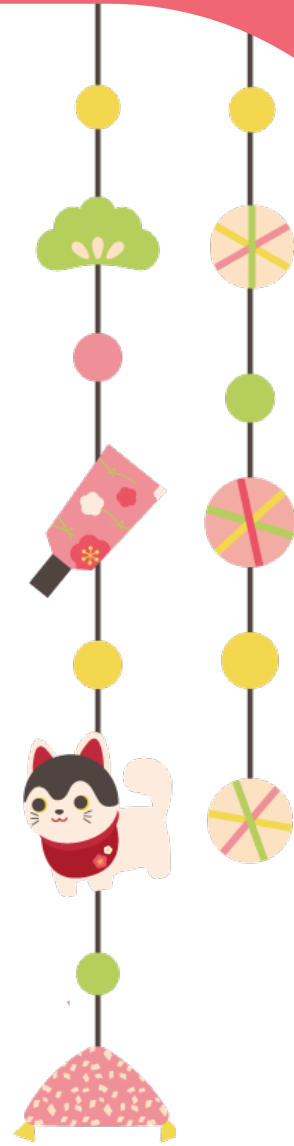




THE  
JAPAN  
SOCIETY

# Hina Matsuri





# ひなまつり



## Hina-Matsuri

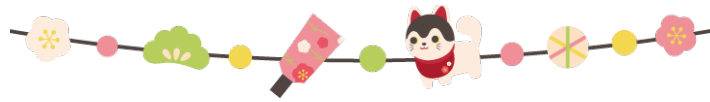
Hina means “doll” and matsuri means “festival” so Hina-Matsuri is the Doll’s Festival. It is held every year on March 3 to celebrate the health and happiness of girls. It is also called the Girl’s Festival.



## What do people do?

The festival celebrates girls, so families with daughters will usually display special dolls which are said to protect children from evil spirits and bad health. The dolls are put out before the festival and should be taken down the day after - it is thought to be bad luck to display them for longer. The same dolls are used every year and are usually passed down through families.





## What do the dolls look like?

The hina dolls are dressed in costumes from ancient times and represent members of the imperial family. The most important dolls are the Empress and the Emperor who are always at the top of the display, normally in front of a gold screen. At home, people might only display these two dolls, but public displays may have more dolls representing other important people of the court.

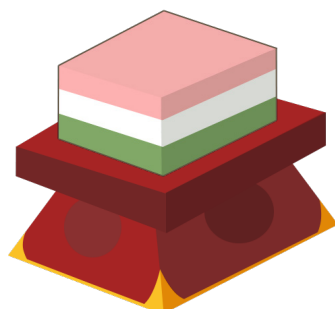


## Festival Foods

The traditional foods associated with Hina-Matsuri are often green, pink and white. These three colours have symbolic meanings.

White represents the snow of winter, green represents new shoots coming to life, and pink represents the cherry blossoms of the spring.

Two of the most common sweets for the festival are hishi mochi and hina arare. Hishi means “diamond” in Japanese and these diamond-shaped, tricoloured rice cakes are usually displayed with the hina dolls. Hina arare are sweet bite-sized rice crackers, a favourite for children during the festival.



Hishi  
Mochi



Hina  
Arare



# \* 3.3 \* ひなまつり

## Kanji Characters

In Japanese the numbers 1, 2, and 3 are written using symbols called kanji. There are also kanji meaning "Day" and "Month". You can see these kanji characters below.

1	一
2	二
3	三

Day	日
Month	月

Why not try writing "Day" and "Month" in kanji characters below?


The date of Hina-Matsuri is written like this: 三日三月 because it is on the third day of the third month (March). **How would you write the following dates?**

1st January	
2nd February	
1st March	

Answers: 1st January = 一月一日; 2nd February = 二月二日; 1st March = 三月一日.




## Inspirational Japanese Women

Hina-Matsuri celebrates girls and wishes for their happiness, health and success. Take the quiz below to learn about some very successful Japanese women! You can research the answers or take a guess!

1. Chiaki Mukai was the first Japanese woman to...
  - a. Go to space
  - b. Meet the Queen
2. Yayoi Kusama is a Japanese artist. What vegetable does she often paint?
  - a. Potatoes
  - b. Pumpkins
3. Aori Nishimura wants to compete in the Olympics in which sport?
  - a. Skateboarding
  - b. Karate

**Extra Activity:** Pick one of the awesome women above or research another inspirational Japanese woman and fill out the profile below.

