

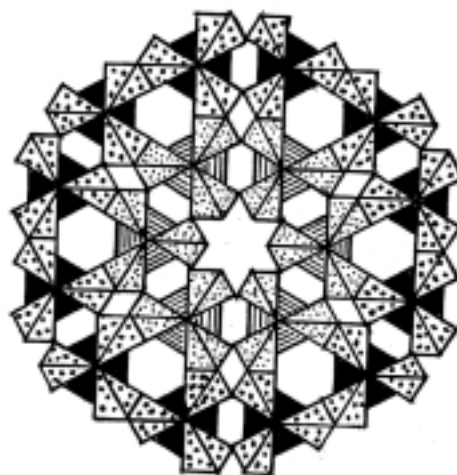
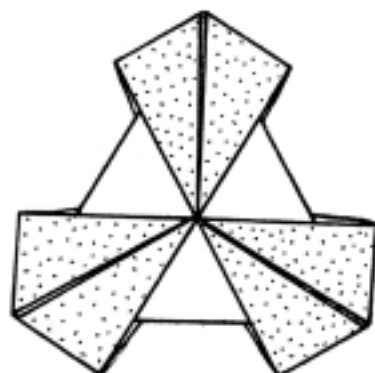
## ORIGAMI CHRISTMAS WREATH

An Original Design for Checker  
by Lynne Edwards

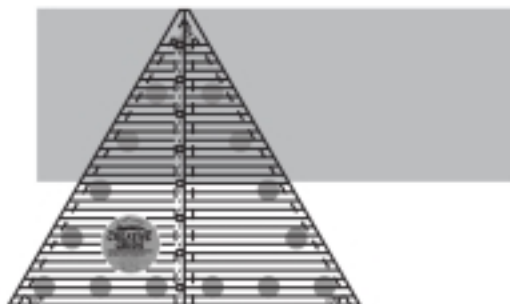
Use the Creative Grids 60° ruler to create this attractive Christmas wreath using an origami-type technique.

6 folded shapes are needed for the inner ring, using 2 fabrics.

12 folded shapes are needed for the outer ring, using 2 different fabrics.



1. To make the 6 folded shapes for the inner ring, cut a strip 5" wide and 30" long from each of the 2 chosen fabrics.
2. Place these strips right sides together on a cutting mat. Position the Creative Grids 60° ruler on the fabric strips with the top of the ruler level with the top of the fabric and the bottom edge of the fabric lined up with the 5" marked line on the ruler (Fig.1). Cut along both sides of the ruler with a rotary cutter.
3. Turn the ruler through 180° - do *not* turn it over. Position the side of the ruler on the cut edge of fabric and the top and bottom of the fabric strip as before (Fig.2). Cut along the edge of the ruler to make another fabric triangle.  
Left handers should work from right to left on the cut strip.



4. Continue to turn the ruler and position it on the fabric strip, cutting a pair of 60° triangles from the double layer of fabrics each time. Cut 6 pairs of triangles.

5. To make the 12 folded shapes for the outer ring of the wreath, cut a strip 5" wide and 60" long from each of the 2 chosen fabrics - 2 shorter lengths of about 30" from each fabric would be fine if you do not have the 60" length in one strip.

6. Repeat steps 2 - 4, cutting 12 pairs of triangles from the layered strips.

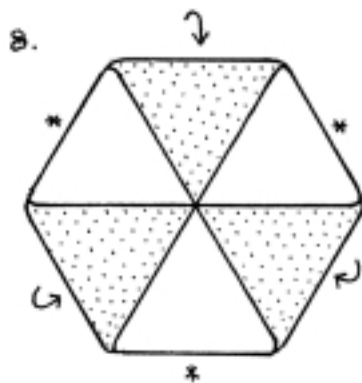
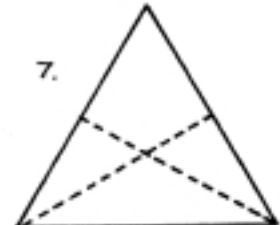
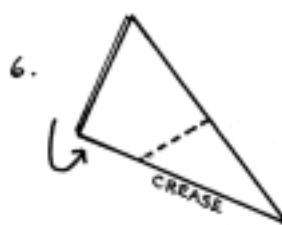
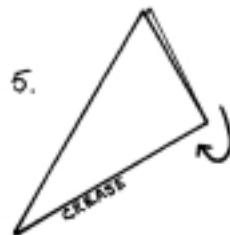


7. Take each pair of triangles and stitch them together with a  $\frac{1}{4}$ " seam, leaving a gap of about 2" in the seam opposite the cropped corner (Fig.3). This side of the triangle is cut on the straight grain of the fabric and will not stretch as much when the triangles are turned to the right side through the gap in the stitching.

8. Trim the triangle corners and turn the shape through to the right side. Pull out the corners to make them as sharp as possible (Fig.4). Stitch up the gap. I use ladder stitch to make the hand-stitched section as inconspicuous as possible. Press the finished triangle.

9. Place the triangle on a table. The fabric chosen for the folded corners on the final origami shape should be *underneath*, against the surface of the table.

