

Round Squash Book

UKS Summer Mini-Book Event 2009
by Mary Anne Walters



This takes the usual square squash book and rounds it out, starting with circles of cardstock instead. Like the square books, it is expandable - you can add more circles to make a bigger book! But even this 3 circle version offers places for as many as 28 photos or a mixture of photos and journaling or embellished pages.

A great project for stash!

Supplies needed:

Circle template or cutter - the starting circles for my book are just shy of 8 inches across.

3 sheets of 12 x 12 cardstock (I used two white and one light turquoise)

assorted patterned paper and flat embellishments to match (stickers, rub-ons etc.)

Bone Folder

cereal box cardboard

ribbon (if you prefer a tie closure to my slide-on band)

I used foam **Thickers** on the cover, but only flat letters inside!



Cut 3 circles of approximately 8 inches from your cardstock

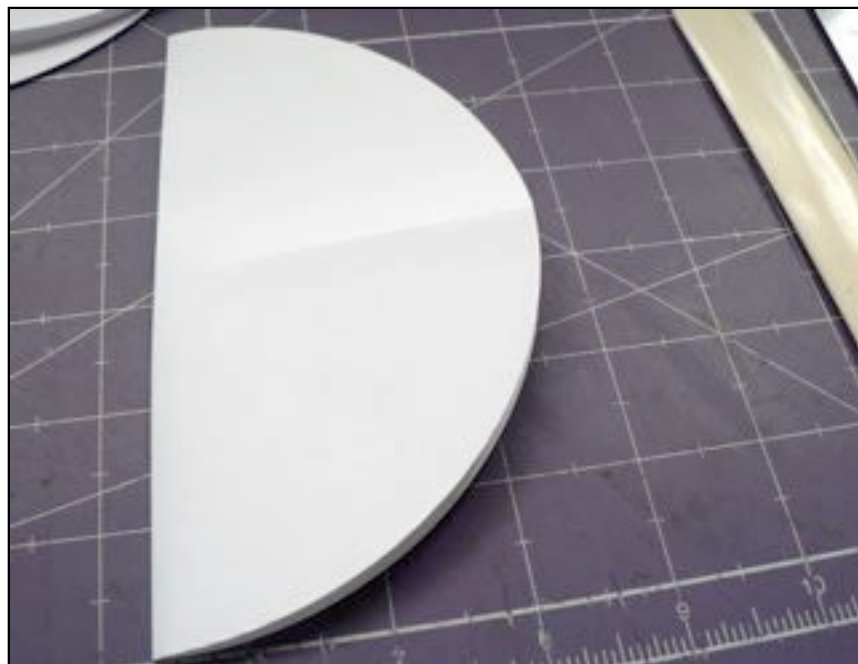
You can use all the same colour or a mixture.

Cut one additional 8 inch circle from scrap card or printer paper.

Fold each circle in half

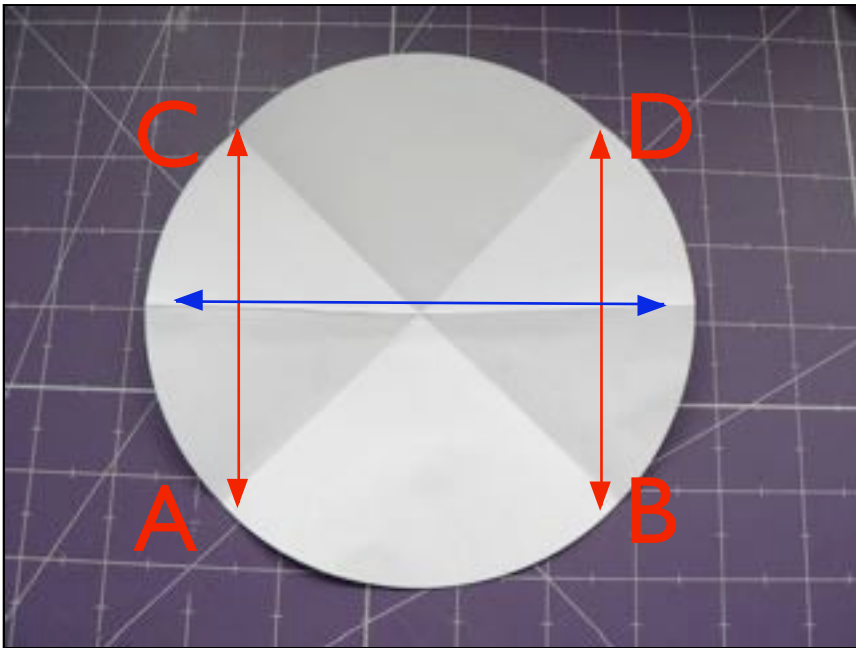
Make sure you carefully line up the edges and make a crisp fold

