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## **Cranes for Peace**

On August 6, 1945, the United States dropped an atomic bomb on Hiroshima, Japan in an effort to end World War II. In a few moments, over 200,000 people were killed in the blast.

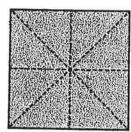
Sadako Sasaki was only two years old when the bomb fell on her city. She seemed to be uninjured, and grew into a happy, energetic child. But nine years later she developed leukemia, a disease caused by the radiation from the bomb. While in the hospital, a friend brought her a paper crane and told her its story: The Japanese believe that a crane lives 1000 years. If a sick person folds 1000 paper cranes, the gods will grant her wish to be well again. The cranes gave Sadako new hope, and she started folding with new energy.

Sadly, however, she died in October 1955, with 644 cranes completed. Sadako's friends and schoolmates continued her task, completing the 1000 cranes. With the hope that future wars could be avoided, the children collected money to build a monument to Sadako and the cranes.

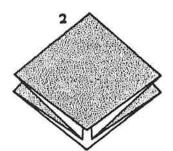
Now, at the Peace Park in Hiroshima, the statue of a young girl holds a golden crane with outstretched arms. Each year, people from all over the world fold paper cranes and send them to Hiroshima. On August 6, Peace Day, the children of the city hang the paper cranes from the monument, hoping they will carry their message to people everywhere: "This is our cry; This is our prayer; Peace in the World."

You, too can fold cranes for peace. An 8-1/2 inch square of medium weight paper is a good starting size.

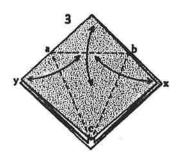
## PAPER CRANE



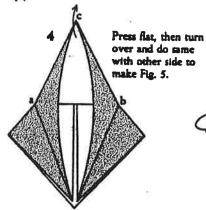
Crease diagonally in both directions. then turn square over and crease in half both ways. (If using paper colored on one side only, begin with colored side

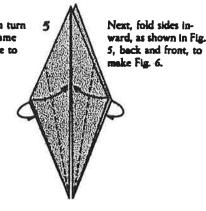


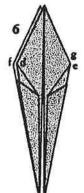
Bring four corners together and press flaps down to form square as shown in Fig. 2.



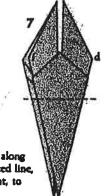
Now make three good creases along dotted lines a-b-c by first aligning c-x and c-y with central crease. Open up again as in Fig. 3. Then lift up and fully extend point c (top sheet only, holding lower sheets down with finger), pulling it back all the way using a-b crease (see Fig. 4).



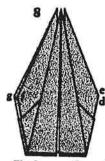




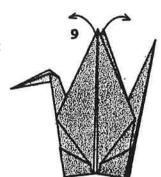
Bring points d and e together in front and f and g together behind to make Fig. 7. Press flat.



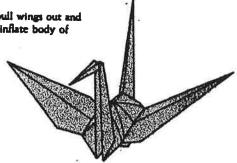
Now fold up along crease at dotted line. back and front, to make Fig. 8.



Then bring points f and d together in front and g and e together behind. Press flat. Pinch base with right hand while left pulls neck out slightly. Then pinch base with left hand while pulling out tall with right. Now fold down and pull out beak, pinching head.



Finally, pull wings out and down to inflate body of crane.



From The Japanese Crane: Bird of Happiness, by Dorthy Britton/Tsuneo Hayashida