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# Ultimate paper airplane



The standard long, pointed paper airplane has been around for 100 years or so, but here is a much better design, which holds itself together without the use of tape or staples.

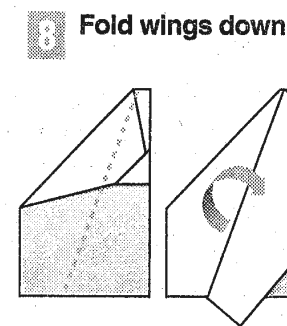
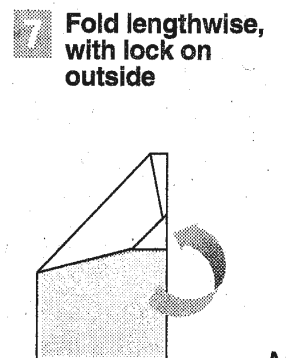
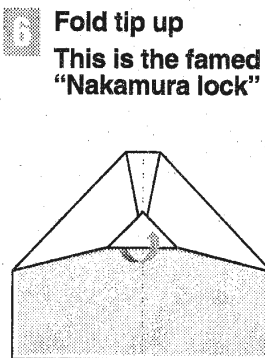
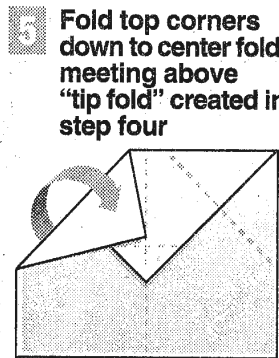
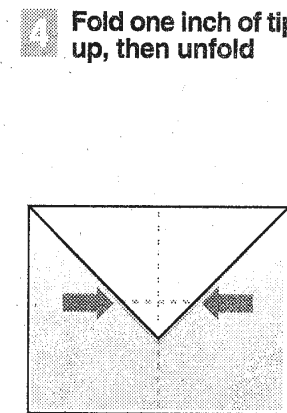
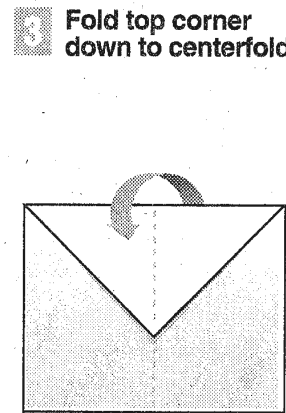
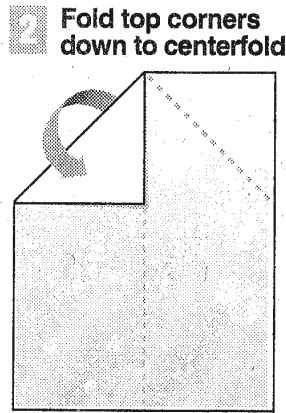
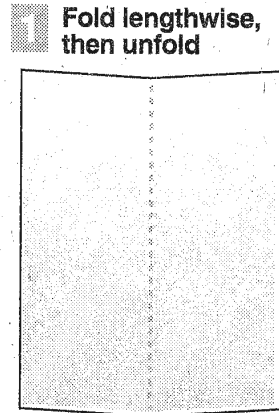
## You'll need

- Sheet of plain paper

Source: Exploratorium  
Graphic: Paul Trap



Fold paper like this:



Now throw your airplane!



## What happened?

If the plane always dives toward the ground, bend the rear edges of its wings upward

If it always curves upward, bend the edges downward a little

A paper airplane flies better after it has been "tuned up" this way

This design, the "Nakamura lock," was invented by an expert in origami, the Japanese art of folding paper