

« wet folding » in the way of the Madfolder

This is my method, I do not claim that it is the ultimate, the only, the best, but it's mine and it's a gift.

What is "wet folding" :

Wet-folding is a technique that was developed by Akira Yoshizawa, who used water to moisten the paper so that it could be handled more easily. This process brings a sculptural aspect to origami, which is in essence a purely geometric process. Thicker paper is usually used to ensure that the paper does not tear. Éric Joisel, a great user of "wet-folding" technique, essentially at the beginning, during his "Mask" period, also used what he called "fake wet-folding". This involved folding without moistening the paper but once the model was finished, immobilizing it with a lot of pins, then spray water on it and use the hair dryer. The wet folding process allows a model to retain a curved shape more easily. It also reduces "bad-creases" substantially. Finally, wet folding allows rigidity once the model is dry.

The difficulty of the method lies in the mastery of the water supply, a function of the "tactile knowledge of paper" and of course, the model chosen to fold.

The essential ingredients used to do this are:

- Sponge (or similar) for direct application on the paper



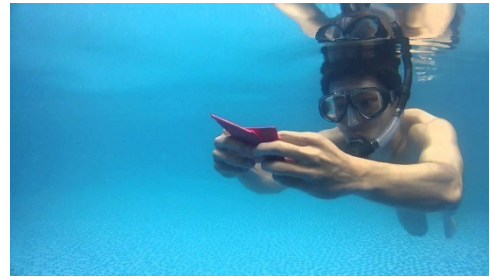
-The vaporiser for spraying water



- On Zorg, we will use the official blastoon instead :



other option :



My thoughts:

In any field, the harder you work, the better you get.

We gain experience after spending a lot of time folding.

But what is improving?

We note that it is not only our technical knowledge but also our sense of touch. It is actually the hand that is in permanent contact with the sheet and it is precisely this intimate contact with the material that becomes more sensitive, is refined.

Have you noticed over time that you can differentiate the weight of the paper? The texture?

Have you noticed that by touching the paper you can decide if it will suit you?

So why not do the same with wet-folding?

Indeed, when using a sponge or a vaporiser, you are not in contact with your sheet of paper, so how can you determine this one has enough or no water, in order to obtain the flexibility and rigidity necessary for the realisation of the model?

When I realized for myself the importance of this intimate contact, I started to use a bowl of water to wet my hands enough to moisten the sheet of paper by direct contact, it allowed me to master the process and since we are in direct contact, we can raise the support sheet (table ...), and thus feel the desired flexibility. In the same way, during the advance stages of the folding, since we are in direct contact, we can feel the needs of the sheet at the instant "T" and if necessary re-moisten the hands and apply to the desired place, so mastery becomes total - the supply of water as much as the where to add the water.



(For information the official blastoon of Zorg is out of stock.)

Origamicably,
The mad folder