

Book folding instructions.

Book art, book folding, book origami is the art of folding pages of a book to make patterns.

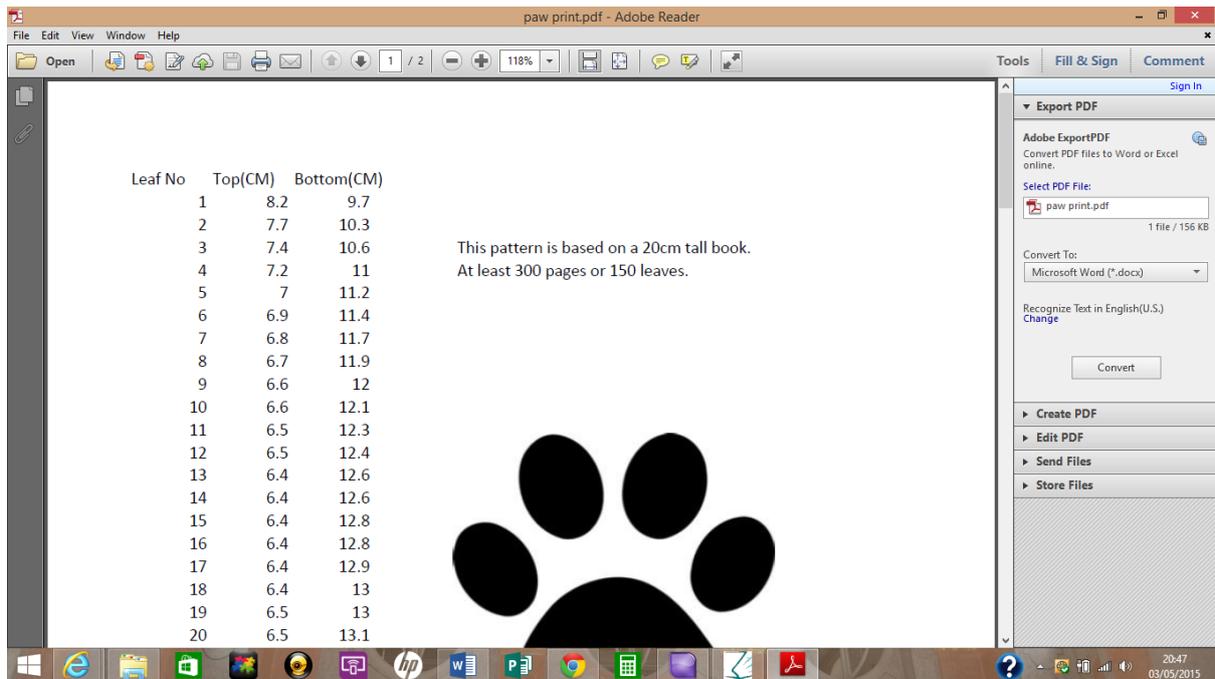
What you need:

Hardback book, as a hardback book will stand up better than a paperback.

Pencil, ruler and probably a rubber!

A book folding pattern, these can either be measurements in centimetres or it can be a picture of a pattern with grid lines on. My patterns will be measurements for you to follow.

Here is an example of a pattern made with measurements.



The screenshot shows a PDF document titled 'paw print.pdf' in Adobe Reader. The document contains a table of measurements for a book folding pattern, a text note, and a large black paw print illustration.

Leaf No	Top(CM)	Bottom(CM)
1	8.2	9.7
2	7.7	10.3
3	7.4	10.6
4	7.2	11
5	7	11.2
6	6.9	11.4
7	6.8	11.7
8	6.7	11.9
9	6.6	12
10	6.6	12.1
11	6.5	12.3
12	6.5	12.4
13	6.4	12.6
14	6.4	12.6
15	6.4	12.8
16	6.4	12.8
17	6.4	12.9
18	6.4	13
19	6.5	13
20	6.5	13.1

This pattern is based on a 20cm tall book.
At least 300 pages or 150 leaves.