Open so the first fold is a “valley fold”



Fold each circle in half in the other direction

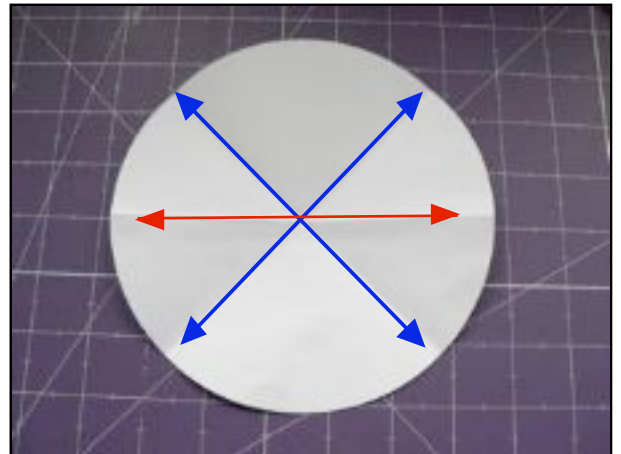
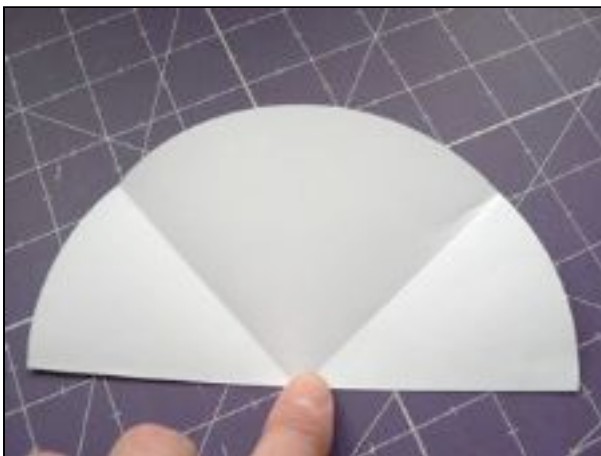
Your circle should now be creased into four quarters



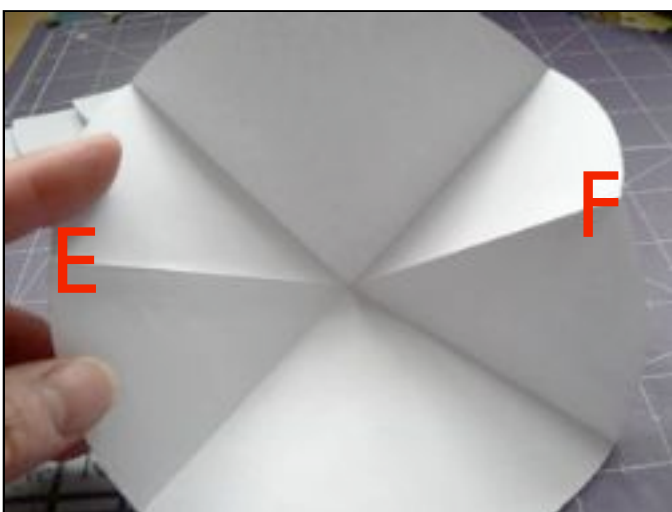
Open each circle - you want to flip your circle over so the original “valley folds” become “mountain folds

Carefully line up A with C and B with D and crease along the center (blue arrow)

(My photo is backwards!)