Name:	
Born in:	
Job or Profession:	
I think she is inspirational because:	

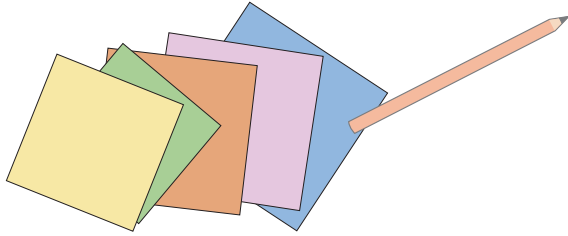
Draw a picture in the box





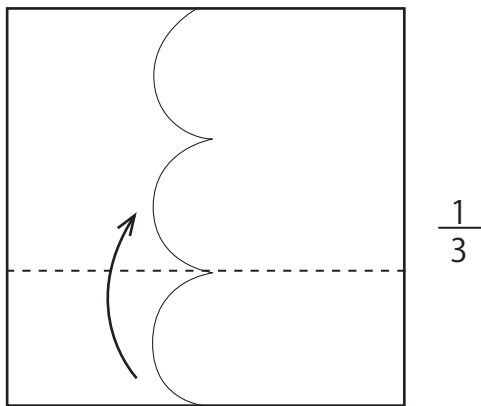
# Hina-Matsuri Origami Challenge

## 1. Hina dolls (easy)

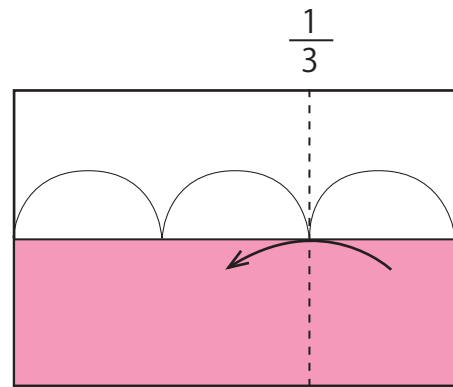


### You will need:

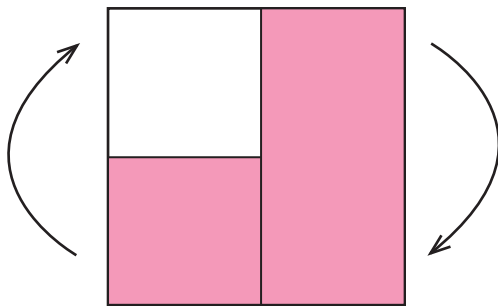
- origami paper or square paper
- colouring pencils or pens



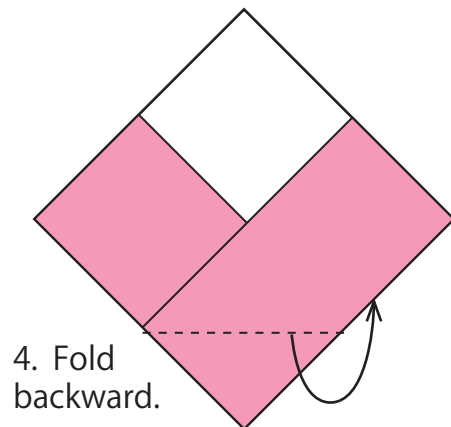
1. Fold up, along the dotted line, approximately  $\frac{1}{3}$  of the length.



2. Fold in, along the dotted line, approximately  $\frac{1}{3}$  of the width.



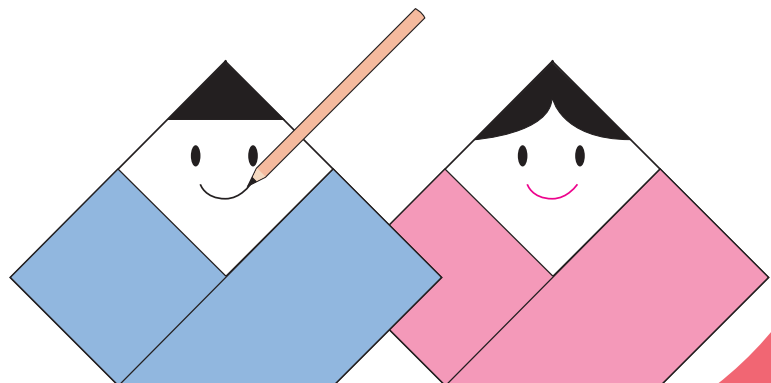
3. Turn until white square is at top.



4. Fold backward.

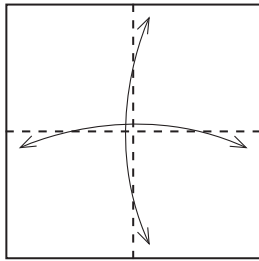
5. Finish by drawing the hair and the face. You can also decorate the clothes!

\*\* Make one for the emperor and one for the empress.

