

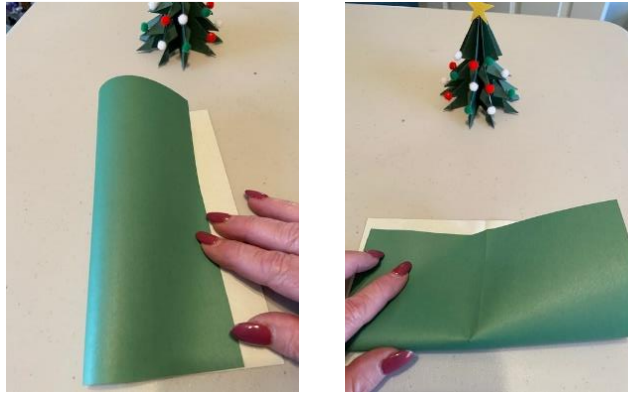
ORIGAMI CHRISTMAS TREE

It's time to get all the Christmas decorations out!
Here is a cute origami Christmas tree to help get you in the spirit of the holidays!



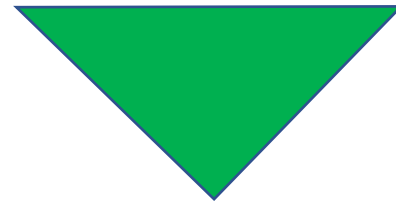
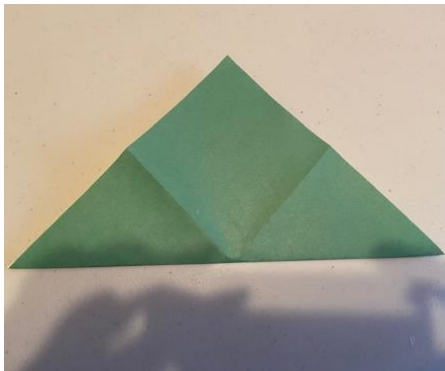
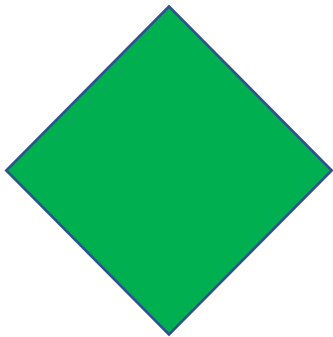
STEP 1:

Start with a square piece of origami paper, wrapping paper, or construction paper. Use a square of 6" or more to create this tree. Lay your paper on the table in front of you. If one side is colored or patterned, place that side down on the table. Fold in half, edge to edge, to create a rectangle and flatten the folded side. Open, fold bottom edge to top edge to create another rectangle and flatten the folded side. Open to a square once again.



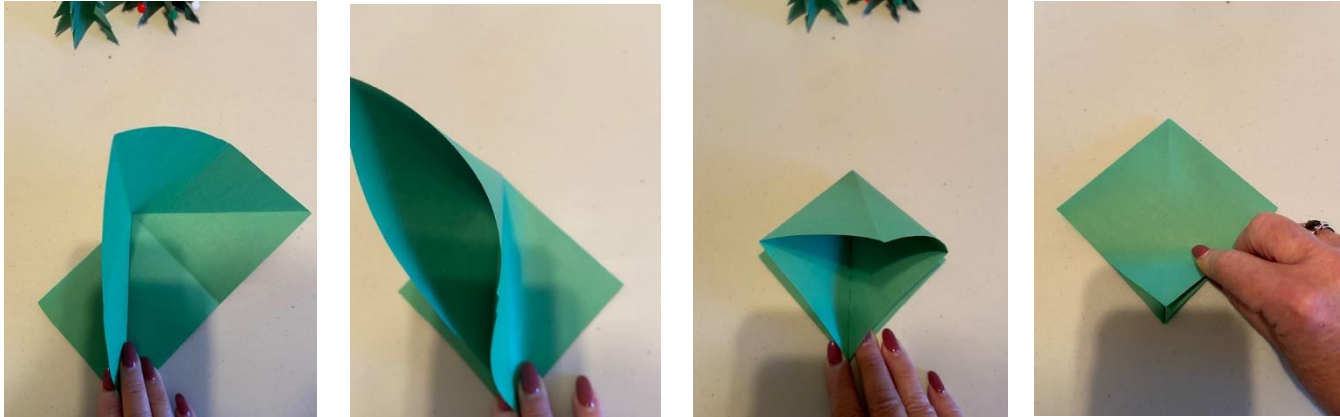
STEP 2:

Place your paper in front of you so it looks like a diamond. Flip so your color or pattern side is facing up. Fold the bottom point up to meet the top point of your diamond to create a triangle. Flatten the folded side at the bottom of the triangle. Open, turn your paper $\frac{1}{4}$ turn and repeat. Flip the triangle so the folded edge is at the top.



