Origami ARTS & CRAFTS KITS at your library

Origami Envelopes & Boxes

**Masu Box:**
8 1/2” square copy paper (box top)  
8” square copy paper (box bottom)  
6” square scrapbook paper (box top)  
5 5/8” square scrapbook paper (box bottom)

**Menko Envelope:**
8 1/4” square origami paper

**Bar Envelope:**
9” x 12” patterned scrapbook paper  
8 1/2” x 11” solid colored copy paper

For additional books on origami and paper crafting, browse the library’s **Arts & Crafts Neighborhood**

Call # 736.982

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736.982 SON  *Crease + Fold* by Sok Song  
736.982 THO  *Origami Card Craft* by Karen Elaine Thomas

You can find tutorials on origami at Creativebug, available to you for free as a TSCPL patron. You will need to log in with your library card at this link:

https://tscpl.org/creativebug

Once you have logged in to Creativebug, search for the term origami, box or envelope for video tutorials similar to the projects in this kit.
**Masu Box:** This is a traditional Japanese origami fold that is named after the wooden boxes that were used to measure rice. Use two square papers, one slightly smaller than the other to make a fitted top and bottom to the box.

**Menko Envelope:** Also known as a puzzle purse or thread container, this origami fold has a long history and many practical uses. You can read about it at this link - [www.origamiheaven.com/historyofpuzzlepurses.htm](http://www.origamiheaven.com/historyofpuzzlepurses.htm)

Following the diagram instructions for this one can be a bit tricky at first, so please also refer to the wonderful online tutorial from Leyla Torres available at [www.youtube.com/watch?v=D0pVkNDSv-I](http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=D0pVkNDSv-I)

I also found it helpful to mark the location of the 1/3 fold lines. For the 8 1/4” square origami paper provided, this will be at 2 3/4” from each corner.

**Bar Envelope:** You can write a letter directly on the inside of the paper before folding or simply use the completed envelope to enclose a card or small gift. Refer to this tutorial online if you need help with the tucks at the corners - [www.youtube.com/watch?v=m7M5ckiUXbM](http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=m7M5ckiUXbM)
Origami Box Instructions

1. Start with a square piece of paper. White side up. Fold the paper in half horizontally and then vertically, so the creases look like this.

2. Fold the four corners of the paper toward the center point.

3. Fold the top and bottom of this square into the center and open out again to create these creases.

4. Open out the top and bottom triangle flaps.

5. Fold the sides of the model into the center, creasing well.

6. Fold down top corner of model and then open out again.

7. Fold down model in the other direction. You should now have 2 new diagonal creases like this.

8. Repeat step 6 & 7 at the other end of the model, so you have the new creases at both ends, as shown.

9. At one end of the model, open out model along the creases you just made. This will raise the top portion of the model vertically.

10. Fold top of model over into the box. It’s taking shape!

11. Repeat Step 9 and 10 at the other end of the box... and it’s finished!

To make a lid, just make another box, but start with a slightly bigger piece of paper.
1. Fold bottom edge to top edge.

2. Fold top layer in half downwards

3. Now fold the bottom up to top, and open again.

4. Fold bottom edge to this crease just made, then fold upwards again.

5. Fold the top of the paper downwards to the point shown. This point is just above the bottom fold.

6. Fold the bottom corners in to the bottom fold as shown.

7. Fold the sides in using the corner triangles as a guide. Open out again.

8. Using the creases, fold these creases within the rectangles as shown.

9. Open out the corner triangles and open up the fold along the crease shown. Model should now look like this.

10. Using existing creases, fold edge inwards and flatten bottom corner triangles as shown.

11. Fold top back down along existing crease.

12. Fold edges inwards, bringing corner triangles outward and down as shown.

13. Tuck corner triangles in on themselves.

14. Make creases as shown. Top corners down to crease. Then open.

15. Holding the envelope at the points shown, bring this point down and inside the envelope, as shown by the arrows. The creases should guide the way. Flatten model.

16. You can close the envelope by folding the top down along existing crease and tucking in.

Finished Bar Envelope.