Origami Flower

A traditional tulip in seven stages | Folding companion



Illustrated finished-result inspiration.

Start with one square

Use thin paper about 6 inches or 15 cm square. The head folds without glue. A stem or gift attachment is optional. Read one stage before making its next crease.

The diagrams show key shapes and movements. Use them with the article and the linked photo tutorials for close views of the pockets and base.

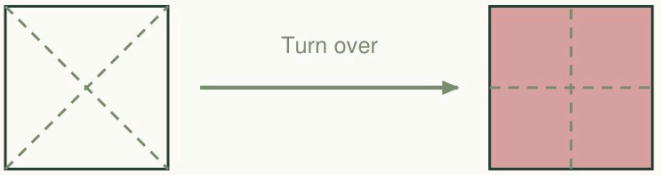
Print at 100% / Actual Size. Turn off Fit or Shrink.

This line should measure 5 cm:

Build the folded base

Stages 1-3 | White is the reverse; blush is the colored face.

1 Prepare the creases



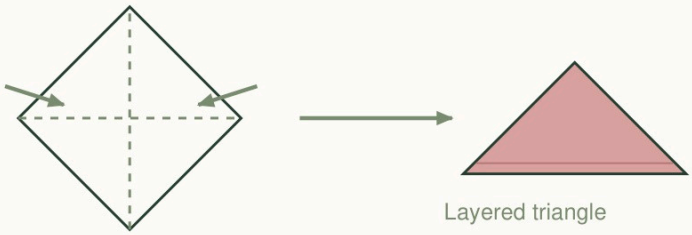
White face: diagonals

Color face: halves

White side up: fold and reopen both diagonals. Turn over. Fold and reopen both straight halves, then turn back. Opposite crease directions help the base collapse.

Check: two diagonals and two straight creases.

2 Collapse the triangle base



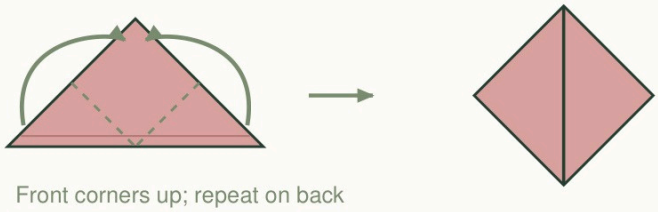
Guide side centers inward

Layered triangle

Ease the two side centers inward and lower the upper half. Flatten the existing creases into a layered triangle. Keep its long edge at the bottom.

Check: a triangle with layered sides.

3 Raise the lower corners



Front corners up; repeat on back

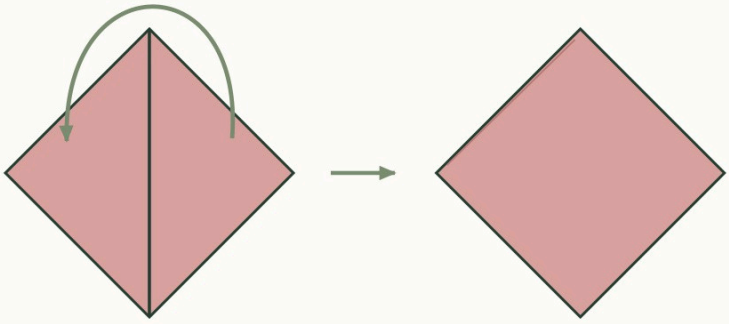
Lift both lower corners of the front layer to the top point. Turn over and repeat. The result is a diamond, with a seam down each face.

Check: four corners have moved upward.

Turn, overlap and tuck

Stages 4-5 | Keep the diamond point at the top.

4 Turn the flaps like pages

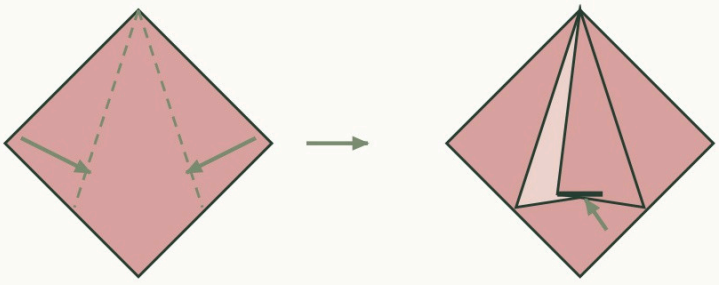


Turn one flap across on each face

Turn one flap across like a book page. Repeat on the other face. You should see a plain diamond on each side, without the previous central split.

Check: both outer faces are unsplit.

5 Tuck the overlapping flaps



Overlap, open a pocket, tuck; repeat on back

Bring the side flaps slightly beyond the center. Open one flap pocket and slide the other tip into it. Center the overlap; repeat on the reverse.

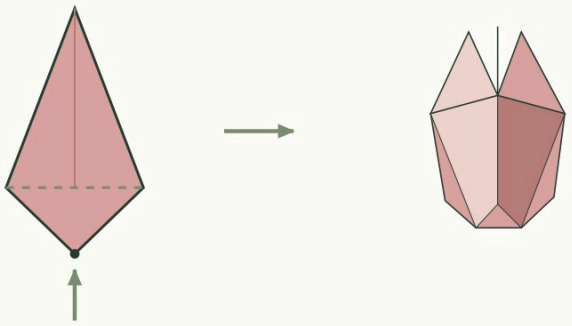
Check: tips are inside pockets, not just stacked.

A tuck goes inside a pocket. Simply crossing two flaps will not hold.

Open the bloom

Stages 6-7 | Ease the body open before pulling any petals.

6 Open the flower body

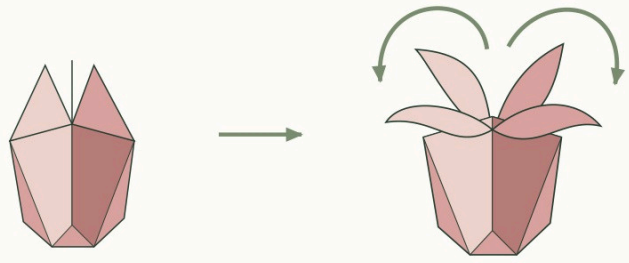


Puff gently through the bottom opening

Fold and unfold the small bottom tip to loosen it. Puff gently into the opening underneath, easing the sides apart. The flat body becomes three-dimensional.

Check: the body is open before shaping petals.

7 Shape four petals



Open four outer tips, one at a time

Peel the four free outer tips away from the middle. Curve them outward gently. Work around the flower and stop before the paper starts to tear.

Check: four visible petals around an open center.

If a layer catches, stop and loosen it. A larger square or thinner paper is easier to handle. Do not force the petals to open a flattened body.

Give your flower a place

Gift topper, removable journal wrap or hand-delivered card.



Styled project examples. Leave clearance around raised petals.

Optional rolled-paper stem

Roll a green paper strip diagonally into a slim tube. Glue its loose edge and let it dry. Test the narrow end in the bloom opening without forcing it. Shorten the stem if it bends.

Keep this dimensional bloom outside closed journal pages. Mount it on a removable band, and use a shallow box for a decorated card.

More detailed folding views

Origami.me / Kelly Tan: origami.me/tulip/
Origami-Fun: origami-fun.com/origami-tulip.html

Traditional model. Original SnipMeadow diagrams and project styling.