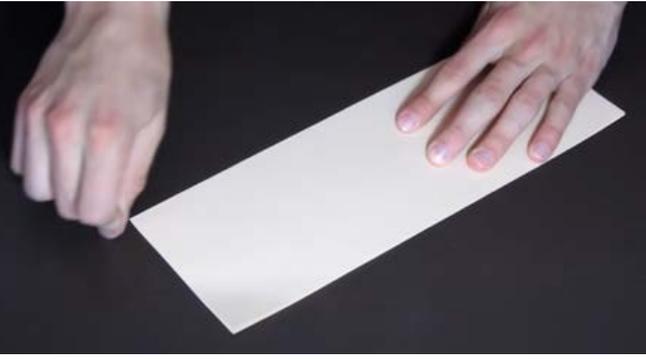


The Best Paper Airplane



Courtesy of Mahir Cave



Start with a rectangular sheet of paper and fold it in half length-wise

Everything you do on one side of the fold gets repeated on the other side to maintain symmetry. Without this symmetry, it will not fly.



Take one of the top corners and fold it down along the center fold so the top of the paper meets the center fold. Repeat on other side.



Again, take one of the top sections of the paper and fold it down along the center fold so the top edge of the paper meets the center fold. Repeat on the other side.





Fold the point down to meet the center fold and the bottom edge of the page.



Fold in half so that the point you folded down is on the outside. Turn the paper so the point faces the right. Fold a small flap down from the upper left corner so that the bottom edge of the fold is parallel to the bottom of the paper. Repeat on the other side.



Unfold the point and crease so that the fold is in line with the folds from the previous step.



Flip paper over and fold in half along the original fold. The point, on the bottom edge should have 2 flaps. If it doesn't, you folded it inside out.



Pick a spot close to the point and fold down the top sheet of paper (wing) so that the fold is parallel to the bottom of the paper. Repeat on the other side.





Fold up a short but long triangle on the base of the airplane and crease well. Unfold.



Fold back the top-most portion of the wing. This fold should be more in line with the tip of the plane instead of parallel to the bottom fold. Repeat on other side.



Open the main fold of the airplane enough to access the fold from 2 steps ago. Push the bottom fold up into the body of the plane along the fold and crease well.



Open the flaps on the wings and you are ready to soar!

See how far you can fly or how long you can keep the plane in the air, try it with different types of paper, compete with your family or friends!

Happy flying!!

