

Blizzard Book

Useful for holding coupons, recipes, business cards and many other small treasures. This is a book structure created by Hedi Kyle, conservator and book arts instructor in Philadelphia.

Materials:

Japanese paper, tyvek, elephant hide, any paper which takes a good fold
Size of paper is determined by dimension of finished book

Tools:

Bone Folder
Knife
Ruler
Cutting Mat

Steps:

1) Decide on size of your book. The height needs to be at least a little taller than the width and ideally will be twice the width.

h = height of book
 w = width of book

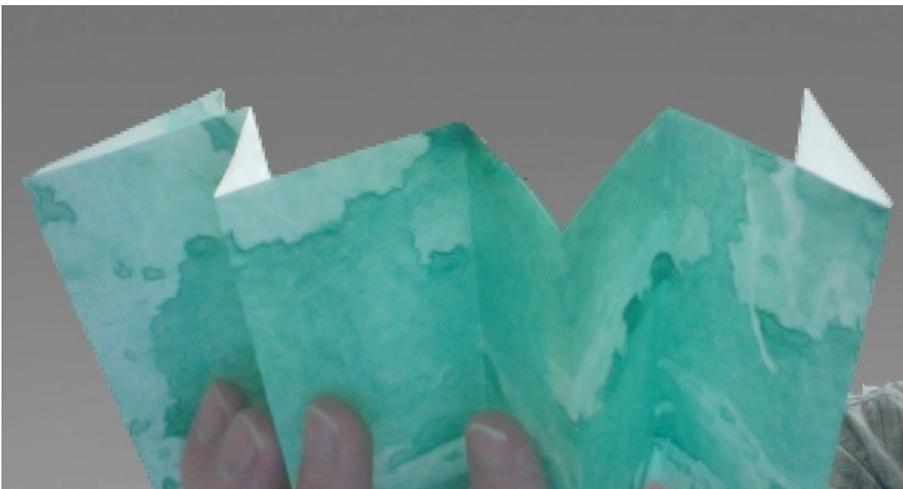
For our model we will make a book $4 \frac{3}{4}$ " by $2 \frac{3}{8}$ " with 8 pages.

2) The size of the book will determine the size of the paper you will need to cut. The paper needs to be the height of the book plus two times the width. The length is the number of pages plus two widths. The number of pages will be an even number. (Hint: It is easiest to use 4, 8, 16, or 32 pages to make construction of the accordion easier.)

$H = h + (2 \times w)$
 $W = (2 \times w) \times (\# \text{ of pages})$

For our model, we will use a piece of paper $9 \frac{1}{2}$ " tall by 38" long.

3) Accordion fold the paper until the desired page width is achieved.



The basic accordion book.

For our model, the paper has been folded 16 times so the width of the folds are $2 \frac{3}{8}$ "

4) Fold the mountain folds down into the valleys to form triangles at both the head and tail (top and bottom) of the accordion. Fold the top section, turn the "page" and do the next section and continue until all sections are folded. Give each fold a good crease as you go along.



Folding the triangle on the first page.

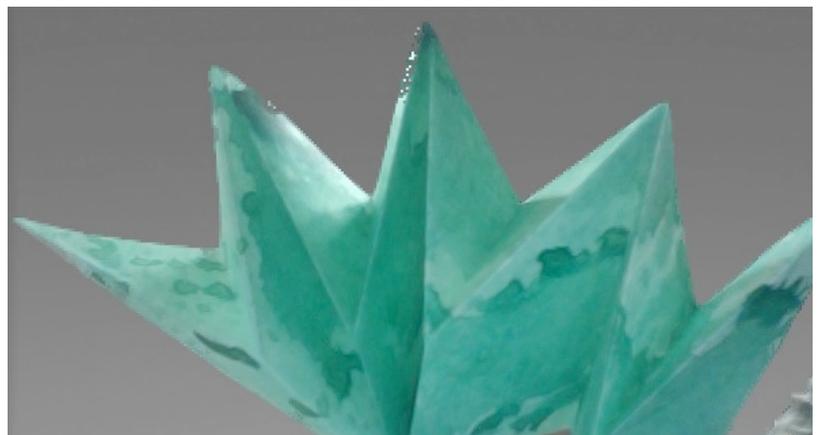


The rest of the pages have their triangle folds.

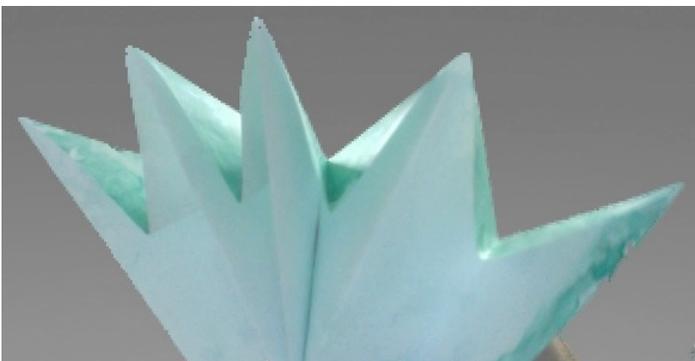
5) Unfold the triangle you made in step 4, open up the accordion section a little bit, and fold the triangle back into the fold. This is the hardest step to do. Be patient and work slowly through the entire book, back-folding each triangle at the head and tail. This step will be much easier if the paper you are using takes a good crease and the crease you made in step 4 was crisp and tight.



Back folding the triangle on the first page.



The triangles on the rest of the pages have been back folded.



The book seen from the reverse to show back folded triangles.

6) Fold down the triangles at head and tail into middle of pages. Start with the triangles on the outside of the first page. Then turn the page and begin to fold down the double triangles until you reach the back of the book and fold down the single triangle there. Make the center folded line of the accordion meets as you fold down the triangles. The paper will want to bunch up a little bit, but try your best.



Folding down the triangles, keeping the folds of the accordion lined up.



The book with all the triangles folded down.

7) The book is basically done at this point. It will want to spring open and not stay shut very well. Recreasing the folds and putting it in a press or under heavy weight will help it stay closed.

8) A simple wrap around cover will help make the book look more finished. Cut a piece of paper to the height plus 2" by the width of the book plus four times the width (if the book is extremely thick, add in the width of the spine, too).

$$\text{CoverH} = h + 2''$$

$$\text{CoverW} = 4 \times w$$

For our model, the cover will be 6 3/4" by 9 1/2".



The finished blizzard without a cover.

9) Fold one long edge just a smidgeon over 1" down and the other long edge up smidgeon over 1" so that the folded height is just slightly less than the height of the book. Insert one edge under the triangle of the first page just shy of the spine fold. Fold the cover at the fore edge. Bring around spine, fold and crease for the width of the spine. Fold around the fore edge of the last page and insert remaining flap under back page triangles.

For our model, the folded height of the paper will be just under 4 3/4".