

Paper box



A versatile paper box made from two squares of copy paper or thin card. With a top and bottom, the box is perfect for little gifts, sweets, and Easter eggs. The lid needs to be at least 1cm ($\frac{3}{8}$ ") bigger than the bottom and folded from a heavier weight card. Make a practice half box first from a square of paper taken from an A4 sheet of typing paper.

Top of box	21cm square ($8\frac{1}{4}$ ")
Bottom of box	20cm square ($7\frac{7}{8}$ ")

What you need

Thin card, gift paper or copy paper
Pencil
Ruler
Scissors
Paper clips



What you do

This project is completed in four stages:

1. Cutting the square.
2. Folding the square.
3. Cutting.
4. Assembling.

1. Cutting the square

1. Take a sheet of copy paper and place it with the short sides top and bottom.
2. Take the top left hand side and line it up on the right hand edge.
3. Cut off the bottom strip and open out your square.
4. With a pencil rule two diagonals from corner to corner on your paper.

2. Folding the square

1. Place your paper as a diamond on the table.
2. Fold each corner to the centre point and crease. Open out flat.

3. Fold each corner to the furthest opposite crease (Step 2). Open out flat.
4. Fold each corner to the nearest adjacent crease (Step 3). Open out flat.
5. Make sure you have got three folds either side of the centre on all four sides.

3. Cutting

1. Mark out the centre square on your creased paper, placing a pencil dot or cross at each corner.
2. With the paper placed as a diagonal, find the crease folds to the left and right of centre.
3. Rule a line along these creases up to the bottom right and left corner of your centre square. Turn your paper 180°. The pencilled lines are now at the top.
4. Find the crease folds to the left and right of centre.
5. Rule a line along this crease up to the bottom right and left corner of your centre square.
6. Before cutting make sure the pencilled lines are both drawn vertically; that the lines go up to the central square and come down from the top to the central square.
7. Cut carefully along the four pencilled lines up to the four corners. You now have two triangular 'wings' and two thinner flaps.

4. Assembling

1. Lay the cut square on the table with the two triangular wings to the left and right and the two thinner flaps top and bottom.
2. Take the left hand triangular wing and fold in on the first crease towards the centre of the box.
3. Fold in on the second crease.
4. Fold the wing at the box edges so that the wing begins to form a box side with the wings pointing towards the centre of the box.
5. Repeat on the other side.
6. Bring the two wings ends together in the centre and hold in place with paper clips.
7. Remove the paper clips and bring one of the 'thin' flaps up over the wing sides to hold in place.
8. Repeat on the other side.
9. Re-crease the box sides to form a crisp box edge.
10. Make a second box 1cm ($\frac{3}{8}$ ") smaller.

What next

Make the boxes in two different colours and sizes. Think of them on seasonal themes, adding pressed flowers, gift-wrap motifs, holly, fresh flowers etc for special occasions.

Diagrams and templates

The numbers beside the diagrams and templates indicate their reference to the written 'What you do' instructions.

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