The illustration is a large black paw print with four distinct pads and a larger central pad.

The pattern will usually tell you the height of the book you will need, your book doesn't have to be exactly that height as it is nice to have a border at the top and bottom. The pattern will also tell you how many pages or leaves the book needs to have. Again, this is the minimum amount you will need and you will probably have spare pages at the front and back of the pattern.

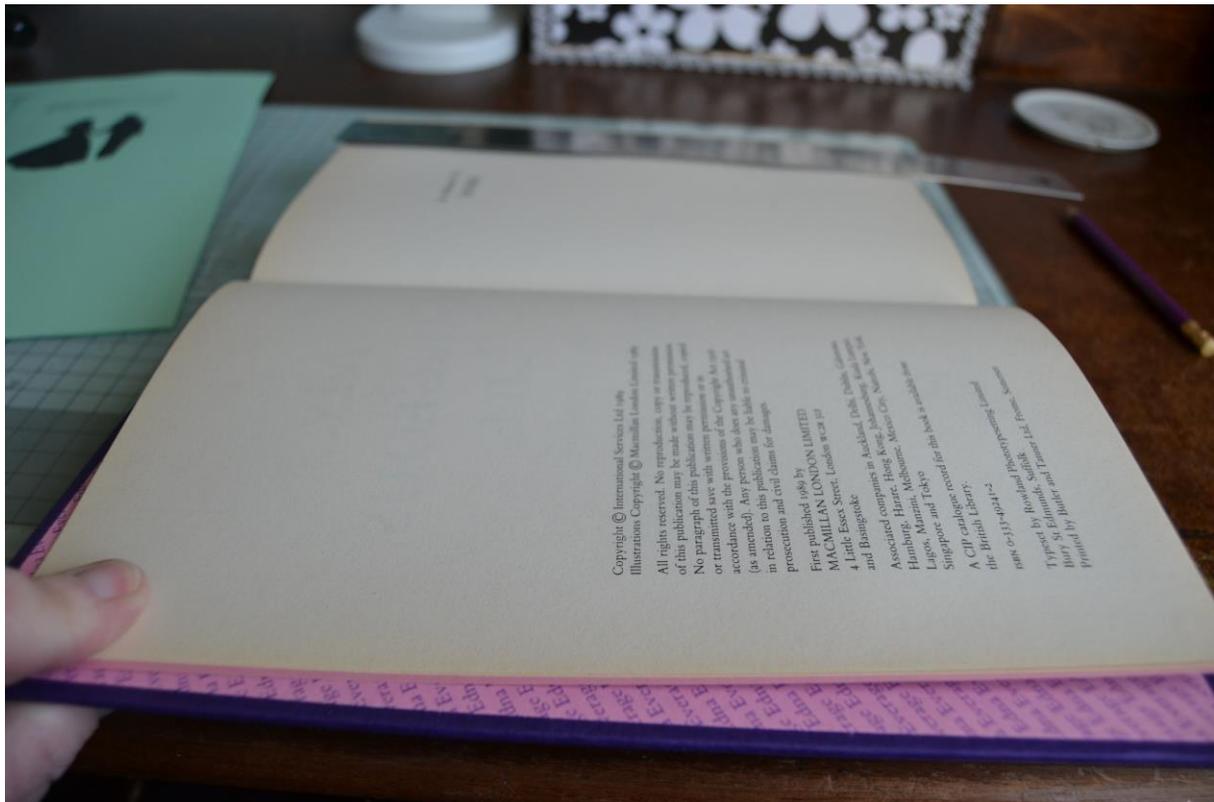
Leaves: A book is made up of so many pages, each page has a front and a back, and this is a leaf. In book folding we don't count pages in the patterns, we count leaves. Therefore however many pages a book has is divided by 2, so a 400 page book only has 200 leaves.

