

Origami Penguin

8 steps | About 5 min | Beginner | Updated 2026-10-28

This origami penguin uses a single square and a small reverse fold for its head. Two-color paper makes the belly easier to see, but plain printer paper, notebook paper, or a square sticky note works too. Begin with a larger square if reverse folds are new to you. Leave a little space between the first flaps so the body stays broad.

Materials: One square of paper or a square sticky note; Optional pencil for a small eye.

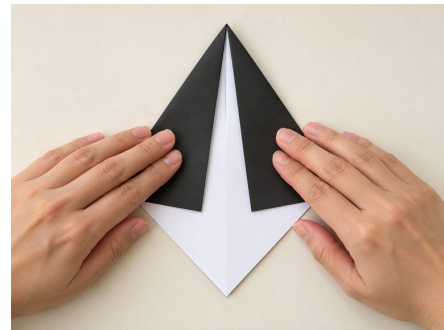


01 Mark the body center



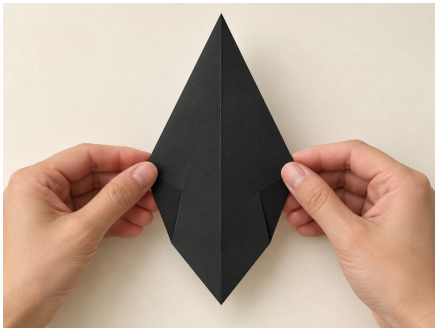
Place the square as a diamond; fold the left corner to the right, crease, reopen, and turn over.

02 Shape the upper sides



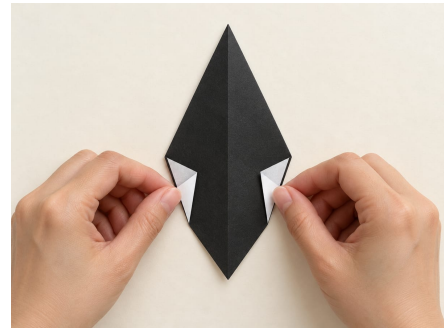
Fold both upper sloping edges inward, leaving a narrow gap between them instead of meeting at the center.

03 Turn the body over



Turn the paper over, keeping the long point at the top.

04 Taper the lower sides



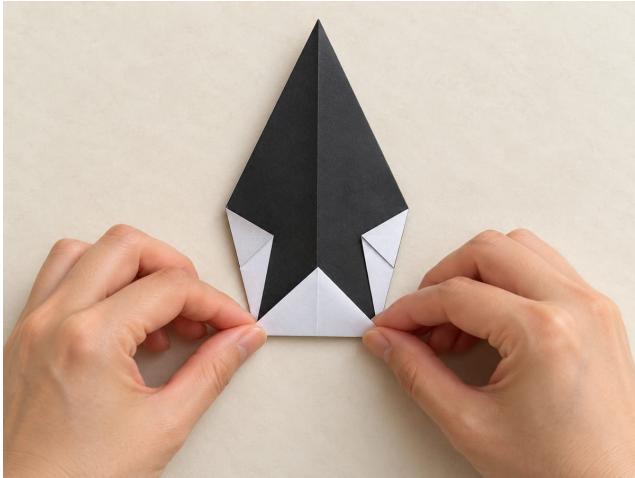
Fold the left and right side corners inward to make the body narrower below its shoulders.

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Keep the pictures in order. Steps 5-8 continue the same model.

05 Flatten the bottom



Lift the bottom point to the lower ends of the side flaps and press the new base crease.

06 Close the body



Fold the body in half along its center crease, keeping the broad belly visible outside.

07 Mark the head fold



Fold the upper tip sideways to make a short head, crease in both directions, then reopen.

08 Reverse the head



Open the neck layers slightly, reverse the head outward along its crease, and close the body around it.