

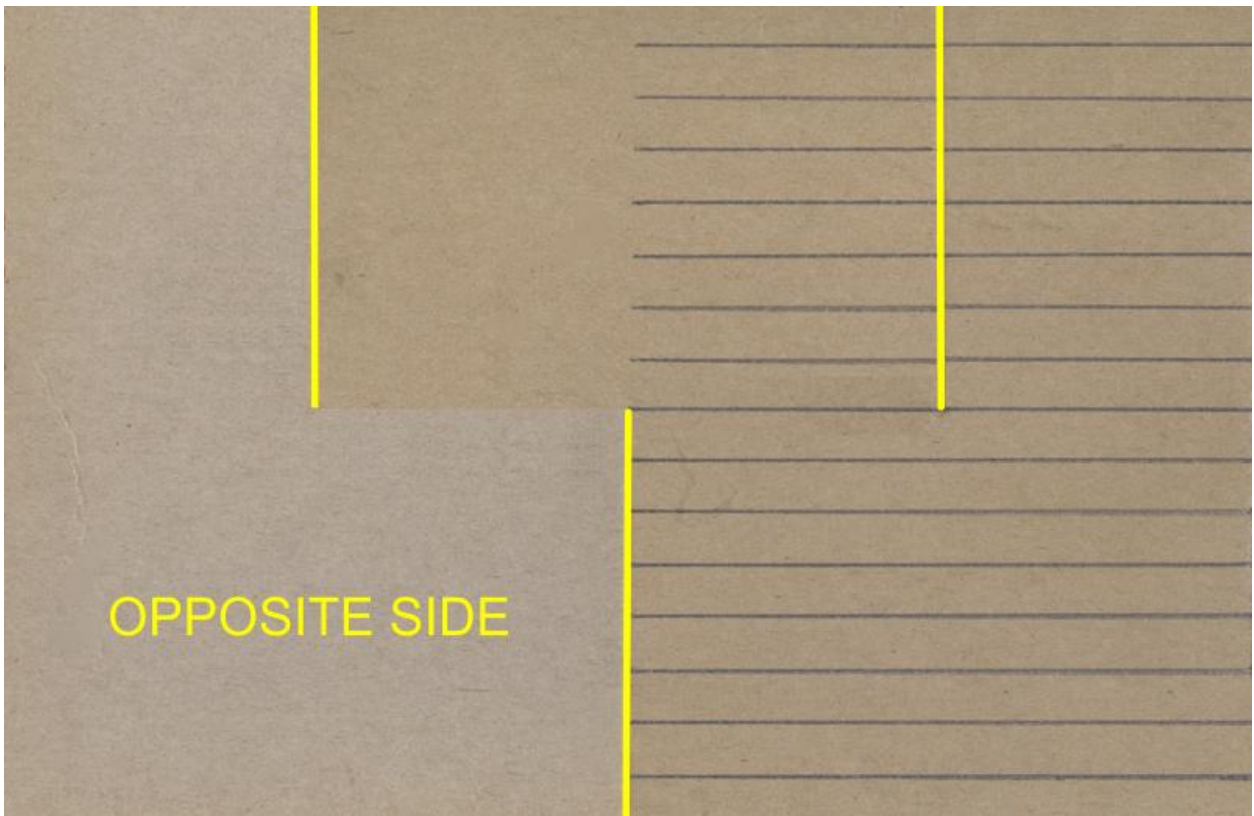
