How to Make a 3D Origami Christmas Tree

Step-by-step origami instructions with a photo for every step.

Difficulty: ★★★ Challenging · 38 steps · Paper: 2 sheets (green and brown) · Tools: Scissors

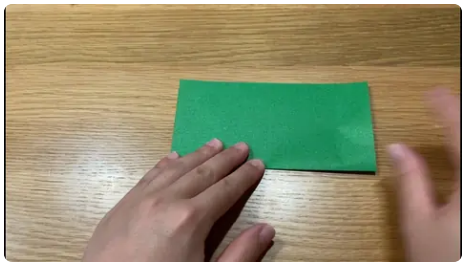
Online with video: https://origami-tutorials.com/3d-origami-christmas-tree/

Scan for the video and online steps



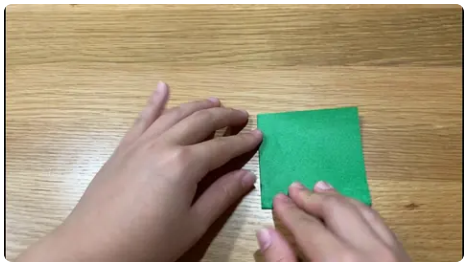
What you need

- 1 square sheet of green origami paper for the tree (white on the back)
- 1 square sheet of brown origami paper for the stand
- Scissors



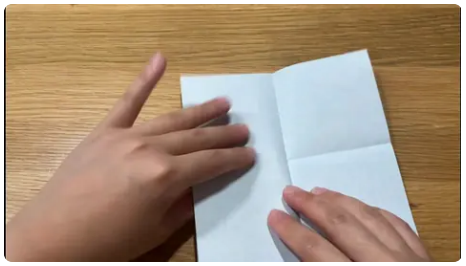
1 Fold in half

Lay the paper green side up. Bring the top edge down to the bottom edge, fold it in half, and press the crease well.



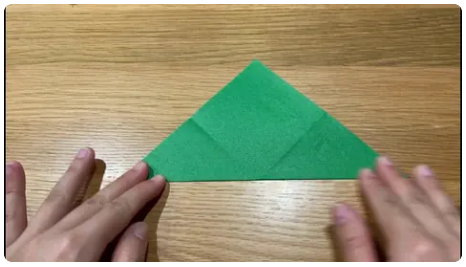
2 Fold in half again

Take the long rectangle and fold it in half again, bringing the left and right edges together.



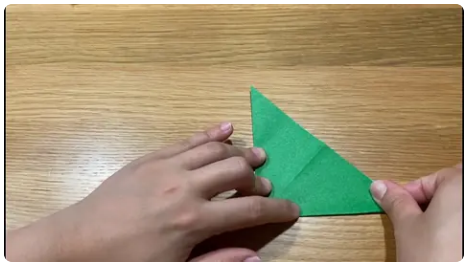
3 Unfold

Open both folds. The paper is a square again, with a cross-shaped crease through the middle.



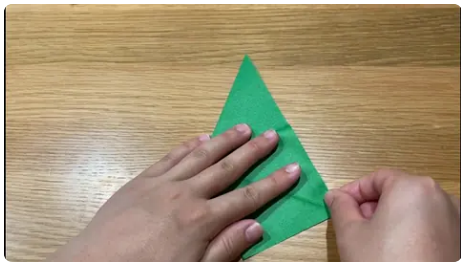
4 Fold a triangle

Turn the paper so a corner points down, then fold the bottom corner up to the top corner to make a triangle.



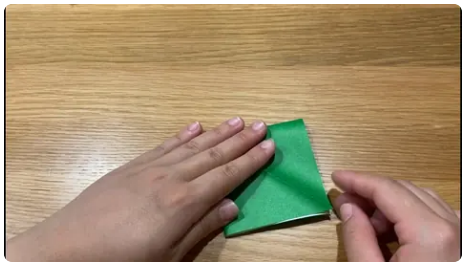
5 Fold the right corner up

Lift the right corner of the triangle and fold it upward. Once the crease is made, get ready to open it out and squash it.



