

With the Tide Mill closed, and no milling being done, the building is empty of flour and grain. This means that the hungry Tide Mill Mice have had to pack their knapsacks and head for the city. They would rather not go because they have heard Aesop's fable about the City Mouse and the Country Mouse. You can read it here -

The City Mouse and the Country Mouse

A country mouse invited his cousin who lived in the city to come and visit him. When the city mouse arrived, he could not understand how the country mouse could live in such a quiet place, where nothing much seemed to happen. He was even more disappointed with the sparse meals that the country mouse offered him. There was nothing more than a few kernels of corn and a couple of dried berries.

"My poor cousin," said the city mouse, "you hardly have anything to eat! I do believe that an ant could eat better! Please come back to the city with me, and I will show you rich feasts; all the foods you can imagine, ready for the taking."

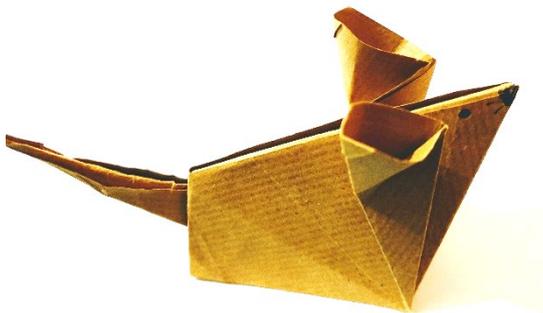
So the country mouse travelled to the city with his cousin. The country mouse was amazed by all the noise and rush. The two mice were forever avoiding trampling feet, roaring vehicles, and big, hungry cats. The city mouse finally brought them, though, to a splendid feast in a city alley. The country mouse could not believe his eyes. He had never seen so much food in one place. There was bread, cheese, fruit, and grains of all sorts just scattered about on the ground!

The two mice settled down to eat their wonderful dinner, but before they could take their first bites, a mean looking cat approached their dining area. The two mice scampered away and had to hide in a tiny damp hole until the cat left. Finally, the unwelcome visitor went to prowl elsewhere, and it was quiet again. The two mice ventured out of the hole to resume their abundant feast. But before they could get a proper taste in their mouths, another feline visitor intruded on their dinner, and the two little mice had to scuttle away to hide again.

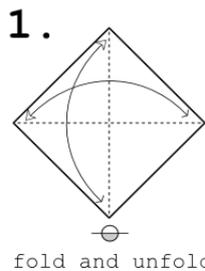
After the cat had gone, the country mouse turned to his cousin. "Goodbye," he said, "You do, indeed, live in an exciting and plentiful place, but it's all too much for me. I am going home where I can enjoy my dinner in peace."

Moral: A modest life in peace and quiet is better than a rich one fraught with danger and strife.

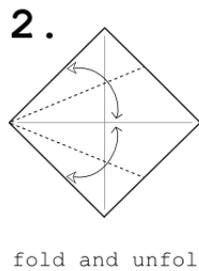
While the Tide Mill Mice are away, perhaps you'd like to make a mouse that doesn't need grain to eat - a folded paper mouse, like this one.



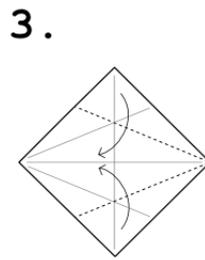
This little mouse is made by folding paper - an art known as origami. If you'd like to make your own origami mouse, all you'll need is a square of paper about 20cms by 20cms, and some instructions.



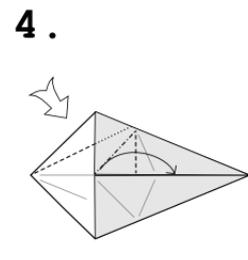
1. fold and unfold



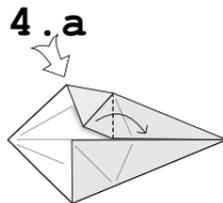
2. fold and unfold



3.

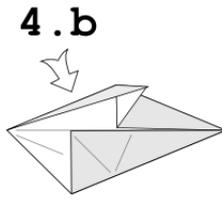


4. Rabbit-Ear on flap



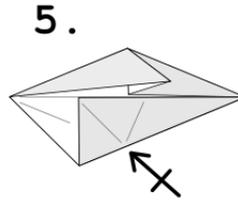
4.a

Rabbit ear in progress

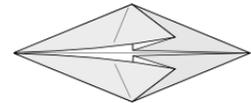


4.b

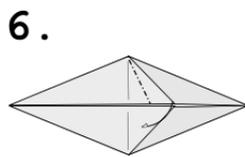
repeat step 4 on other flap



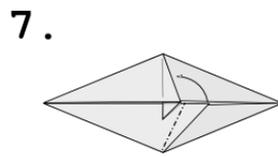
5.



finished fishbase

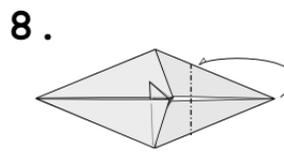


6. mountainfold flap behind



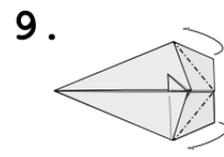
7.

fold flap behind



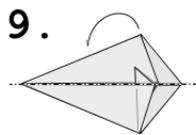
8.

fold tip behind



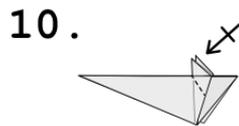
9.

fold both corners behind



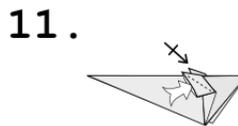
9.

fold in half



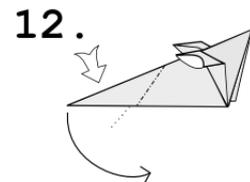
10.

fold flap to shape ear repeat on other flap



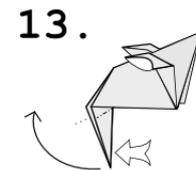
11.

bush, open flaps shape both ears



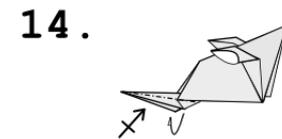
12.

inside reverse fold



13.

inside reverse fold



14.

fold flap inside to make tail thinner



finished Mouse

Design: traditional, Diagram: Tavin - www.TavinsOrigami.com

If you'd like a little help with how to make some of the folds, you can watch a very similar mouse being made at Red Ted Art on YouTube here <https://youtu.be/Kut1LLUT6-s>

We'd love to see your origami mice, so please post them on our Facebook page at <https://www.facebook.com/TheTideMillWoodbridge/>