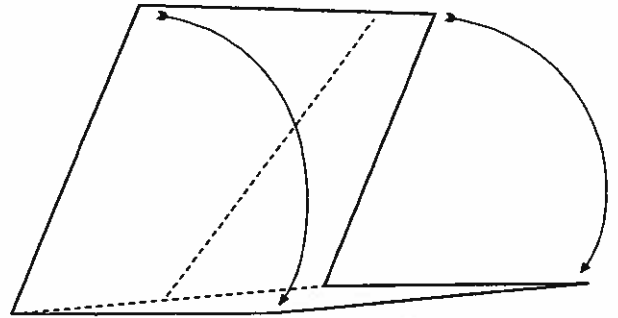
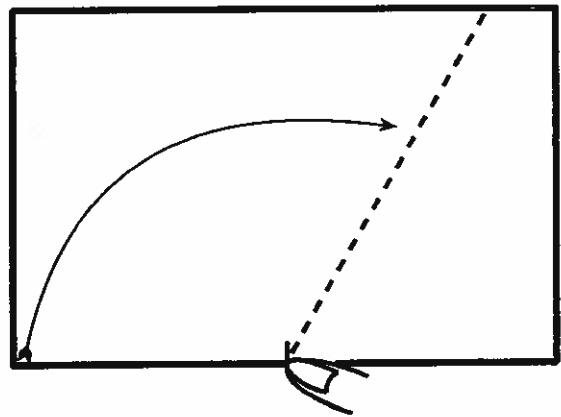


This is how you fold a six sided snowflake.

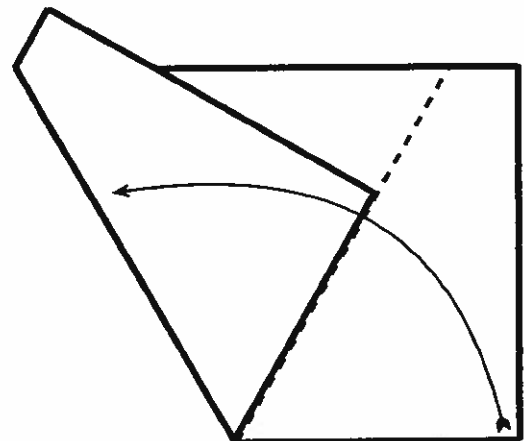
1. When using a copied template from this book, be sure to follow the dotted fold lines EXACTLY. Precision is very important. Now fold your paper in half. Remember, EXACTLY on the dotted line. Even so small a difference as $1/16^{\text{th}}$ of an inch will translate to about $1/8^{\text{th}}$ of an inch by the final fold and that could cut off something needed. Corners meeting exactly is NOT important. The DOTTED LINE is where the design is drawn to fit.



2. Lay the paper flat on a table. The template drawing should be face down on the table now, with the dotted $1/3^{\text{rd}}$ fold line showing on the side that is up. Put your right pointer fingernail on the fold line where the dotted line meets it, then fold the bottom left corner up as shown. Be sure the paper comes right up NEXT TO the dotted line. Be able to see the dotted line all the way down to your fingernail.

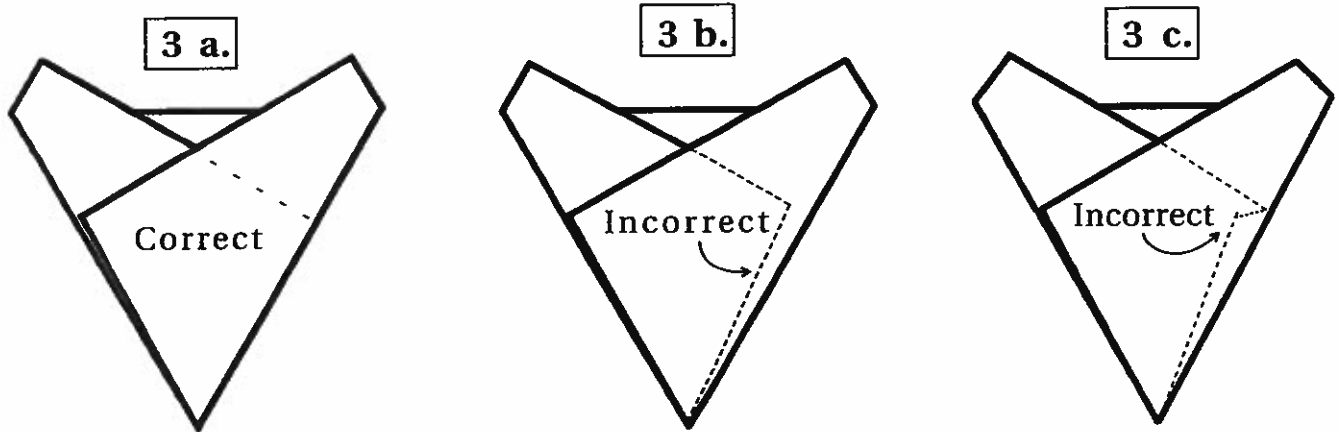


3. Now bring the bottom right corner up as shown to fold it into three equal pie pieces. Use gentle, easy folds at first, until you are sure these $1/3$ pie pieces are exact! Be sure to have a SHARP tip to your pie piece and that this fold is right up against the last fold. (See next illustrations.)