Open your circle - If you’ve creased correctly, you will have **two diagonal valley folds** and **one horizontal mountain fold**

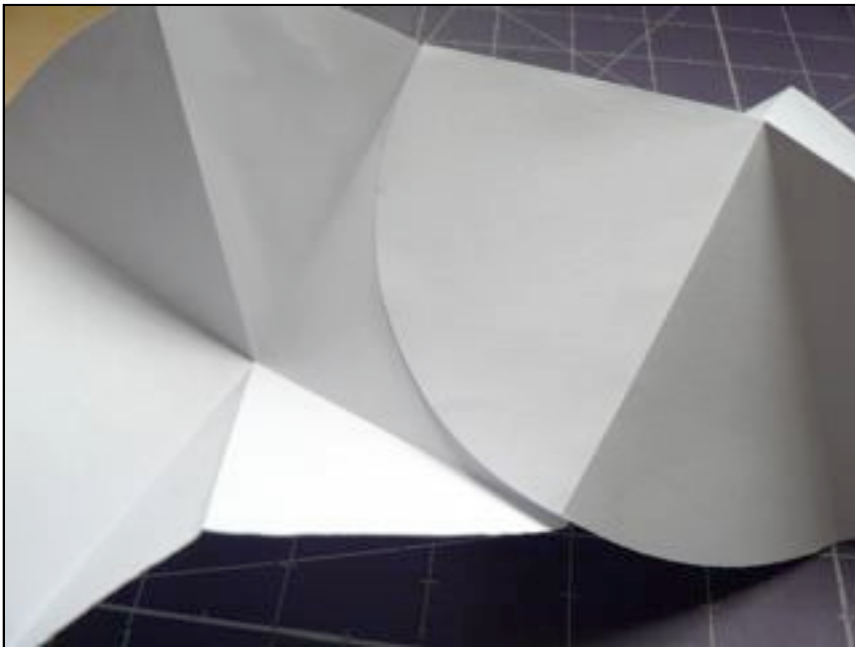


Bring E and F together and squash

Repeat this for all 4 circles!



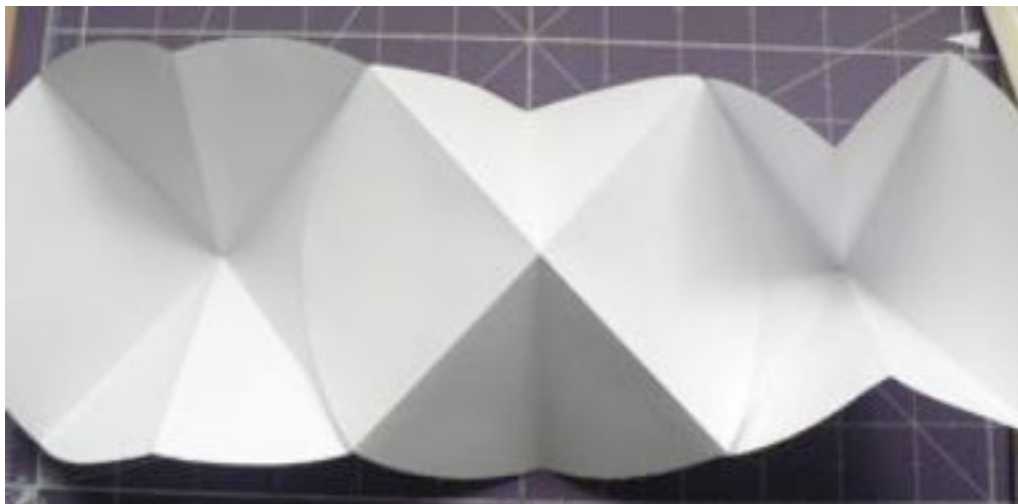
Line up your three cardstock circles. The left circle will be a “pocket”, the center a “mountain” and the right a “pocket” - these are not meant in the traditional Origami sense but if you look at the photo (and your creased circles) you will quickly see what I mean!

