

British Origami Society
Permission Form for the use of Origami Instruction Materials and Images

Origami instructions and materials are regularly published by the British Origami Society as part of its commitment to expand and communicate the art of origami. However, origami instructions and origami models are protected by copyright law worldwide and the British Origami Society is committed to honouring the rights of the artists. In order to teach origami models, distribute diagrams, publish instructional materials or even display photographs or other images of folded works, permission must be obtained from both the artist who created the model and the diagrammer (if different from the creator). Permission must also be obtained for the form of publication:- i.e. oral teaching, publication of printed diagrams, and/or video, CD, web or other electronic publication.

The British Origami Society would be most appreciative if you could grant blanket permission to use your work and to publish it in any form: oral teaching, printed diagrams, or electronic/online media, at any time now or in the future. However, you may elect to grant permission only for a specific format, event, or publication, if you so desire.

Name (please print)					
Email					
Address					
Telephone (optional)					
Model(s) for which you are granting permission					
I am the :- (please select all applicable)	<input type="checkbox"/> Creator N.B. If not creator, please enter creator's name below _____		<input type="checkbox"/> Diagrammer		
I grant permission to use the following formats :- (please select one)	<input type="checkbox"/> instructional materials (e.g. diagrams) and images of the finished work		<input type="checkbox"/> only images of the finished work		
I grant permission on a non-exclusive basis to :- (please select all applicable)	<input type="checkbox"/> teach	<input type="checkbox"/> distribute at teaching sessions	<input type="checkbox"/> publish in print (booklet, magazine including online version etc.)	<input type="checkbox"/> publish in electronic media (CD, DVD, or other)	<input type="checkbox"/> publish online (e.g., on the BOS Website)
Duration of permission (please select one)	<input type="checkbox"/> One time (please state publication name below) _____		<input type="checkbox"/> Permanent, but revocable at any time		
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Signature (required*) _____ Date _____

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Please sign the form, and mail or email this completed form (first page only) to the British Origami Society. You should also retain a copy for your personal records. Send it to:- The Editor, c/o 7 Pitdinnie Road, Cairneyhill, Fife KY12 8RE, United Kingdom or email to boseditor@britishorigami.info

*Note that sending the form electronically from a personal email address assumes you have signed.

Thank You.

British Origami Society

Permission Form for the use of Origami Instruction Materials and Images: Frequently Asked Questions

Q. What does "teach" mean?

A. Teaching (or "oral teaching") means conveying folding instructions via speaking, usually accompanied by demonstration of the folding steps. In this document, it does not include the distribution of diagrams unless you have selected that option.

Q. What does "instructional materials" mean?

A. Usually, diagrams. But this could also mean oral teaching and demonstration (e.g., at Special Sessions), crease patterns, origami figures, animated instructions, photographs or other images of step folds, video instruction, or other formats that the march of technology makes possible in the future.

Q. Why is there an option for "only images of the finished object"?

A. If BOS wants to publish only photographs or other images of your finished work in a coffee-table book or online gallery, then instructions (which may or may not exist, or you might not be willing to share just yet) won't be included within such a publication or gallery. Of course, if you're willing to grant instructional permission, that would be great. If you ARE sending diagrams, you must select the "instructional materials" option.

Q. What does "one-time permission" mean?

A. That means you're granting permission just for a specific publication, for example, a Model Collection, or a particular issue of the BOS Magazine, or a special publication, or a particular teaching event. Note that this publication may have multiple editions over time; your permission covers all editions. In the case of the BOS Magazine, there is also a downloadable version of each magazine for members only. Permission to publish in the magazine includes publication in the downloadable version, but NOT other online or electronic forms unless you select the appropriate options.

Q. What does "blanket permission" mean?

A. That means you're willing to allow BOS to use your model in any publication or venue, now or in the future. BOS would very much appreciate blanket permission. BOS would like to have a collection of models that can be used at various teaching events such as the Conventions, and other events sponsored by the British Origami Society. Having blanket permission would significantly assist our small volunteer staff when planning such activities, particularly because these activities are sometimes finalized at relatively short notice.

Q. What's the "revocable" part of "revocable blanket permission"?

A. That means you can, at any time, change your mind and withdraw permission for BOS to use your work. Simply send us a letter noting that you're withdrawing permission with your name, signature, and date, and using your work will not feature in future activities or publications. (Please note that the BOS will continue to print and distribute works that were published before your revocation.)

Q. What does "nonexclusive basis" mean?

A. That means that while you are giving BOS permission to use your work, you can still do (almost) anything else you want with it yourself: teach it, sell it, put it in a book, etc. The only thing you can't do is give someone else exclusive permission, because you've already given BOS non-exclusive permission. That limitation has not turned out to be a problem in the experience of the many amateur and professional origami artists who have granted BOS such permission.

Q. I would like to grant permission, but in a specialized way that isn't captured by the boxes on your form or with special conditions. How do I do this?

A. Well, being a volunteer organization with regular turnover, we're not really equipped to handle a lot of specialized conditions. We'd rather you choose from the options on the form, or else we'll have to live without your work.

Q. What does "creator" mean?

A. The person who designed the origami figure, i.e., the original artist. Also, the creator is sometimes called the composer of the fold.

Q. What does "diagrammer" mean?

A. The person who drew up the diagrams, crease pattern, or other form of folding instruction. Note that by law, BOS must obtain permission from both the creator and diagrammer (both the origami work itself and the diagrams are separately covered by copyright), so if you've diagrammed someone else's work, you need to let BOS know who the creator was.

Q. Will there be any other copies of my work in your records?

A. Yes, if you've granted BOS permission to publish your work in some form, we'll make and keep electronic copies and printouts in our records and made as part of our production process. We will not reproduce and/or distribute these production/archival copies beyond the permissions granted on your permission form.

Q. Do I get a free copy of every publication of my work?

A. You definitely get a copy of the first edition. If we reprint a work with little or no modification of the content, you won't get another copy. (In fact, print-on-demand technology means a book isn't even printed until it's ordered.) The same holds if the distribution format changes (e.g., going from CD to DVD-ROM). However, if your work is used in a substantially different form – for example, creating an anthology that includes your work from a past Model Collection – you will receive a copy of the new work.

Q. Will you copyright my work?

A. Under current copyright law, your work is automatically protected by copyright as soon as it is rendered in "tangible form," which, for origami, means as soon as it is folded and/or diagrammed by you. You, as the artist, own the copyright to your work, and the protection is automatic: you don't have to do anything else. (However, you can still register your copyright, which gives stronger legal protections; BOS won't be doing that.) If BOS diagrams your work, then BOS owns the copyright to those diagrams, but that doesn't prevent you in any way from making your own diagrams in the future. (And even if BOS diagrams your composition, BOS can't publish those diagrams without your permission.) You should add a date to your origami work, in order to place a tangible time line to your work.

Q. By signing this permission form, am I giving up my copyright?

A. No. You retain the copyright of your work. You're giving BOS permission to make copies, but you're not "assigning" copyright away.

Q. Does this mean you can sell my model? What about other commercial use of my work?

A. BOS sells its publications, like the Model Collection or booklets in which your work will appear, but will not sell folded copies of your work. If BOS is approached by a commercial entity that would like to use your work (e.g., in an advertisement), BOS will contact you to obtain separate permission for such usage.