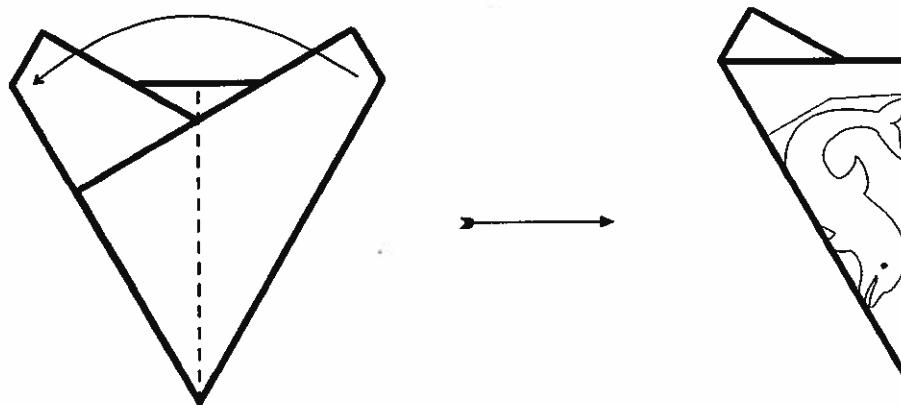


3a. This shows the correct fold. Lift the top pie piece to be sure the edge of the first pie piece comes all the way over to meet that last fold line, but is not too close and folding it over.

3b. and **3c.** These illustrations show the incorrect folds. If the folds don't meet correctly here, adjust them till they do. Now crease the folds with a fingernail to make them tight, and be sure the point is SHARP.



4. Now fold the paper in half again. Keep that point sharp and all folded edges exactly even with each other. Don't let the top layer slip, or "migrate" out of line. Exactness is very important, especially for the more complicated designs of this book.



Now you are ready to start cutting. Cut *all* the solid lines, even if there are two lines *right next* to each other. Cut *both* lines and make a thin sliver come out from between them. These thin slivers, or *lightning bolts*, are important. Remember, dotted lines are for *folding*, *not* for following while cutting. Ignore dotted lines when you are done folding, but cut **EVERY** black solid line. Use a hole punch wherever you can. It's easier to cut a curve with a curved thing, like a hole punch. Grey circles are the hole punch marks. Grey areas should be cut out. Be careful! These snowflakes can be addicting! Have FUN !

AUTHOR'S NOTE

Small scissors and pre-folded snowflakes are easy to fit into a pocket or purse. Then you will have something to do whenever you need it. Cutting out snowflakes can keep you awake at board meetings or keep a bored child occupied. Snowflakes are also a great conversation starter.



The day after Millennia, I was spending an evening in front of the TV. Just to keep my hands busy, I was cutting snowflakes to put on the tree or on Christmas packages - the normal kind - just cutting. A nature program started on the TV with a picture of one tiger that was then opened like a fan into a kaleidoscope of tigers. It made a striking, colorful picture and I immediately saw the similarity to the snowflakes I was cutting - the same radial symmetry. I wondered if I could somehow incorporate animals into my snowflakes? I knew a tiger's stripes would be too hard to try first, so I started with a bird. I had been cutting slices that looked a lot like feathers in a wing all evening, so I thought that would make a good looking snowflake. It worked! I still think a bird makes one of the nicest snowflakes ever. Then I looked at my Christmas tree and thought that it might work as a snowflake design. It did! Then someone asked me to make their favorite animal into a snowflake. Then my sister-in-law asked me to turn her viola into a snowflake. The concept took off from there. I also discovered that your initials can be made into a fantastic snowflake and I finally figured out how to do a tiger - stripes and all. Now I can even turn YOU into a flake! I cut your silhouette, being sure to leave connection points so that it forms a viable snowflake. Portrait snowflakes are very difficult, but they look great! It's a good thing I like flaky people!

So many people enjoyed that moment of discovery, when they SAW the animals and things in the snowflakes, that I decided I had to share the experience. I started teaching friends and groups and then I was even allowed to create a Snowflake Station at 'City Museum' in St. Louis, where I work as an artist in 'Art City'. I have such fun telling my father's Polish wolf stories while people cut out their snowflakes when they visit my station at the museum! Finally, I had to make these books for all the teachers and parents and scout leaders who would come back to me and say, "I can't remember how to fold them," or "I can't draw the animals." So now you can just make copies of the templates in my books and follow the simple folding instructions and share the fun! I've got lots more ideas! How about "Fantasy Creatures", or "Sports", or "Professions", or "Trucks and Trains and Planes", or "Landmarks" (Statues, Towers, Arches)? If you have a good idea for a snowflake, let me know! Keep your eyes open for the next book in the series. You can reach me at PO Box 267, Collinsville, IL 62234 or at 'City Museum' in St. Louis, MO. (Try e-mail = artcity@citymuseum.org)

Have fun cutting my snowflakes !

Marion Nichols

Other books in this series are...

"How to make OCEAN ANIMAL SNOWFLAKES"

Another one for all ages. They start easy in the front of the book and gradually get harder.

"How to make HOLIDAY SNOWFLAKES"

All major American holidays. Something for all times of year, even Kwanzaa, Chanukah, and Forth of July!

"How to make DINOSAUR SNOWFLAKES"

There are TWO versions of each dinosaur in this book, an easy to cut one and a harder one.

**"How to make INSECT SNOWFLAKES"
(For Experts Only)**

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**"How to make MORE,
AND MORE DIFFICULT
ANIMAL SNOWFLAKES"**

There are FORTY-TWO new animals in this one!

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or flip it over and it becomes
How to construct CLOTH ACTION FIGURES"**