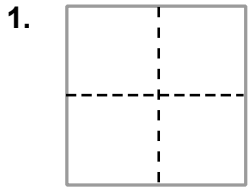
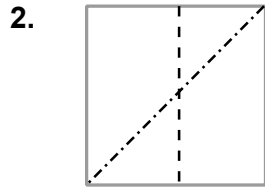


An alternative folding method for the birdbase

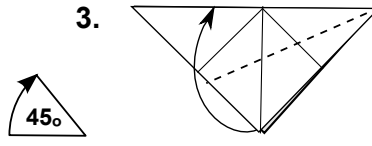
Here's a different way of creating a birdbase which I've discovered recently. Apologies if you've been folding it this way forever, but I've never seen this diagrammed before, so I think it's worth reminding people that there's an alternative to the standard technique. The thing I like about this method, is that it makes the base's creases on single layers of the paper, so the result seems to be neater and more precise. There's also no faffing about with preliminary folds or petal folds, because the base is created out of single collapse. I've a feeling I'll be folding my birdbases using this method from now on.



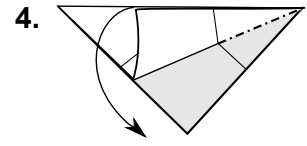
1. Create valley folds on the horizontal centre lines.



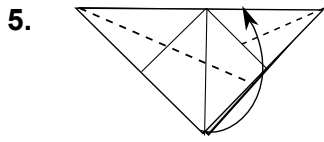
2. Fold the paper in half along the diagonal and rotate by 45 degrees.



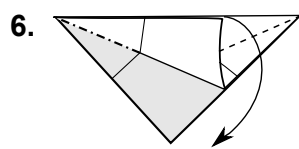
3. Loosely fold the bottom corner of the paper up to the edge, making half of a kite-base. Line up the right-hand edge with the top, running your finger along the edge to ensure that it's as accurate as possible.



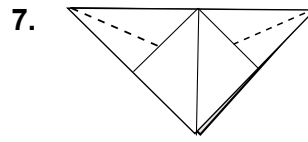
4. Make a firm crease between the tip and the intersections of the two centre lines and unfold.



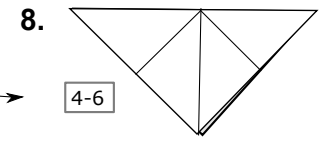
5. Repeat step 4 on the other side, folding a half kite-base, lining the edges carefully.



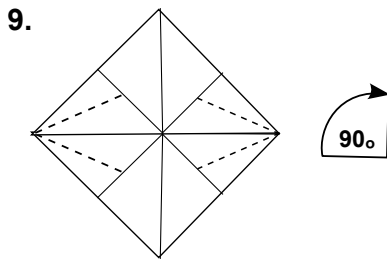
6. Make a firm crease between the tip and the intersections of the two centre lines and unfold.



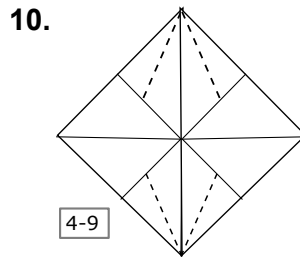
7. You should now be left with something that looks like this.



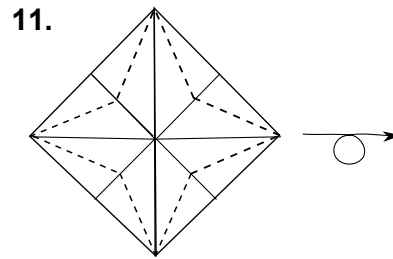
8. Turn the paper over and repeat steps 4 to 6, making two additional creases from the corners to the centre lines.



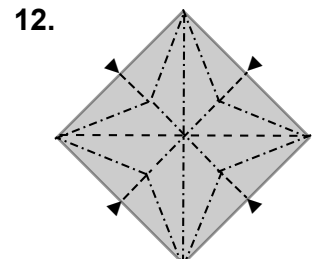
9. Open up the paper to show the following creases.



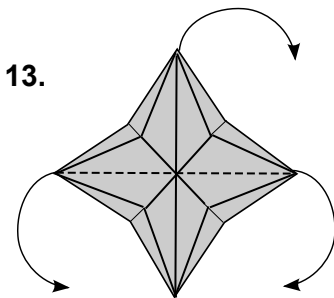
10. Turn the paper 90 degrees and repeat steps 4 to 9.



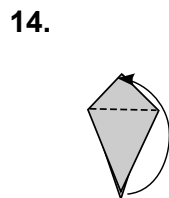
11. Turn the paper 90 degrees and repeat steps 4 to 9.



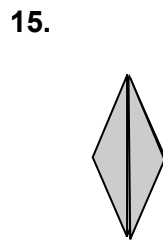
12. Turn the paper over and push in the edges, reversing the mountain folds as needed. The model will become three dimensional.



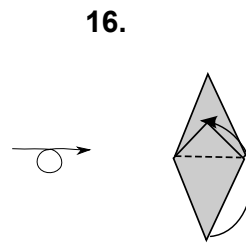
13. Fold down the sides and collapse the model so that it's flat. The model collapses in the same way as a standard preliminary fold.



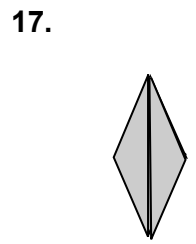
14. Pull up the top.



15. Turn over the paper.



16. Pull up the top again.



17. Done.

You've just created a bird-base without bothering with the preliminary fold. It may be an obvious technique, but it certainly produces neater results, at least for me.