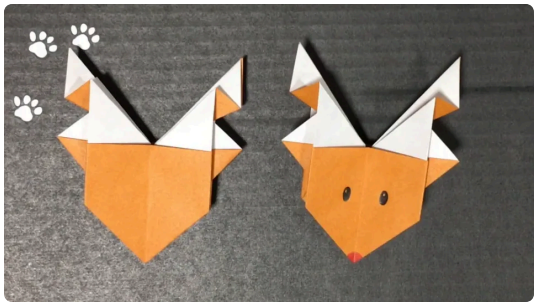
How to Make an Origami Reindeer

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

Difficulty: ★★★ Challenging · 33 steps · Paper: 1 sheet, two colors · Tools: A pen

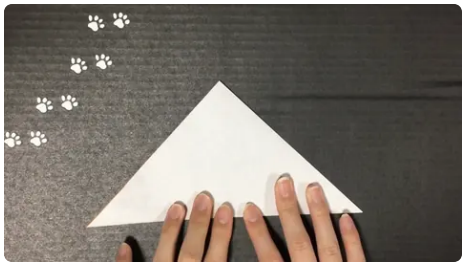
Online with video: https://origami-tutorials.com/origami-reindeer-head/

Scan for the video and online steps



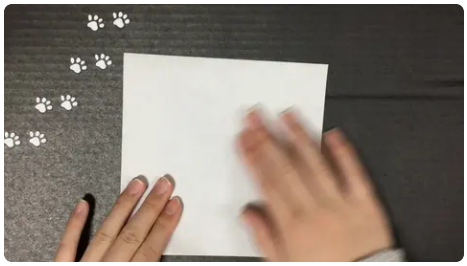
What you need

- 1 square sheet of origami paper with a different color on each side (orange and white in the video)
- A pen for the eyes and nose (the video uses red for the nose)



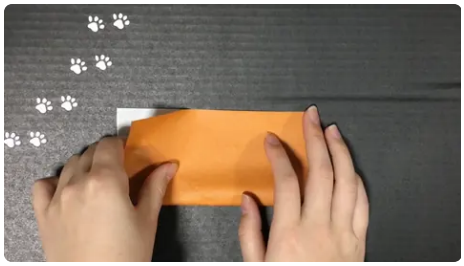
1 Fold a triangle

Place the paper colored side up, turned so it looks like a diamond. Fold the bottom corner up to the top corner to make a triangle.



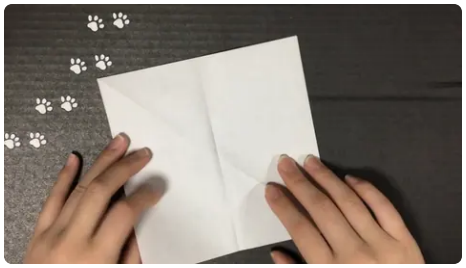
2 Unfold and turn over

Open the triangle back into a square with a diagonal crease. Turn the paper over so the white side is facing up.



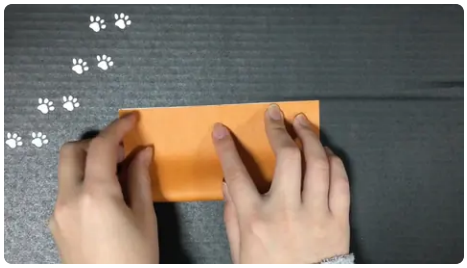
3 Fold in half

Fold the bottom edge up to the top edge and press the crease firmly.



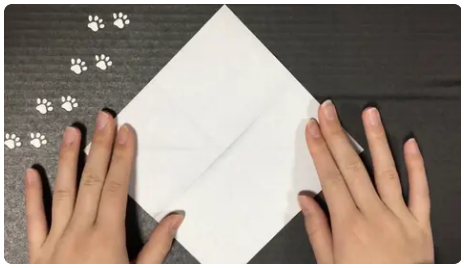
4 Unfold

Open the paper again. The white side now has one straight crease across it.



5 Fold in half the other way

Turn the paper a quarter turn and fold it in half again to make a second straight crease.



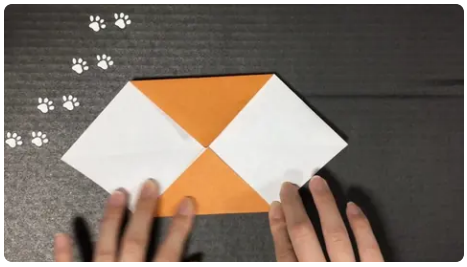
6 Check the creases

Unfold the paper with the white side up. You should now see creases through the middle in both directions, plus the diagonal crease.