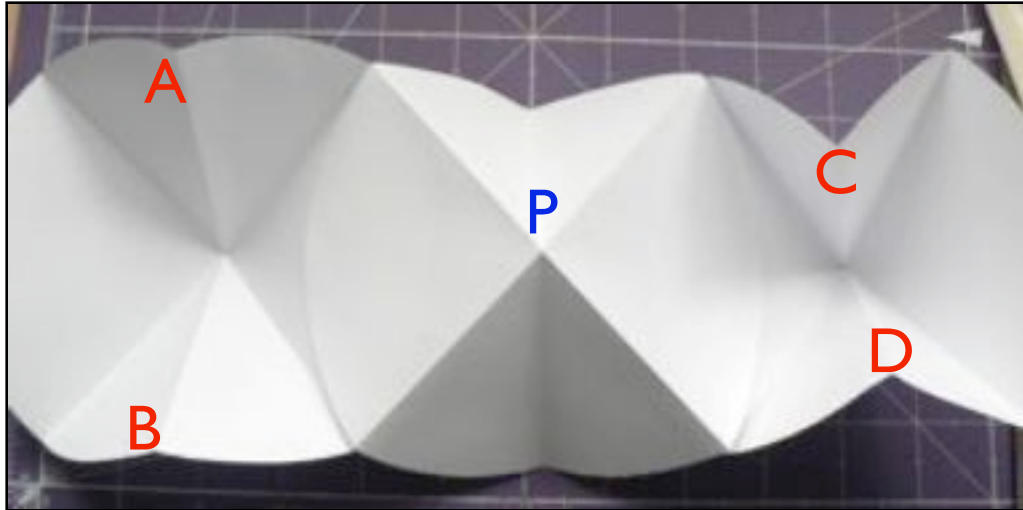


Overlap the left side of the center creased circle onto the left circle as shown

Overlap the right side of the center circle onto the right circle in the same way

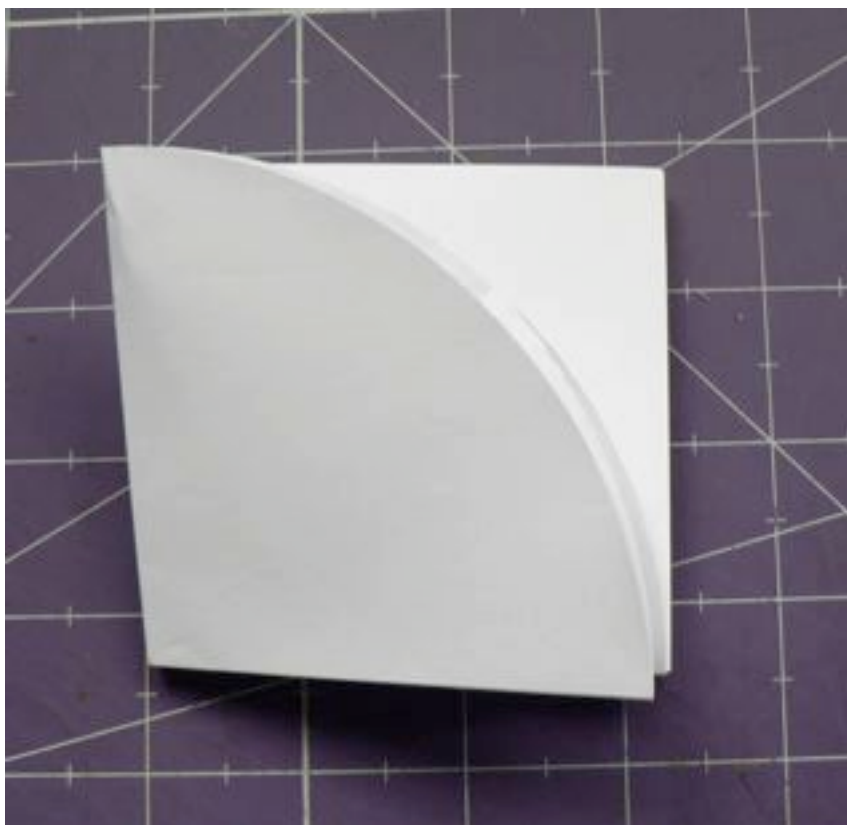
When you get done you should have something that looks like this:





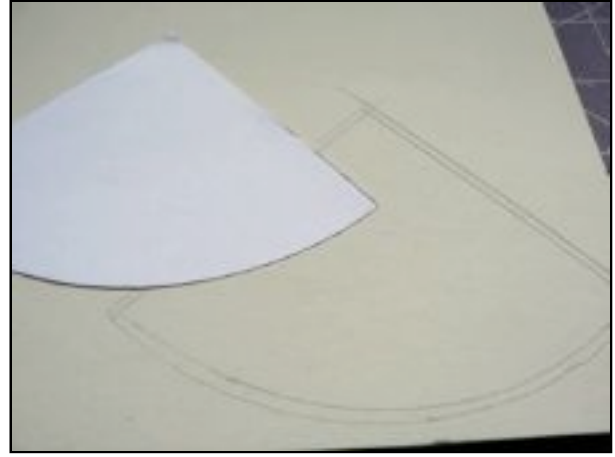
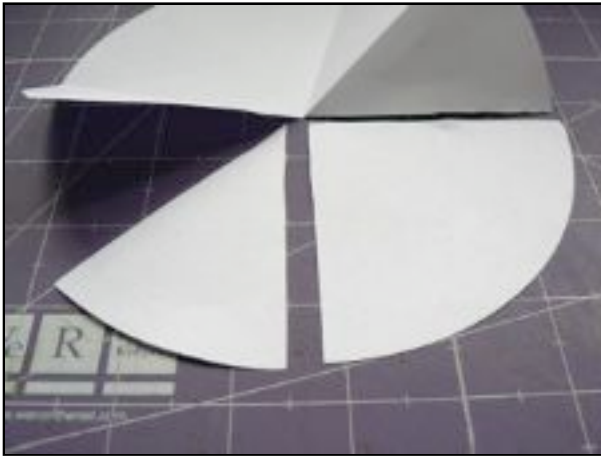
The book should easily “squash” if you pinch **A** and **B** together with your left hand, **C** and **D** together with your right hand, then bring your hands together at the center point **P**

When you get done you should have something that looks like this:



This is the base of your book! Decorate it as you like.

Now, your scrap circle - whatever is that for? It's for making a template for cutting your patterned paper and photos, of course!



Snip out a small and a large triangle. Trace around it onto a bit of cereal box cardboard. You can then draw just slightly inside the lines (if you want your photos to show a bit of the background card or paper once you add them to your book) or cut along the lines exactly (if you want the photos to cover the whole area) OR you can cut out the shape with a craft knife leaving yourself a “window” to lay over your photos for perfect placement!

TIP for those who know Photoshop: I cut my templates out of black card then scanned them at the same resolution as my photos (300 dpi). I opened them in Photoshop then opened my photo and merged the layers (and I have PS7 so it will be different in later versions!) The advantage of doing this is you can rotate the photos so the area you want fits the template perfectly - and you don't have to print whole photos, just the shaped bit. I do as many as I need then “fit” them onto a 6 x 8 canvas (the size photo paper I use) and then print and cut.

To make the band closure : Cover a strip of cardboard double the width of the finished book + 2 inches with patterned paper. Lay it centered over the finished book and score at both edges. Fold the scored line then score again at the next two edges. Secure at the back so the band easily slips on and holds the book closed. Add an embellishment if you like.



One shot of my book opened a bit. I have 20 photos total on mine, using both sides of the structure