Some people cut the spare pages left over from the pattern out of the book, I prefer to leave them in. To make sure you have an equal amount at the front and back of the book, you need to work out a couple of sums.

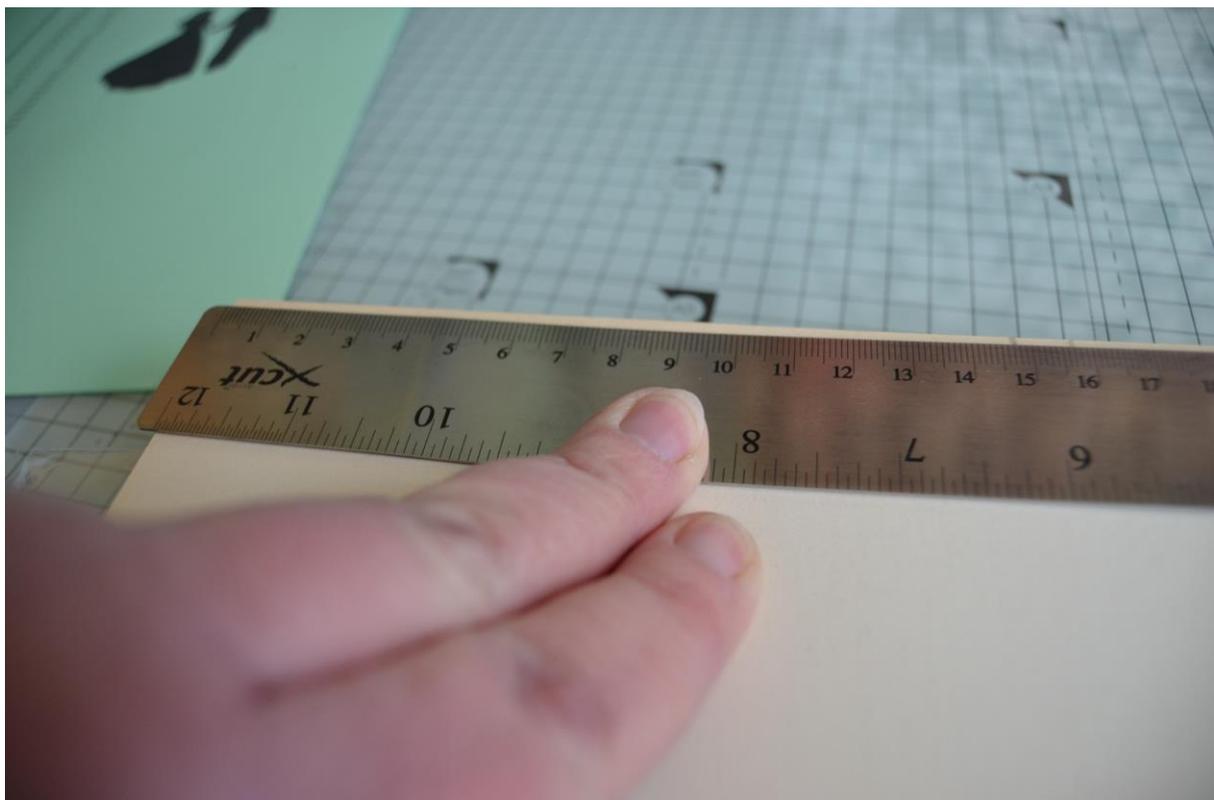
Example: if a book has 400 pages, it has 200 leaves. If the pattern uses 160 leaves, subtract 160 from 200. This gives us 40 leftover. To give an equal amount divide 40 by 2 which gives us 20. So we are going to start the pattern 20 leaves in from the start of the book.

Let's begin.

Always start at the front of the book, have the book open and with the right hand page facing away from you. (The page numbers should be at the bottom) Always mark your lines on the page furthest away from you.



Take your ruler and line it up with the top left side of the page.