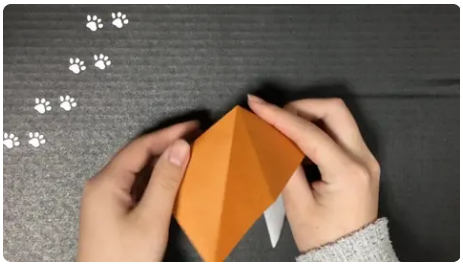
7 Fold the bottom corner to the center

Turn the paper so a corner points down. Fold the bottom corner up to the point where the creases cross in the middle.



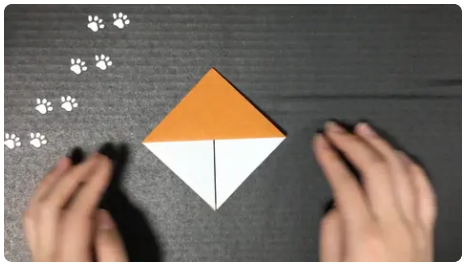
8 Fold the opposite corner to the center

Rotate the paper and fold the opposite corner to the center as well. You now have an orange triangle at the top and bottom, with white corners left on the sides.



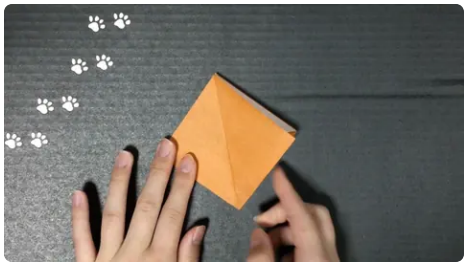
9 Bring the sides together and collapse

Hold the white corners on the left and right and bring them down toward the middle while you lift the top orange triangle. Flatten everything along the creases. The white goes inside and the outside becomes a pointed orange diamond.



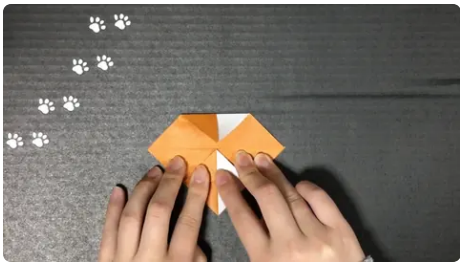
10 Open the front layer

Lift the front orange layer upward to show the white inside. The top of the diamond is orange and the bottom is white.



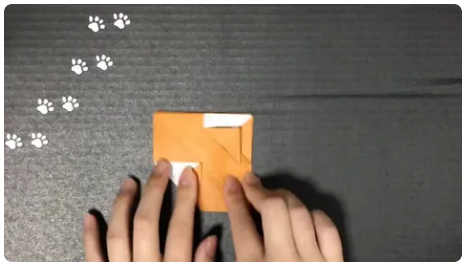
11 Turn over and tuck in the white

Turn the model over and fold the visible white part inside, so the whole diamond is orange again.



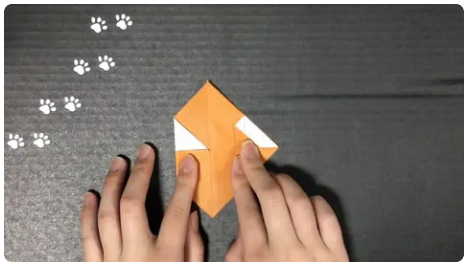
12 Open the bottom and side corners

Open the bottom corner and the side corners a little at a time to bring out the small white triangles hidden inside.



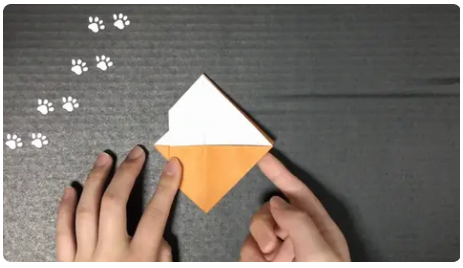
13 Swirl the four corners to the center

Hold the small triangles in place and lay all four corners toward the center in the same direction, like a pinwheel, to make a square. Then fold it in half into a triangle so a small white triangle peeks out at the top.



