

Family Art from Home

Star Book

by Radka Apostalon

Make a star shaped book by using paper folding techniques and common materials around the home. This handcrafted book is a beautiful place to preserve your drawings or the stories you want to tell.

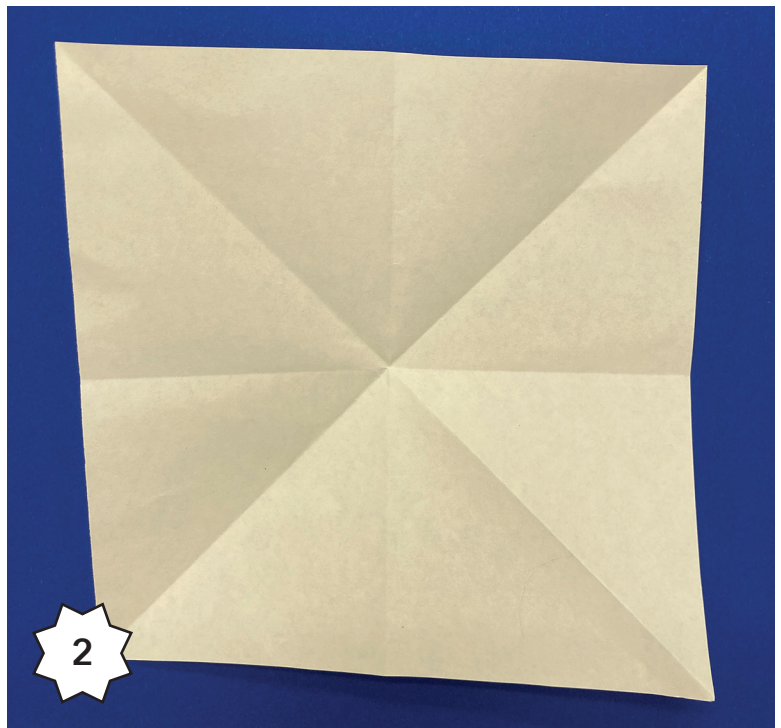
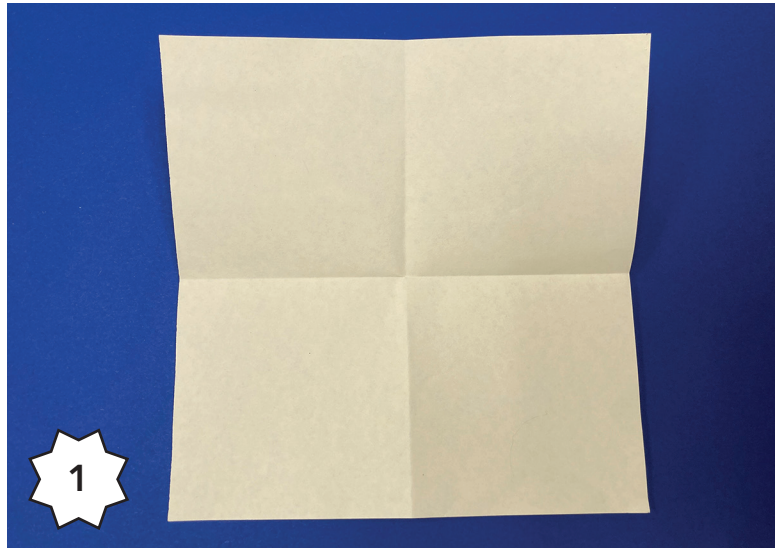
Supplies Need

Cardstock or cardboard (you can use a cereal box or a piece of poster board)
Aluminum foil or wrapping paper or decorative paper
5 sheets of Paper (8.5" x 11", white or colored paper)
Ruler
Glue stick, hot glue or Elmer's glue
Ribbon, jewels, beads, sequins, glitter glue
Watercolors, metallic markers (optional)

How to Do It

MAKE THE PAGES OF YOUR BOOK:

1. Cut out five squares of paper that are 8.5"x8.5".
2. Take one square and fold it in half to make a rectangle.
3. Fold the paper in half again so that you have a small square.
4. Unfold the paper completely. **See image 1.**
5. Turn the paper so it looks like a diamond. Fold the diamond in half to make a triangle.
6. Fold the triangle in half to make a smaller triangle.
7. Unfold the paper completely. **See image 2.**
8. Refold the paper into a triangle along one of the already created fold lines.
9. Hold the triangle with the long folded edge facing down and the point facing up.



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10. Pinch the paper tightly on the left side of the point of the triangle. Take the lower right point of the triangle and push it up until it touches the top point. When you do this, the front and the back of the paper should push away from one another. You should have half a triangle facing you, and if you turn the paper to look at the right side, it should look like a diamond.