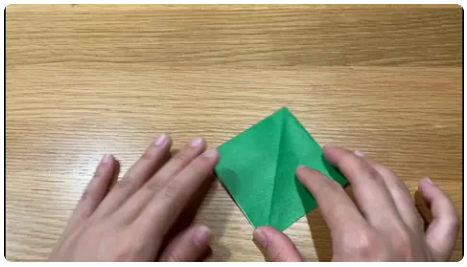
6 Open and squash

Put a finger inside the flap you just folded, open it, and press it flat. You get a tall, pointed shape on top.



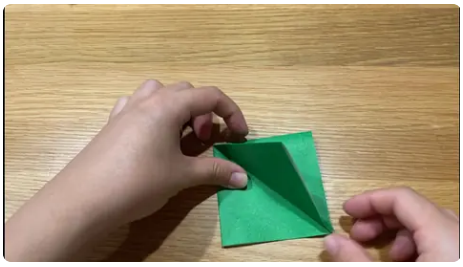
7 Squash the other side

Lay the standing flap over to the side, open it, and flatten it along the creases into a square. Turn the paper over and open and squash the other side in the same way.



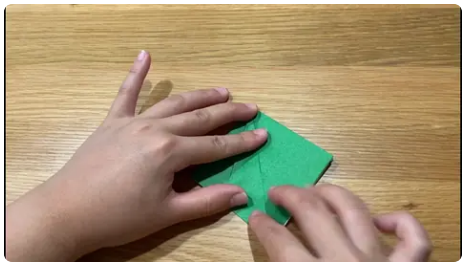
8 Shape a small diamond

Press the creases down so you have a small diamond with a line running down the middle.



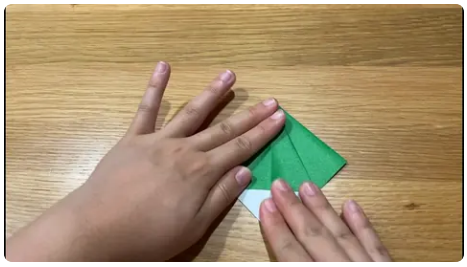
9 Open one flap

Lift one flap, open it, and squash it flat. A little of the white inside starts to show.



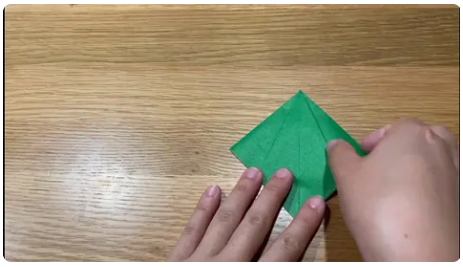
10 Fold an edge to the center

Fold the right edge in so it lines up with the center line. A white triangle shows at the bottom.



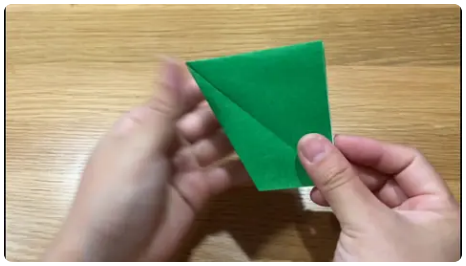
11 Keep folding the layers

Fold the next edges to the center in the same way, so the creases stack up like a fan.



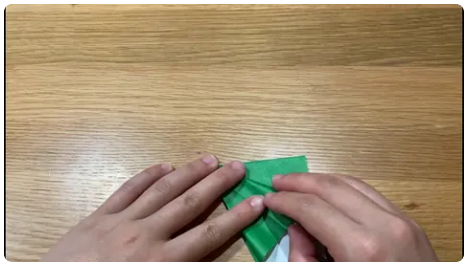
12 Repeat on the other side

Turn the paper around and open, squash, and fold the flaps on the other side the same way.