The ruler always stays at the left side, both top and bottom markings are made from left edge. Do not be tempted to move the ruler and measure the bottom mark from the right edge.

Example: the measurements on the pattern state: Top 8.3, bottom 9.6.

Measure 8.3 from the left, leave the ruler in place and then mark 9.6 from the left, this gives us the 2 points we need.

Continue to follow the pattern all the way through the book.

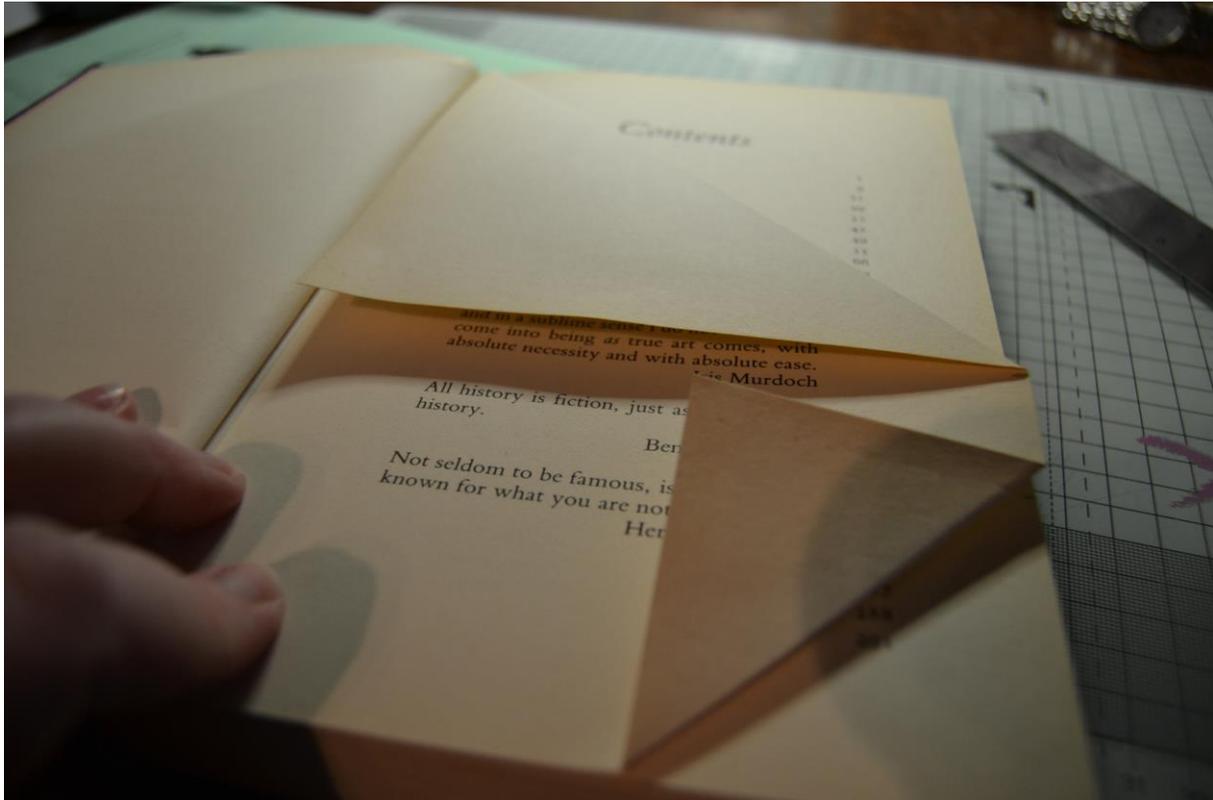
When you have finished all your marking out, you then need to fold the pages. Go back to where you started.

Line the ruler up butting the end into the spine of the book and the other end on the mark you made. Most folds will be at a 45 degree angle.