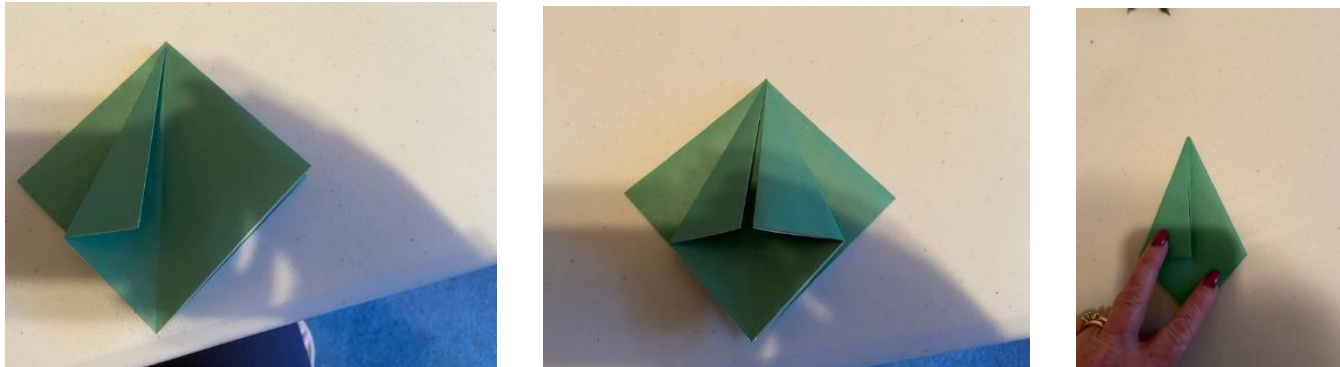
STEP 3:

Open to create a diamond again. Take the left point and fold down to the bottom point so the outer fold meets the center vertical line (your crease will reverse). Take the right point and fold down to the bottom point, again reversing the outer fold. Take the top point down to the bottom point. Flatten the sides to create a smaller diamond.



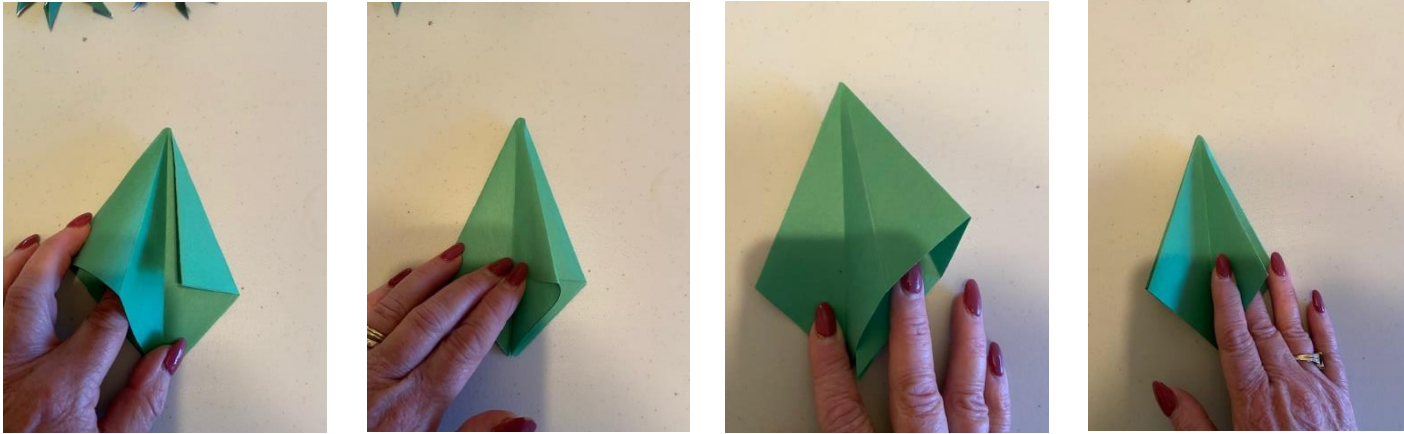
STEP 4:

Fold the left upper flap of your diamond so the edge meets the center crease of your diamond. Do the same with the right side. Flip your paper over and fold the sides along the center seam again. You should now have the shape of a kite.