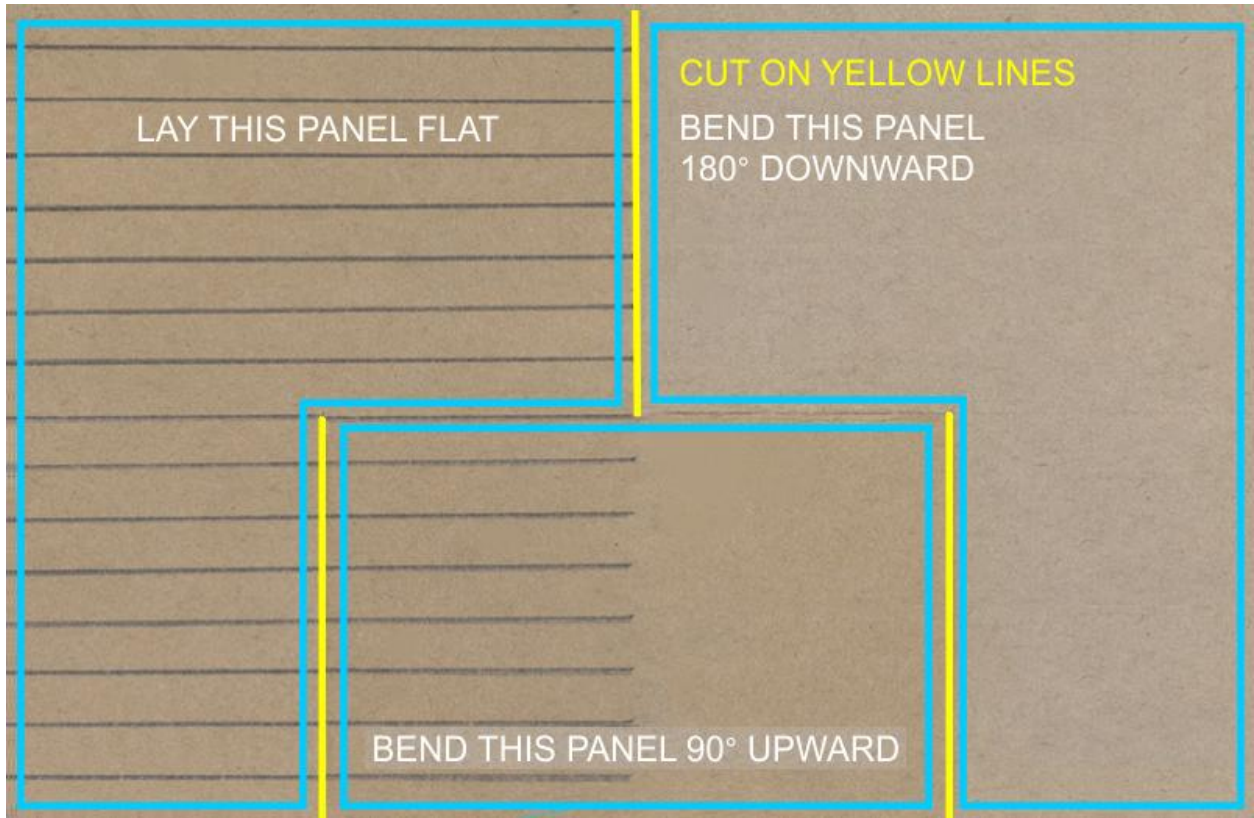
DECEPTIVE ORIGAMI