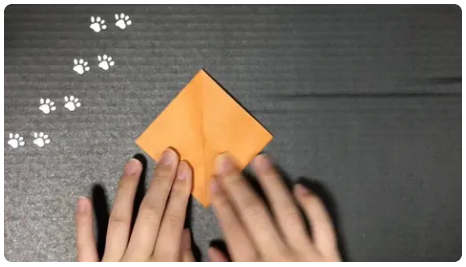
14 Shape a diamond

Press the folded paper flat and shape it into a tall diamond with white triangles showing on the left and right.



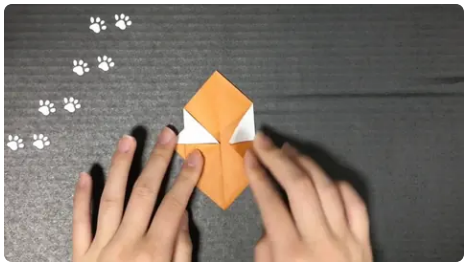
15 Open the top to show white

Open the layers near the top to show the white side. The top of the diamond is white and the bottom is orange.



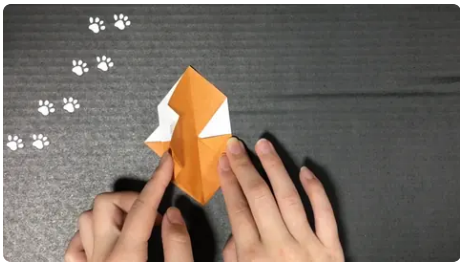
16 Go back to the orange side

Fold the white part away to hide it, so the diamond is orange again, and press a crease down the middle.



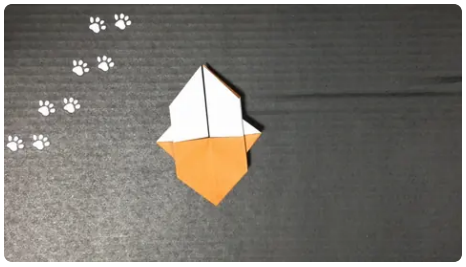
17 Lay the corners the same way

Pinch the bottom and side corners of the diamond and lay them toward the center, all in the same direction. The corners overlap like a pinwheel, and a small white triangle shows at each corner.



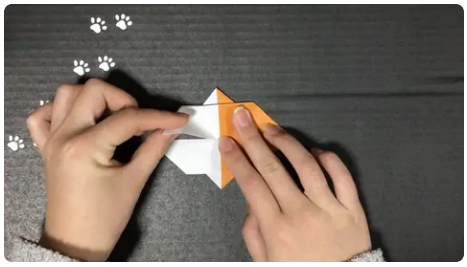
18 Flatten and turn the model

Press the folded shape flat and hold it so the orange body is at the bottom and the white part is at the top.



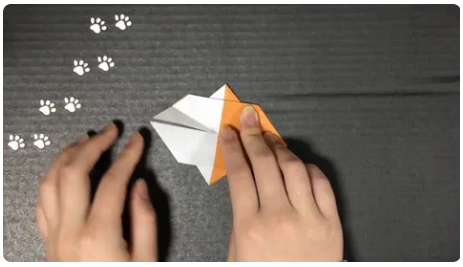
19 Shape the head

Press the white part at the top into a triangle so the orange face shows below it. There is a vertical line down the middle of the white part.



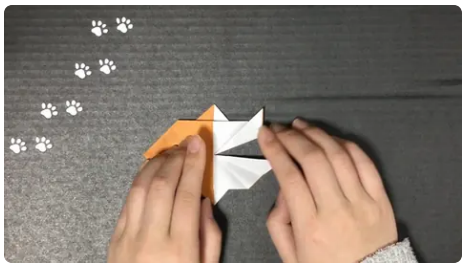
20 Spread the white triangle

Open the white triangle at the top to the left and right from the center line. The white paper now reaches straight out to both sides.



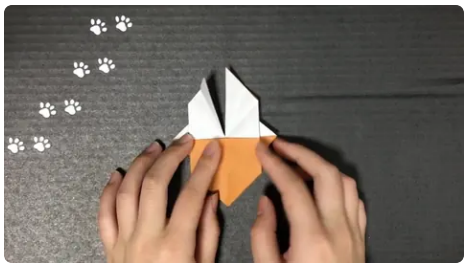
21 Fold the left tip into small triangles

Fold the tip of the white part on the left back into a small triangle. Repeat this a few times so the end becomes a stepped, pointed shape. Keep your other hand on the orange part while you fold.