11. Fold the diamond so that the two side points come together. **See image 3.**

12. Repeat steps 10 and 11 for left side of your paper. **See image 4.**

13. Repeat steps 1-12 for your four remaining paper squares.

14. If you like, you can decorate the edges of the folded squares with markers or watercolor.

MAKE THE COVER OF YOUR BOOK:

1. Cut out two 4.75"x4.75" cardboard squares. These two pieces of cardboard will form the cover of your book.

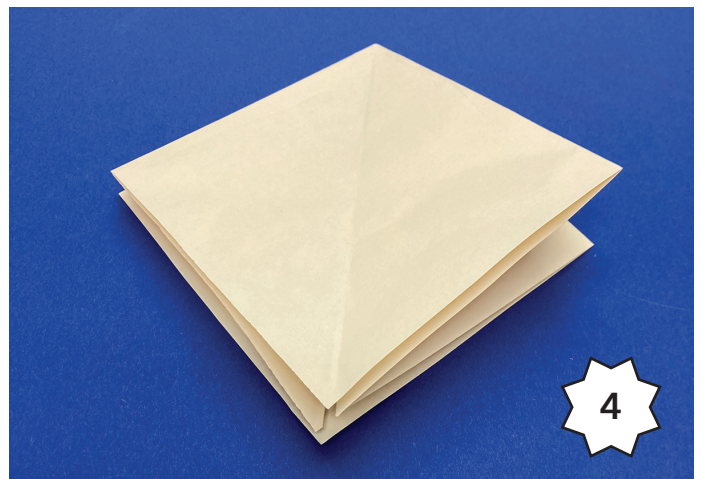
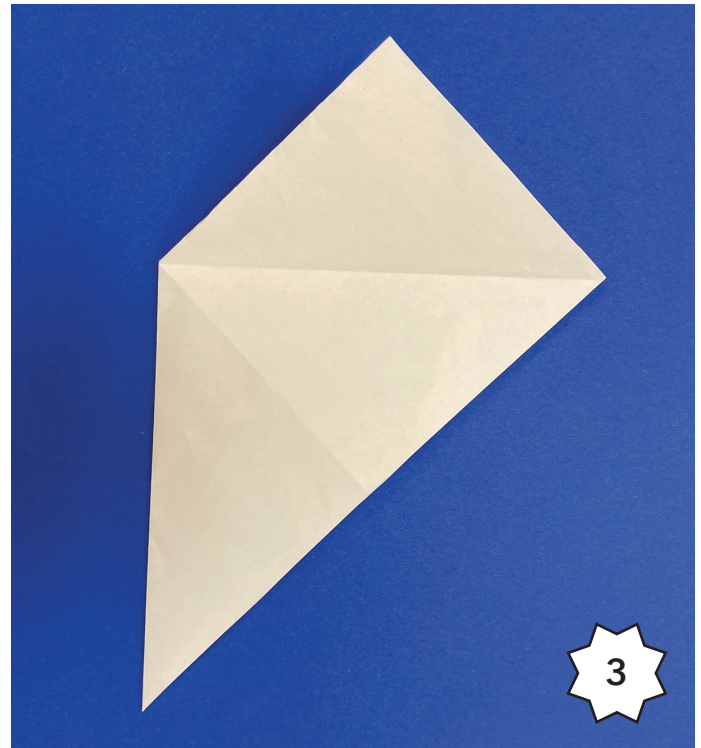
2. Cut out two foil or decorated paper squares that are bigger than your cardboard squares. They need to be large enough to completely wrap the cardboard and have some to attach to the back.

3. Put glue all over the surface of the cardboard squares and press the foil or paper on the surface.

4. Fold over the edges of the foil or paper and glue to the back side of your cover. **See image 5.**

5. Run your finger or pencil eraser end (something rounded/soft to prevent tears) along all the front of the cardboard to make sure it is fully attached.

6. If you used foil: With a dull pencil, emboss the front of your book covers with patterns of your preference. **See image 6.**



COMPLETE YOUR STAR BOOK:

1. Attach the ribbon to the inside of your book covers. Lay the covers so that the inside is facing up. Glue the ribbon diagonally from corner to corner to the inside of one cover. Then repeat this step with the other cover. Be sure to leave about a $\frac{1}{4}$ " of ribbon between the two covers, and about 6-8" of ribbon at either end to be able to tie your book shut. **See image 7.**

2. Glue your folded pages together: Pick up one of your folded pages. Lay it flat on the table so it looks like a diamond, with the folded point facing down and the open point facing up. Use a glue stick to rub glue all over the diamond. Take another one of your folded papers and glue it to the first. Make sure that the folded point is facing down and the open point is facing up. Repeat this step until all five of your folded pages are glued to each other.

3. Attach your pages to your book cover: Use the glue stick to rub glue all over the inside of your book cover pieces. Glue your pages to one cover, making sure that the open point of the pages faces the corner of the cover with the loose ribbon for tying. **See image 8.** Glue the other side of the pages to the other side of your book cover. **See image 9.**

4. Finish decorating the cover of your book. You can use markers (use sharpies if your cover is foil), gems, sequins, glitter glue, beads, or whatever else you would like to decorate your star book. **See image 10.**

The book will unfold into a star when the covers are brought together. **See image 11.**

Your Star Book is ready for your final touch. Fill the inside pages with a story or an illustration of your own creation. Enjoy!

