HOW TO MAKE A PAPER SNOWFLAKE

A simple winter craft • Paper and scissors are all you need

YOU WILL NEED

Thin paper (printer paper is ideal) and scissors. Optional: a pencil to plan your cuts.

1. Make a square

Start with an A4 sheet. Bring one corner diagonally across to meet the opposite long edge. Crease it well, then cut off the extra strip of paper to leave a square.

2. Fold into a triangle

Fold the square diagonally in half, corner to corner, to make a triangle. Press the crease firmly.

3. Fold again — and again if you like!

Fold the triangle in half to make a smaller triangle. For a more intricate snowflake, keep folding the paper into smaller sections, as long as it is still easy enough to cut. The more times you fold it, the more layers your cuts will go through and the more detailed the snowflake can look.

4. Shape the folded paper

If your folded piece has an uneven or bulky top, carefully trim a little off so the edge is neat. You can make a straight, curved or pointed edge — each gives a different snowflake shape.

5. Cut your design

Cut small triangles, curves or notches into the folded edges. Try different sizes and spaces between the cuts. Don’t cut right across the folded paper, or the snowflake may fall apart. Keep some paper connecting each section.

6. Unfold carefully

Slowly open the paper one fold at a time. The delicate points can tear, so take your time. Flatten the snowflake under a book if needed, then tape it to a window or hang it up to decorate.

TOP TIPS

Start with small cuts • Leave paper joining each part • Try a new pattern every time

Ask an adult for help with scissors if you need it.

Inspired by the BBC Good Food paper snowflake guide