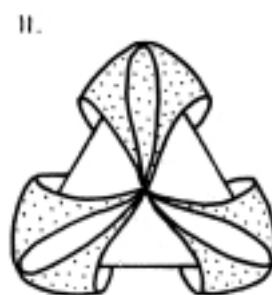
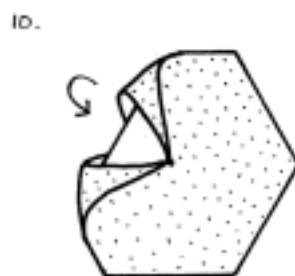
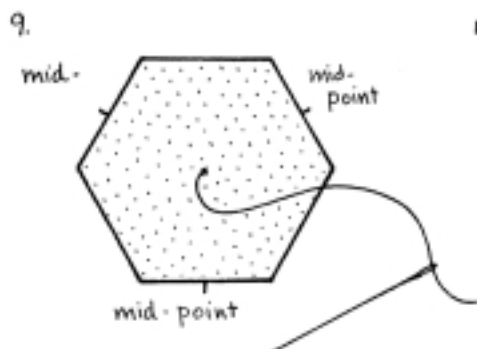
10. Find the mid-point of the triangle by first folding it in half one way and finger-pressing to mark the mid-way crease (Fig.5). Then open the triangle out and fold it in half another way. Crease as before (Fig.6). Where the 2 creases cross, that marks the centre of the triangle (Fig.7).



11. Bring each corner of the triangle to the centre in turn and stitch it firmly through all layers (Fig.8). It has now become a hexagon.

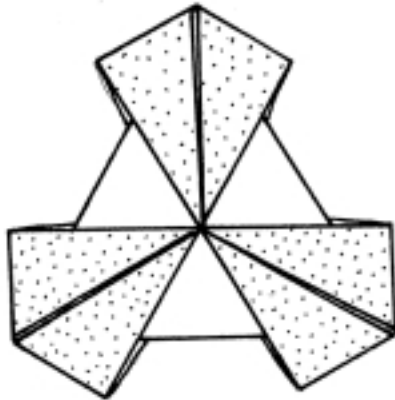
12. Leave the needle and thread on the back of the work and turn the hexagon over. 3 of the hexagon's sides have a thick fold on the edge. The other 3 sides are the seamed edges of the original stitched triangle. These are shown in Fig.8 as the sides marked with a star. Find the mid-point of each of these starred sides by folding it in half and creasing it (Fig.9).

13. Stitch the mid-point of one starred side to the centre (Fig.10). Stitch 2 or 3 firm stitches through all layers. Repeat this with the mid-points of the other 2 starred sides (Fig.11).

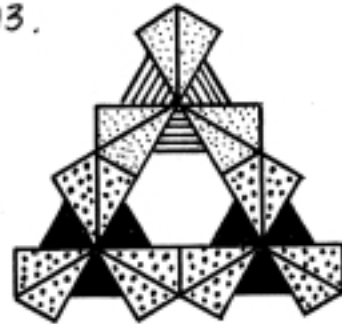


14. You now have a 3-dimensional flower shape. Use the blades of a small pair of scissors pushed gently between the layers of the folded sections to smooth and flatten the 3 folded areas into regular kite shapes as shown in Fig.12.
15. Make all 18 folded shapes for the wreath design in this way.
16. Take 1 shape made from the inner ring fabrics and 2 shapes made from the outer ring fabrics. Stitch them together by whip-stitching or ladder-stitching the folded edges to make the arrangement as shown in Fig.13.

12.

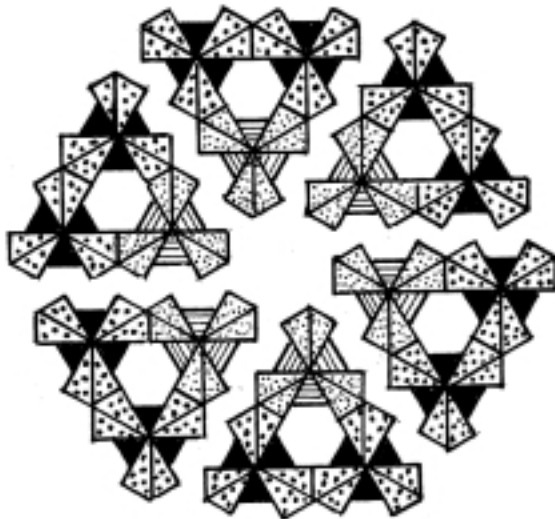


13.



17. Repeat this with the remaining folded shapes to make a total of 6 units, each made up of 3 folded shapes stitched together.
18. Arrange the 6 units as shown in Fig 14.

14.



15.



19. Take 2 units and place them together with points touching as in Fig.15. Join the 2 units together by stitching firmly at each of the 4 places where the corners touch. To do this, place one unit onto the other with right sides facing and corners matching. Sew several small stitches firmly through each set of corners to hold the units together.
20. Open the stitched shapes out flat and join the next unit to it in the same way.
21. Continue to join 6 units together until the entire wreath is joined. Stitch a small ring or loop to the back of the wreath at one corner for hanging.