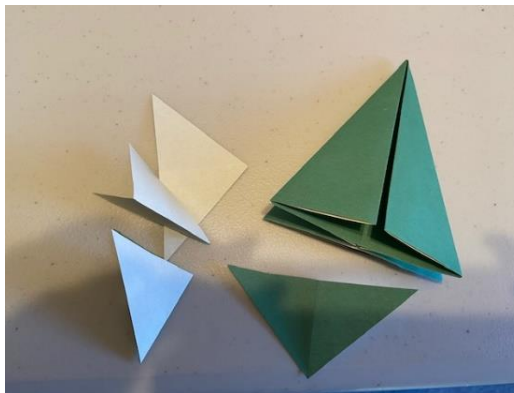
STEP 5:

Open one of the flaps you just created. Place your finger up through the opening and press the outer seam inside so it rests against the center fold of your kite. Press flat. Repeat this step for the remaining upper folds of your kite.



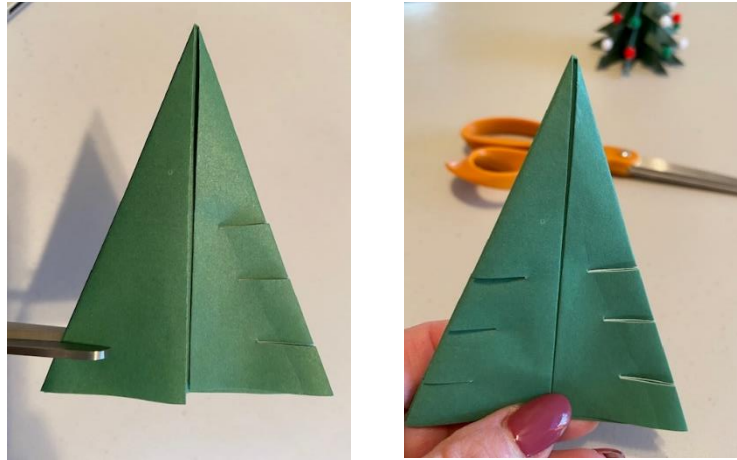
STEP 6:

Use scissors to cut off the bottom, smaller triangle of your kite.



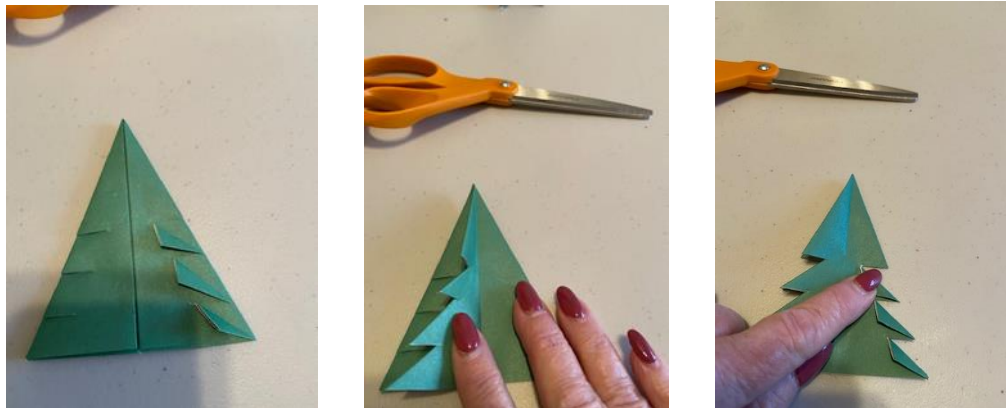
STEP 7:

Cut 3 horizontal $\frac{1}{2}$ " cuts on each side of the triangle. These will make your branches. Do your best to have the cuts directly across from each other.



STEP 8:

Fold each cut down to create smaller triangles, creating the branches. Continue all the way around your tree folding the small triangles in the same direction.



STEP 9:

Stand your tree and space out the sides evenly. Now you can decorate it with whatever you would like! I used pom poms and a construction paper star. Be creative!