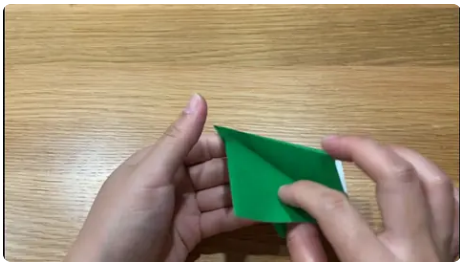
13 Open and flatten

Open the layers and press the inside flat. Now many layers of paper are stacked together.



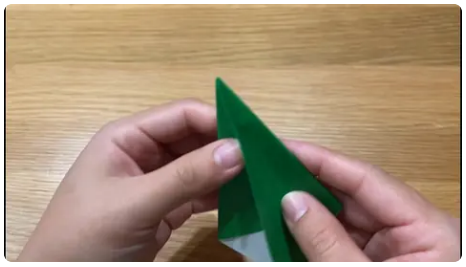
14 Fold the left edge to the center

On the left side too, fold the edge to the center line. The creases line up like a fan.



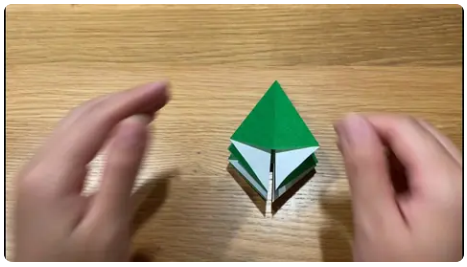
15 Make it narrow

Fold the left and right edges in to the center line to make a narrow shape. Turn the paper over and do the same on the other face: open the layers, flatten them, then bring both edges to the center line once more.



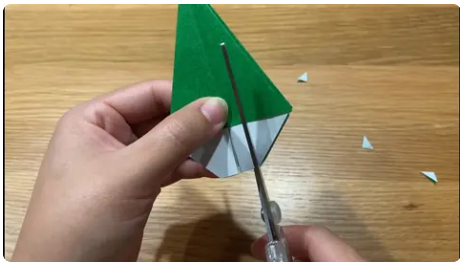
16 Fold in half lengthwise

Fold the shape in half lengthwise. You now have a long, thin piece with many layers.



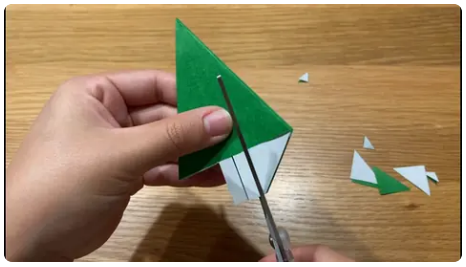
17 Line up the layers

Open it a little and line up the layers. It becomes a layered diamond with white peeking out at the bottom.



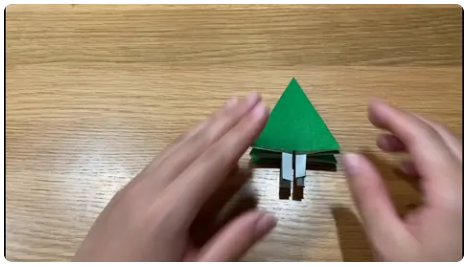
18 Cut off the corners

Hold the layers firmly and use scissors to snip off the right corner at an angle. Turn the piece as you go and trim away small triangles.



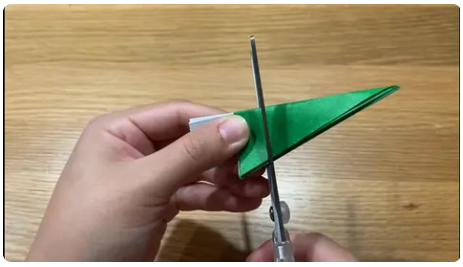
19 Cut slits along the edge

Keep cutting slanted slits along the edge in the same way. The outline starts to look like a jagged tree.



