

# TRY OUT THESE Paper Airplane Tricks

The shape of a real airplane's wings changes how it flies. So what about a paper airplane's wing? Try out these simple tricks and have fun tinkering with your paper airplanes' flight path.

From home you'll need



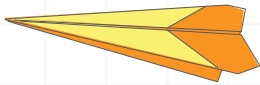
paper airplane



scissors

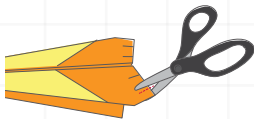


For instructions  
(and a template!)  
got to pages 3-4



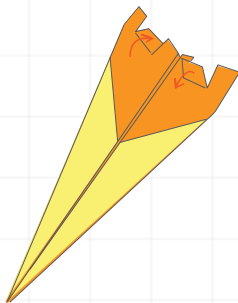
## Step 1

Fold a paper airplane. Any kind will work!



## Step 2

Cut two flaps in the back of the airplane, one on each side.

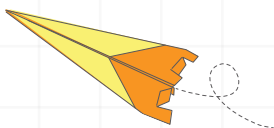


## Step 3

To make your plane spin as it flies, fold one flap up and one flap down.

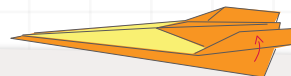
## Step 4

Now fold the flaps the other way and throw it again. It will spin the opposite way!



## Step 5

Keep experimenting!  
Change the position of  
the flaps and see how  
your airplane flies.



## TRY THIS!

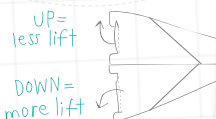
Another way to adjust the  
flight is by folding the tips of  
the wings up. Give it a try and  
see what happens!

what's  
going on?

Next time you're in an airplane, peek out the window. See those moving flaps on the wings? Their job is to help control the plane's lift. By moving the flaps, the pilot changes the shape of the wing to create more (or less) lift.



Folding the flap in your paper airplane wing down creates more lift from that wing. Folding the flap up creates less lift. So if you fold one flap up and the other down, the airplane will spin.



Folding both flaps up will drop the tail of your airplane, causing it to climb. Folding both flaps down will lift the tail of your airplane up, causing it to fall. But watch out. If you fold the flaps down too much, your airplane may nose-dive into the floor!



Photo by David Morneau (CC BY-SA 3.0)



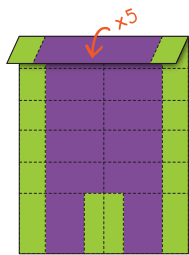
photo by Olivier Cleynen (CC BY-SA 3.0)

In a real airplanes, flaps like these are called ailerons. The pilot uses them to roll or turn the aircraft one way or the other.

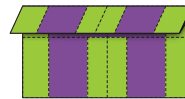
# PAPER AIRPLANE FOLDING INSTRUCTIONS



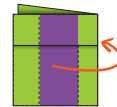
start!



1



2

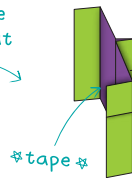


3



4

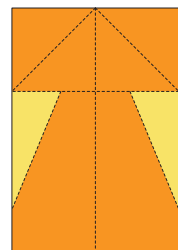
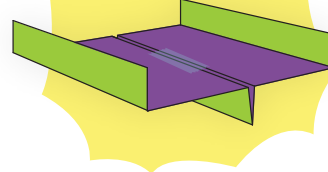
fold the wings out



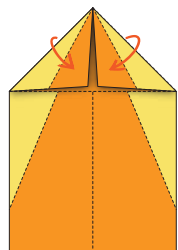
\*tape\*

5

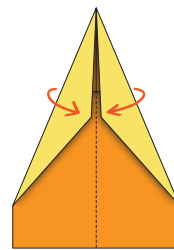
YOU MADE THE  
**T-WING**



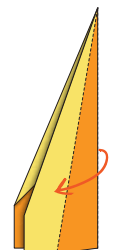
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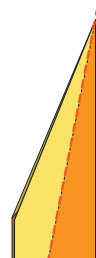
1



2

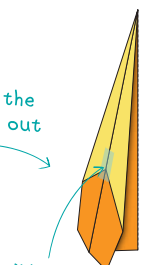


3



4

fold the wings out

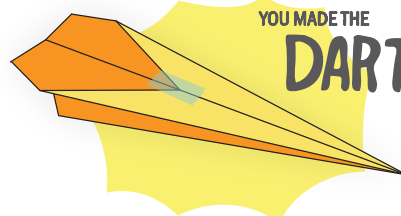


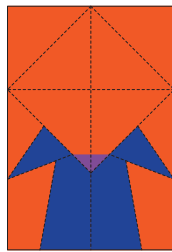
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5

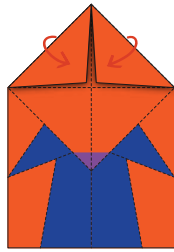
YOU MADE THE

**DART**

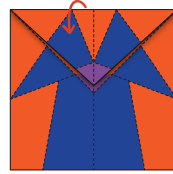




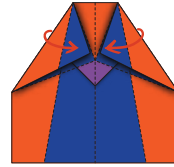
start!



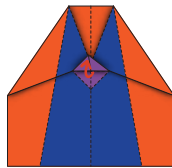
1



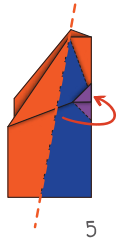
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3

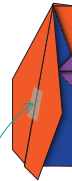


4



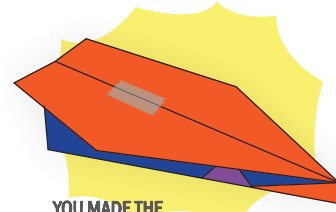
5

fold the wings out



6

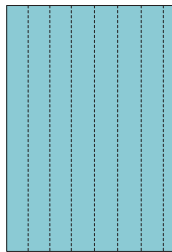
\*tape\*



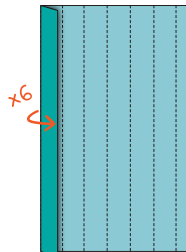
YOU MADE THE

**INVERTER**

start folding from this side



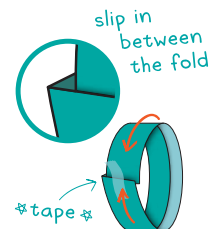
start!



1



2



3



hold with the **thicker edge forward** and give it a **spin** as you throw just like a football!



=WHOOOSH=

YOU MADE THE  
**CYCLONE**