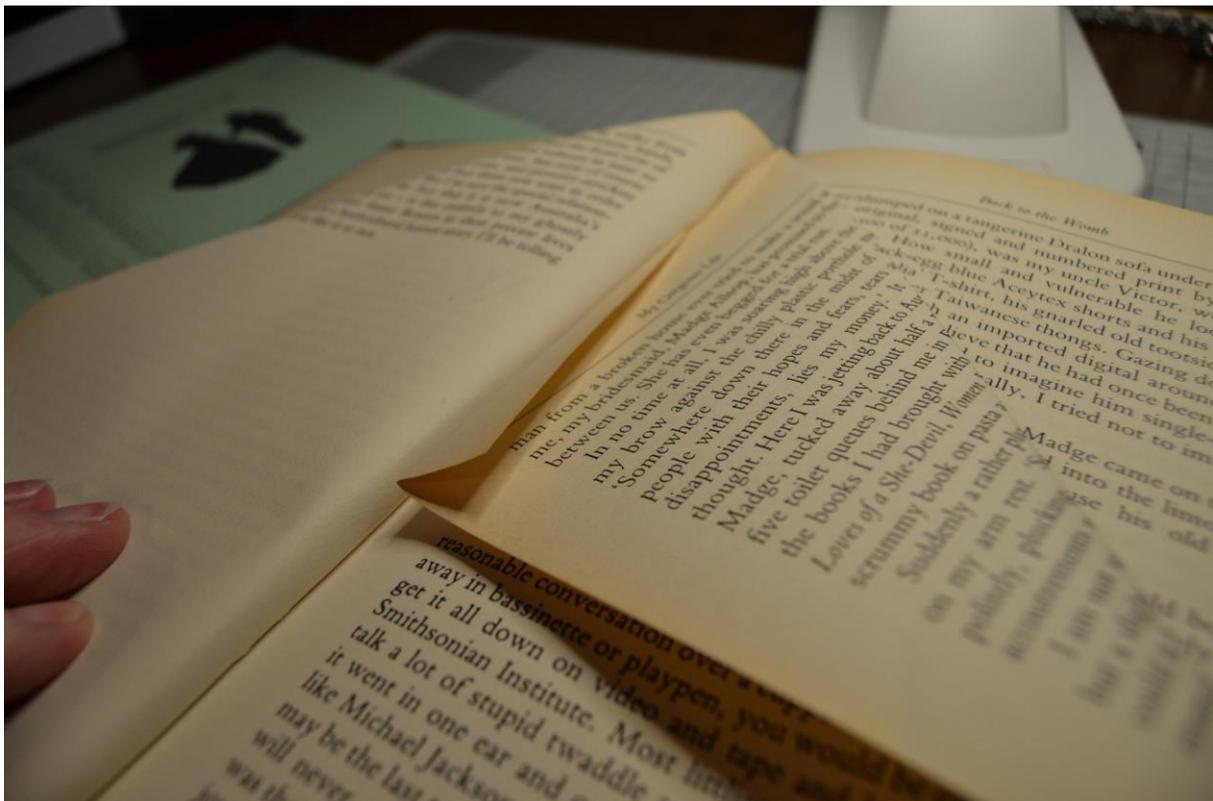


For the top fold, place the ruler on the first mark, bring the top of the page down to lay along the ruler. Do the same for the bottom fold, place the ruler on the bottom mark and bring the bottom of the page up along the ruler.

This gives us our first leaf of the pattern. It will take a while before the pattern starts to emerge, don't expect it to take shape straight away.



Sometimes you can't get a full 45 degree angle if the fold is too long. In this case fold as tight as you can into the spine and then you might have to fold a bit back.



Continue until all the folds are done. You may need to secure the book with ribbon or lace to make it stand up and for the pattern to show correctly. You can also choose whether you decorate the

outside of the book or leave it as it is. You may also decide to ink the edge of the pattern. I find this helps show the pattern off especially if you have used a new book.



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