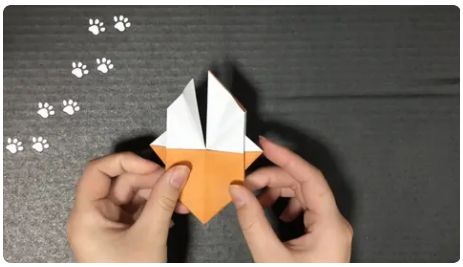
22 Fold the right tip the same way

Turn the paper and fold the white part on the other side the same way, folding the tip back into small triangles. You will see two or three pointed steps at the end.



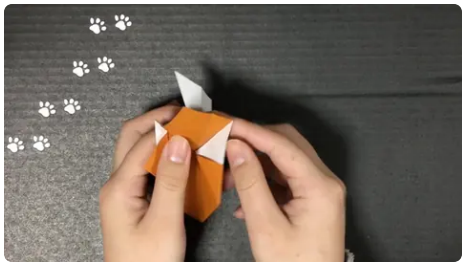
23 Stand up the two white pieces

Hold the paper upright. The two stepped white pieces now stand up over the orange part, one on each side.



24 Adjust the white pieces

Press the base of the two white pieces with your fingers and leave a small gap between them in the middle. The white parts have several diagonal creases, and the orange part is a little wider at the corners.



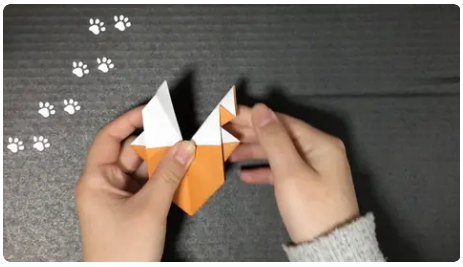
25 Turn over and fold the corners

Turn the model over so the orange side faces up, and fold the left and right corners toward the center. A small white triangle shows where you folded, and one white piece stands up as a narrow point.



26 Pleat one white piece

Turn the model back over. Spread out the white piece on one side and fold it into small accordion pleats. When you finish, the white part fans out.



27 Fold the other white tip

On the other white piece, fold the base where it meets the orange part. A small white triangle sticks out at an angle, with a small orange triangle at the tip.



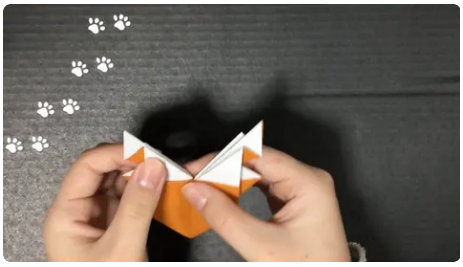
28 Crease the orange part in half

Fold the orange part in half lengthwise to make a crease, then open it again. You can see the two white pieces standing on each side, one of them pleated into a fan. Your hands cover the paper at the moment of folding, so watch this step in the video too.



29 Turn over and fold the corners again

Turn the model over again and fold the left and right orange corners toward the center. Small white triangles show where you folded, and a thin white strip stands up at the top.



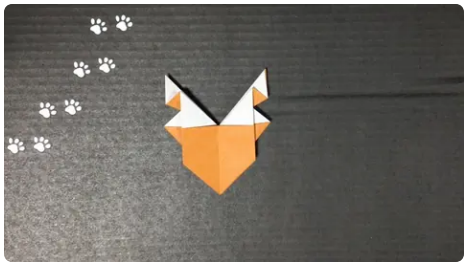
30 Pleat the remaining white part

Turn the model face up, spread out the remaining square white part, and fold it into small accordion pleats. Now there is a thin fan on each side, with a small orange triangle at each tip.



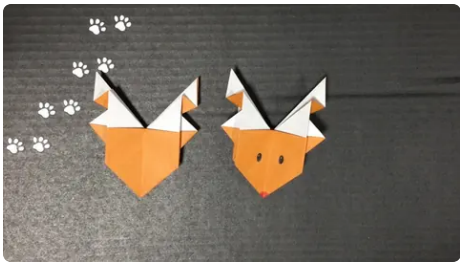
31 Spread the antlers

Open the two narrow white pleated parts into a V shape above the face and press them flat.



32 Even out the antlers

Hold each antler with your fingers and make them the same height and angle. Now the reindeer face has white antlers standing up on both sides.



33 Draw the face

Use a pen to draw two eyes, then color the nose red. Your origami reindeer is finished.

Finished! Here is the finished reindeer, with white antlers and a hand-drawn face. Try it in other colors too, like brown and white, for a whole team of reindeer.

Watch the video and the online steps: https://origami-tutorials.com/origami-reindeer-head/