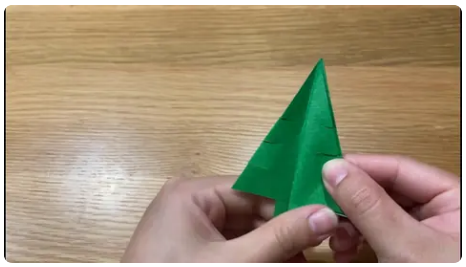
20 Leave the trunk

Do not cut the white part at the bottom. Leave it as the tree trunk.



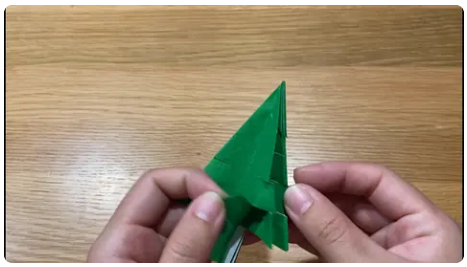
21 Snip the long edge

Change your grip to hold the narrow piece and make small snips along the long edge as well.



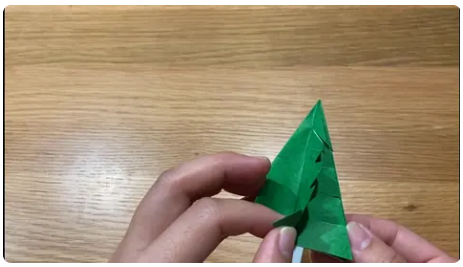
22 Add more slits

Neaten the jagged edge and add a few more slits where they are missing. The tree shape becomes clearer.



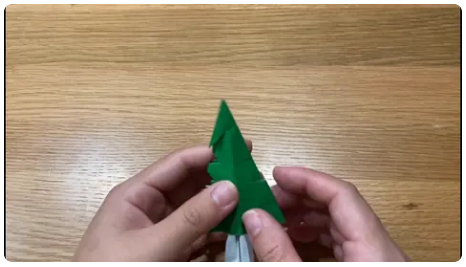
23 Open the layers one by one

Open the stacked layers to the left and right, one layer at a time, to bring out the branches.



24 Crease and spread

Fold each branch at its base to make a crease, then spread it out.



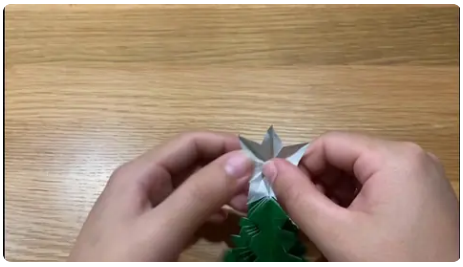
25 Shape the branches

Fold back the branches that the slits created, one level at a time, along the creases. As you work down, the jagged edges stack into tiers.



26 Make it stand in 3D

Spread the opened layers out to the front and back, and hold the trunk so the tree stands up in 3D.



27 Turn the tip into a star

Fold back the tip at the top to bring out the white back of the paper, and shape it into a star. The star is not a separate piece; it comes from the same green sheet as the tree.



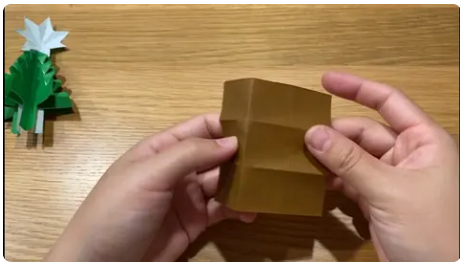
28 Stand the star up

Stand the star up in the middle and even out its points. The tree is done.



