

# Gamiballs

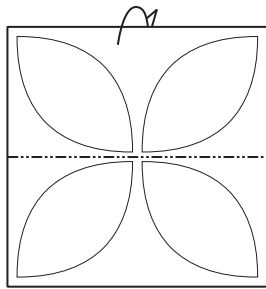
By Jeremy Shafer ©1999

Origami-style juggling balls... from one square of material -- **no cutting!**

**Warning:** This model is not origami as it requires needle, thread, cloth and birdseed. However, the instructions are in the style of origami diagrams, which you already know how to follow. So, if you've never sewn, this is a great opportunity to learn.

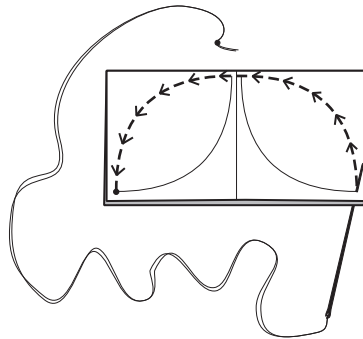
To make a Gamiball, first you have to transfer the four-leaf pattern on the cover of this newsletter to a piece of cloth (preferably velour). To do this I recommend first tracing the pattern onto paper (photocopying works too). Then cut out the leaves with a razor, which gives you a template. Place the template onto the back side of cloth, and using a marker, draw the full pattern onto the cloth (including the outside square). Cut out just the square and you're ready to start sewing. Thread a needle with an arm's length of doubled thread knotted at the end.

1



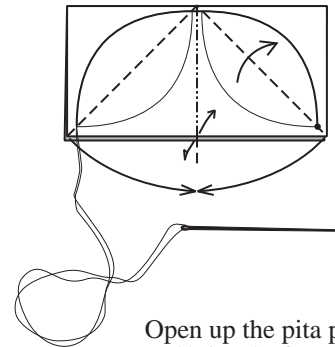
Begin with a square of cloth with the four leaf pattern side up (nicer side of cloth should be behind). Mountain-fold the square in half.

2



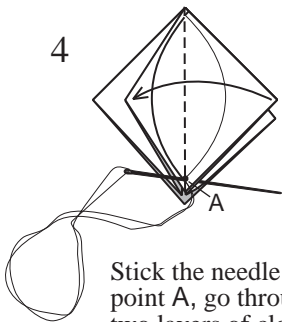
Stitch over the 'rainbow'. A small running stitch works well. As you stitch, continually check the back side to make sure you are staying on the line on both sides of the pattern. To make the running stitch faster, you can make several stitches at a time before pulling the needle through.

3



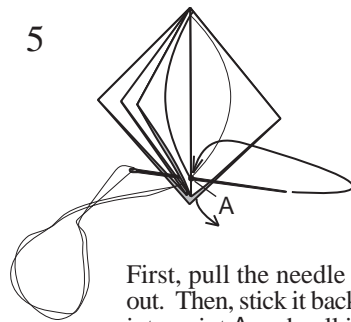
Open up the pita pocket and bring the four corners together. This forms a square base.

4



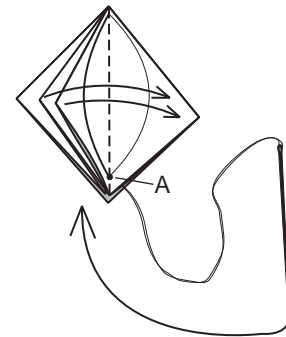
Stick the needle into point A, go through two layers of cloth and pull it out as shown. Swing one flap to the left.

5

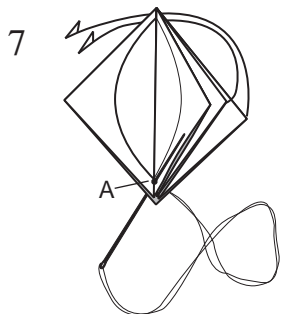


First, pull the needle out. Then, stick it back into point A and pull it out behind.

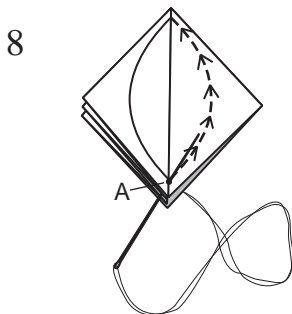
6



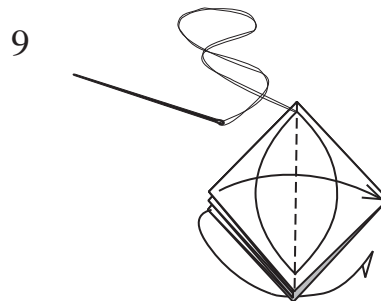
Swing two front flaps to the right. Get the needle into position to stab point A from behind.