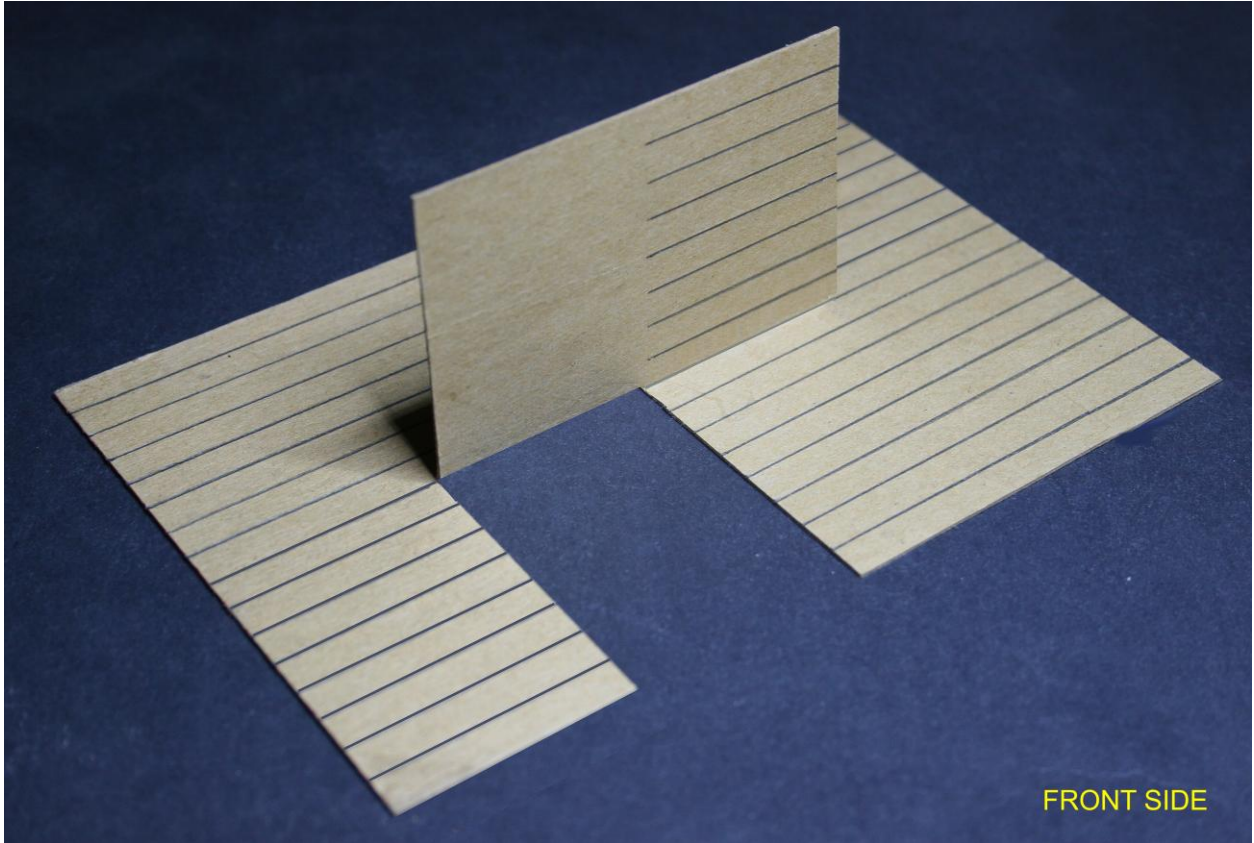
The following pages will show you how to make an “deceptive origami.” The key to making this illusion look realistic is the graphic layout, cutting, and folding. If you do it right, students will be genuinely puzzled to explain how it was made.