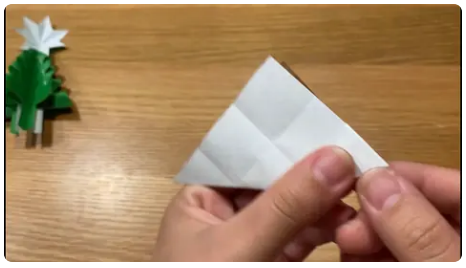
29 Fold the brown paper

Now take the brown paper for the stand. Fold it in half into a long strip, then fold it in half again.



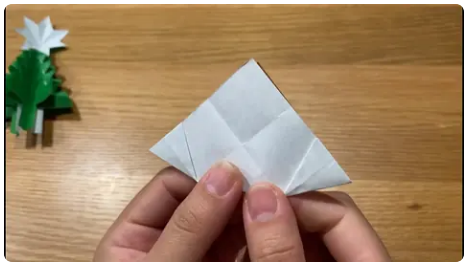
30 Unfold

Open the folds. You have a square with fine creases in it.



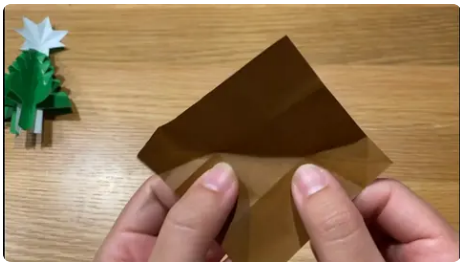
31 Tuck in a corner

Fold the creased paper into a triangle. Pull out the bottom right corner, tuck its tip inside, and press it flat so it makes a small flap. Turn the paper and do the same with the left corner and the other corners.



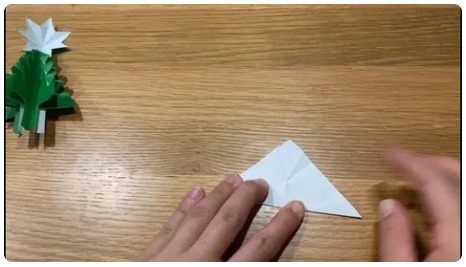
32 Tuck in the last corner

Keep the triangle with the white side showing, pull out the remaining corner, and tuck its tip inside to make another small flap.



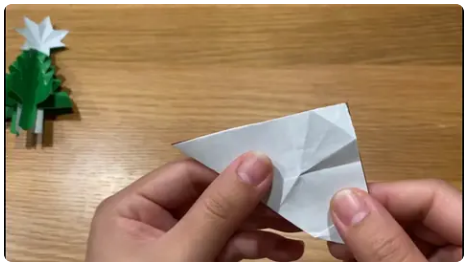
33 Open it all up

When all the corners are tucked, open the paper completely, brown side up. It is a square with many fine creases.



34 Fold into a triangle

Bring the corners together along the creases and fold the paper back into a triangle, with the white side on the outside.



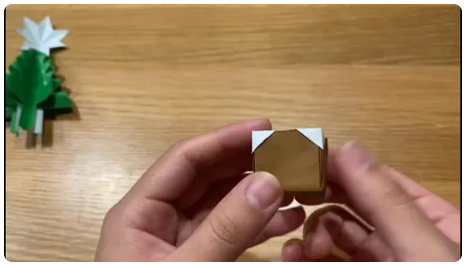
35 Fold back the corner tips

Pinch a corner of the triangle, pull it out, and fold its tip back inside to set the crease. A little brown shows where you fold. Repeat on the other corners in turn.



36 Open back to a square

Once every corner has a crease, open the paper and lay it flat. It is a brown square with creases running from the center to the four corners.



37 Shape the box

Push the creases together and lift the sides up to form a square box with an open top. The inside shows the white side.



38 Stand the tree in the box

Push the tree trunk into the box. The tree stays standing when you let go.

Finished! Here is the finished 3D Christmas tree, with a white star on top and a brown box stand at the bottom. It stands on its own, so you can put it on a table or shelf as a decoration.

Watch the video and the online steps: https://origami-tutorials.com/3d-origami-christmas-tree/

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