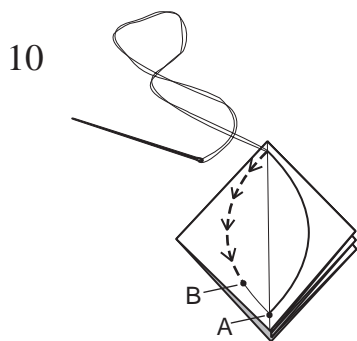
7 Put the needle in the back of point A and pull it out the front. Swing two rear flaps behind to the left.



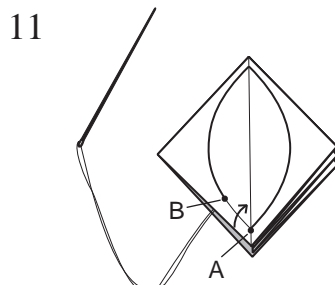
8 Stick the needle in the back of point A and pull it out the front. Stitch up the right side of the leaf.



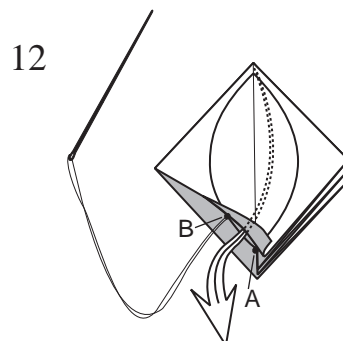
9 Swing the front flap and the rear flap to the other side.



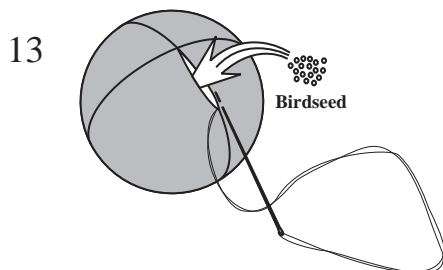
10 Sew the final side of the leaf but only sew as far as point B. When you reach point B pull the needle out from between the two layers.



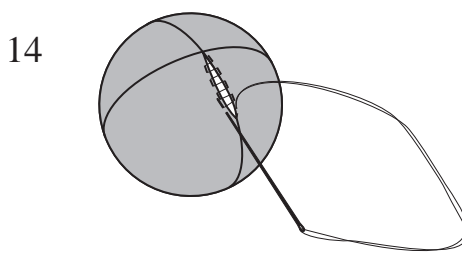
11 Lift up the edge.



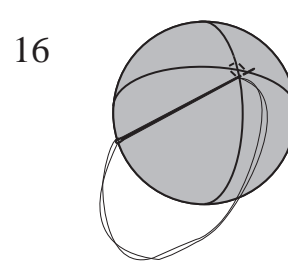
12 Turn the ball inside out by pushing everything out the slot between points A and B. It's easiest to start pushing out the top corner.



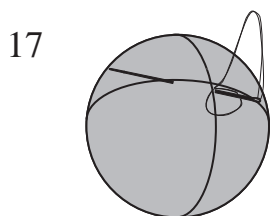
13 It's a **ball!!!** To fill it, submerge it in a bowl of birdseed and stuff the seed through the hole until fully filled. Now for the closing stitches. Keeping the needle parallel to the seam, make a stitch as shown. Pull the needle through.



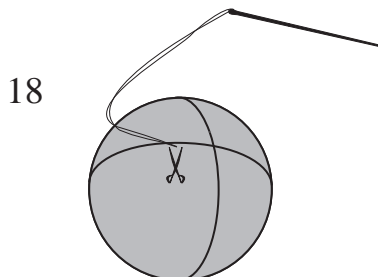
14 Now go straight across to the other side of the seam and make another stitch. Pull the needle through. Continue like this until the whole ball is fully closed and non-leaking. To insure that the ball won't leak, make extra stitches around the north pole.



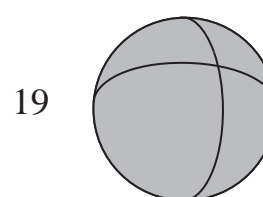
16 Now it's time to make the finishing knot. Make a tiny stitch right where the thread comes out of the ball. Pull the needle through, but leave a loop.



17 Make the needle go through the loop and puncture the ball right at the previous stitch. Pull the needle out anywhere.



18 Cut off the thread and you're done.



19 The gamiball is ready to juggle. Repeat steps 1-19 twice for a set of three.