I had it mounted to my bulletin board so it was easily visible from all angles. There was also a DO NOT TOUCH sign on it, as manipulation could provide clues. Students were challenged to construct a replica of their own and submit it for extra credit.

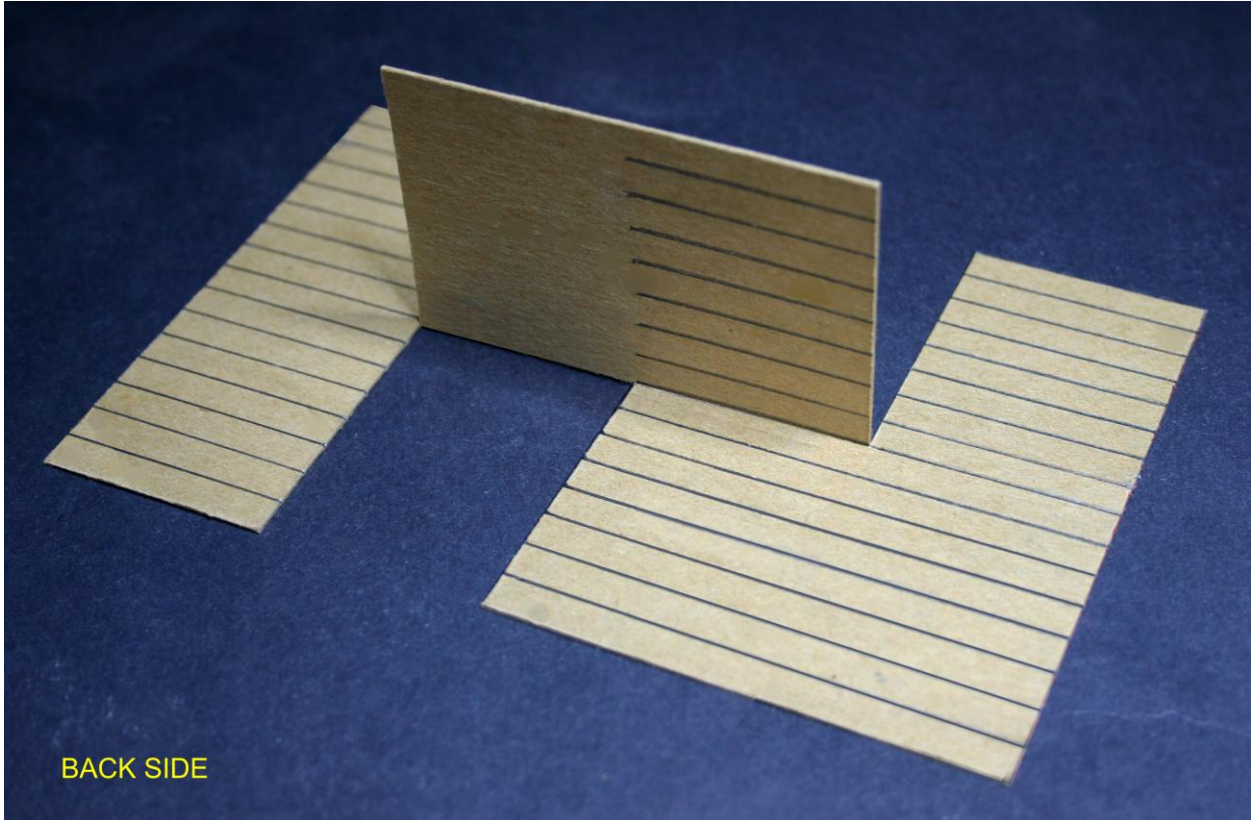
1. Start with the correct piece of cardboard. Corrugated will not work. The thinner one-layer cardboard you find at the bottom of a note pad works well. The thinner it is the easier it will be to fold in a deceptive way. But it has to be rigid enough to hold its shape. I recommend starting with a piece measuring 8x6 inches to make measurements more easily divisible.
2. Lay out the lined graphic you see on page 2 on both sides of a piece of cardboard. Careful measurement is required. I placed the parallel lines $\frac{1}{2}$ inch apart which seems to work well. This needs to be done accurately on both sides of the cardboard to enhance the deception.
3. Make the cuts. Scissors can bend the cardboard, so I recommend using an Exacto-type blade.
4. The fold comes next and is critical for the deception. I held a steel ruler at the lines of the folds to make them more sharp and exact. The 90° fold is the easy one. The 180° fold is a bit trickier, and if you don't do it neatly it can give away the deception.
5. If the cardboard crumbles or rips along that 180° fold, you can try pressing a smooth stylus against it and running it along the length of the fold. That can push the fiber back into place and produce a smoother seam.
6. As a final step, glue the finished product to a larger piece of cardboard to hold it flat and hide the backside. This works well for both vertical and horizontal displays. Do a final tweak on the center panel to stabilize it at 90° . This will maximize the deception.

Page 3 shows what your finished product should look like. Have fun constructing this “illusion” and seeing your students' reactions!





FRONT SIDE



BACK SIDE