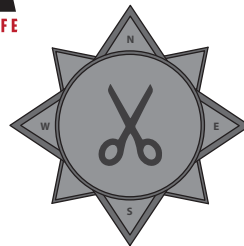


FOLDING AND TEARING PAPER

“How tough can it be to fold and tear paper?” I hear you ask, Trailblazer. Well, it’s super easy. But to do it neatly and make it look good ... well that can be a whole lot tougher. This is a great life skill to have in your back pocket. You won’t always have a pair of scissors in your back pocket. In fact, the back pocket really is not the place to carry a pair of scissors. Sounds painful when you sit down.

FLIP OVER FOR YOUR NEXT CHALLENGE



EARN THIS NUGGET

- With your parents’ direction, master the folds. Neatly fold five pieces of paper successfully so that they are as neat as they can be with crisp folds. Try a variety of folds: edge to edge, corner to corner, etc.
- Make five super neat tears. Experiment with lightly licking the fold and see what a difference that makes.

So you can’t tear paper until you have learned to fold paper. Folding creates a weak area in a piece of paper. The tear will naturally travel along the weak area.

1. First, we need to practice folding a piece of paper. Start by folding it in half so that the corners exactly match. Make that crease just as crisp as you possibly can.

2. Next, try folding a piece of paper neatly in half and in half again. Then try folding it diagonally so that the short edge lines up with the long edge.

3. Once you have mastered the fold, it is on to the tear. For best results, I like to fold the paper, and then back fold it. Each time really crisping up that crease and making it as good as possible by running my thumb and forefinger along it.

4. Now, you have a super crisp fold, you can tear that paper. Once you get it going it gets easier for sure. If you want to make it a little easier, try licking the fold. That makes it even weaker.

