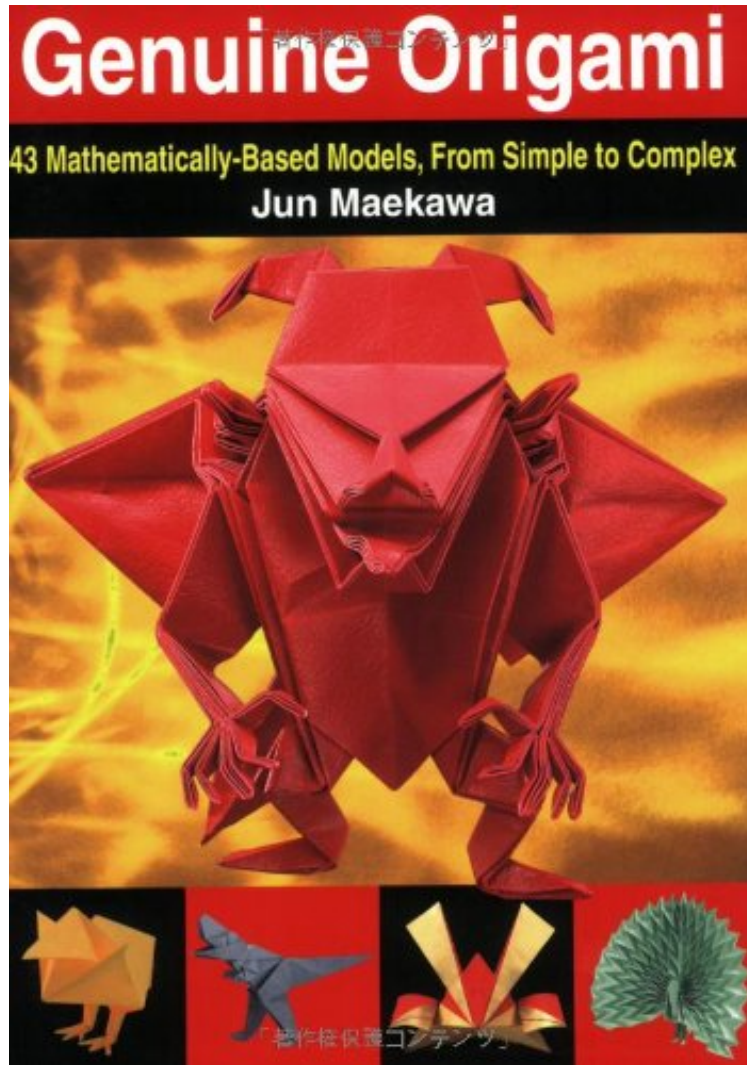


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Genuine Origami: 43 Mathematically-Based Models, From Simple to Complex to Complex

Jun Maekawa

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Jun Maekawa : Genuine Origami: 43 Mathematically-Based Models, From Simple to Complex before purchasing it in order to gage whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised Genuine Origami: 43 Mathematically-Based Models, From Simple to Complex:

0 of 0 people found the following review helpful. An Origami Must Have!By Marilyn GThis book is AMAZING! Ive had it on my wish list for ages because I love Maekawa-sans rabbit. After borrowing Genuine Origami from an online library, I knew I would need far longer than 3 weeks to accomplish this book. So I decided I must own a copy. First, I

have a CAUTION. The title says simple to complex. Simple does not mean easy. The giraffe which looks almost rudimentary was my most difficult model in the fundamental section. It has a sink fold, an asymmetrical inside reverse fold, and two tuck folds that are so tiny I needed tweezers. I folded SEVEN giraffes before I had one that is presentable. The point isn't to fold a giraffe. Rather it is to present a model which allows you to focus on one or two specific techniques or principles so you can hone those skills. This book isn't for the novice folder. If you are still trying to master inside and outside reverse folds, you aren't ready for this book. If you are familiar with folds like rabbit ear, petal, squash, and sink, you might be ready to give it a try. Even if you don't want a mouse, start from the first model. Maekawa-san refers to *Genuine Origami* as a textbook. Start from the beginning. That said, before I started the book, I did fold the rabbit, which is an intermediate model. However, I first tried the rabbit four years ago. After pouring over the diagrams and watching several YouTube tutorial videos, I got as far as the head before I gave up. Recently I decided to give it another go. After watching more YouTube videos, I was able to fold a decent rabbit. If I had worked through the book from the beginning, I wouldn't have needed four years. Also even though Maekawa-san indicates using 15 cm paper for the first models, I started with 17.6cm and even 24cm paper.

0 of 0 people found the following review helpful. methodical and consistent
By Roel Hammerschlag
This is an almost flawless origami text. The author knows his subject well and includes references to the history of the techniques he's teaching. The symbols used throughout the book are neatly catalogued and explained at the beginning of the book, and at the same time methodically "unpacked" as one goes from the simple models at the beginning toward complex at the end. He shows an understanding and respect for pure forms (no cutting, single-color vs. inside-out etc.) but at the same time doesn't get hung up in the dogma. It's great for any level from beginner to advanced. A note to beginners: every set of origami instructions, even the ones in this book, will seem obtuse mind-boggling when you first work through them. But trust me, Maekawa is perfectly consistent throughout this book so if you stick with it you will get used to his notation and be an expert before you have done even half of the models. My only gripe might be that at times the English translation is just a tiny bit awkward, but far from enough to deduct a star: it's always very clear on a technical level.

7 of 7 people found the following review helpful. My favorite origami book so far
By S. Green
Not only does this book have a great array of models, it includes the theories and principles behind them, which is something that most books of this nature lack. Each model is focused around understanding a particular technique, ranging from the most fundamental to advanced. Another thing I like about this book is rather than just exposing the reader/folder to one type of origami, there are models for different types so you can learn about multi-piece, 3 dimensional, modular, tessellation, and even teabag folding. There is also a model for each of the Chinese zodiac which I found to be really cool. The diagrams are all very clear and easy to follow showing 2 toned paper (as most origami paper is), which tends to be a fundamental problem among origami books. I'd also like to point out that *Genuine Origami* caters to all levels. A beginner can pick this up to learn the basics and get started with some really neat models and still be learning from it much later. I would say I'm fairly intermediate and I still have quite a bit to absorb from this book, and I still enjoy the simple models as well.

Like his counterpart in the U.S., prominent origami artist and scientist Robert J. Lang, Jun Maekawa approaches origami from the perspective of mathematical and geometric principles. In *Genuine Origami*, Maekawa takes readers, step-by-step, through the fundamentals of his method, beginning with the basics and guiding them through simple figures (a mouse, an elephant, Santa Claus) all the way up to such highly sophisticated models as his signature creations, the devil and the peacock. The 43 different models are grouped into five sections, including one chapter on the ABCs, three which present projects in order of increasing difficulty (Simple, Intermediate and Complex), and one called *Varieties of Origami*, which reveals how to use different kinds of papers and techniques. In addition to the folding instructions and diagrams, Maekawa explains the mathematical theory behind each project. An intriguing blend of art and science, *Genuine Origami* will allow newcomers to discover the pleasures of folding at the same time that it enables beginners and experts alike to learn clever, surprising and elegant sequences to produce exceptional results.

About the Author
Jun Maekawa, who studied physics, is credited with developing a new origami method based on fundamental geometric patterns. His insights into the connection between mathematics and origami are summed up in the Maekawa Theorem. He is a chief councilor of the Japan Origami Association and executive manager and engineer for a software company producing scientific engineering calculations. *Genuine Origami* is Maekawa's first book to be translated into English.