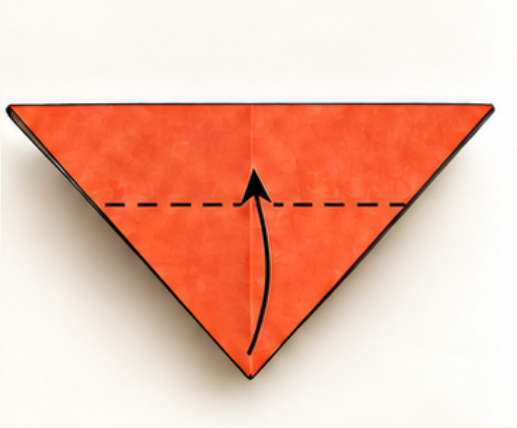
8. Turn and rotate

Turn the whole model over. Rotate it until the long straight edge is at the top and the single apex points down.

Why: The smooth rear face exposes the locking point.

Check: A smooth inverted triangle faces you; the diamond is underneath.

Repair: If you see the diamond, turn the model without opening any flap.



9. Lift the point

Lift the downward point just past the long top edge. Let the side regions curve; press the center without crushing the wings.

Why: The protruding tip creates a lock; curved sides preserve volume.

Check: A small tip projects above the edge; both side regions curve.

Repair: Lower the point and try less overhang if a wing crumples.

Paper butterfly

Storyboard · 10–12

One 15 × 15 cm square of thin paper. No glue or cuts.



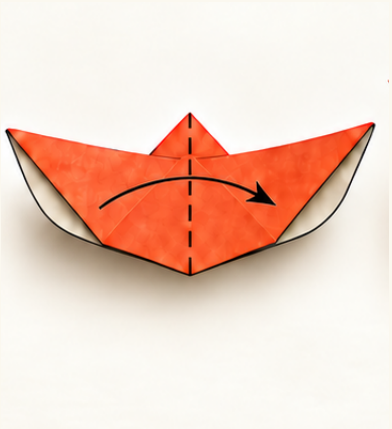
10. Secure the tip

Fold the projecting tip backward over the upper edge. Press the tiny fold while supporting the wing layers.

Why: The small tab holds the lifted point against the model.

Check: The tip wraps over the edge instead of pointing up.

Repair: Reopen the lift and leave slightly more tip if the tab slips.



11. Shape the body

Turn the model over. Bring its wings gently together along the center, pinch a short ridge, then let the wings open.

Why: The ridge gives the butterfly its shallow three-dimensional shape.

Check: Two wing pairs open on either side of a short ridge.

Repair: Release the pinch and reopen evenly if one wing stays closed.



12. Check the result

Rest the butterfly with its central ridge up. Compare both sides and adjust only their opening angle.

Why: A final comparison distinguishes shaping from earlier layer mistakes.

Check: Four wings, a short ridge and a secure tab; no cuts or added pieces.

Repair: Return to step 7 for unequal small wings, or step 10 for a loose lock.

Try independently: Fold again from an 18 cm square without pictures. Name each moving layer and compare the wing opening.