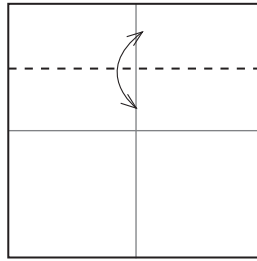




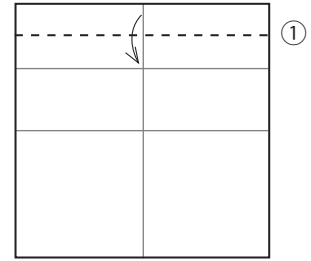
## 2a. Hina doll set (hard)



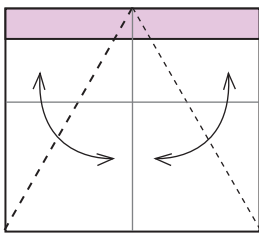
1. Fold to make crease lines then unfold.



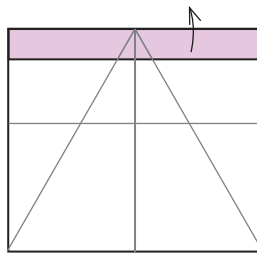
2. Fold down to meet centre line then unfold.



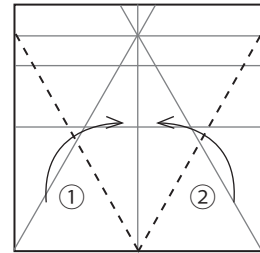
3. Fold down to meet line ① from step 2.



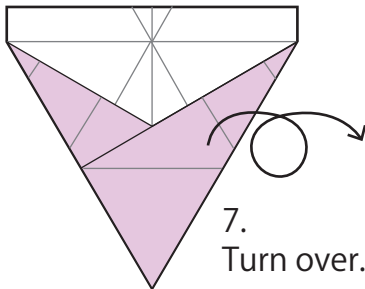
4. Fold up to make crease lines then unfold.



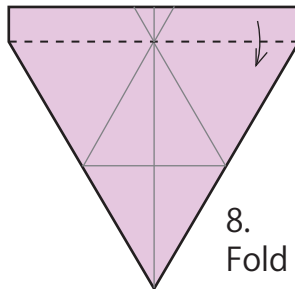
5. Unfold.



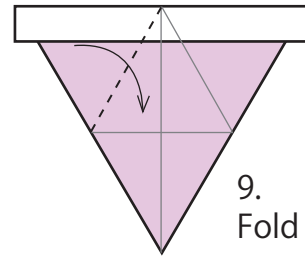
6. Fold ① inward and then fold ② over ①.



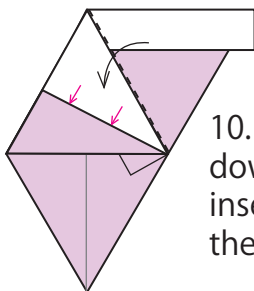
7. Turn over.



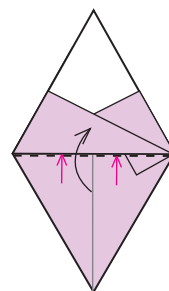
8. Fold down.



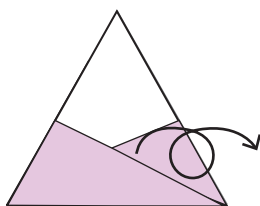
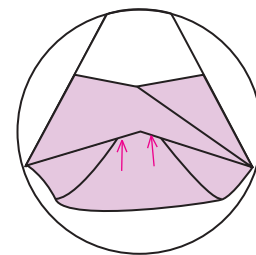
9. Fold down.



10. Fold down and insert into the pocket.



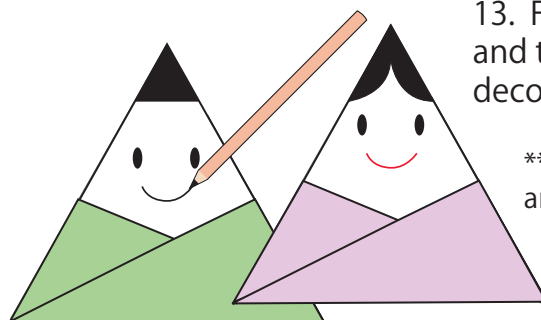
11. Fold up and tuck in the bottom flap.



12. Turn over.

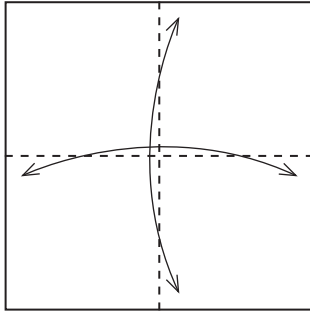
13. Finish by drawing the hair and the face. You can also decorate the clothes!

\*\* Make one for the emperor and one for the empress.

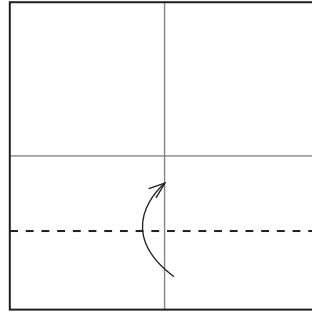




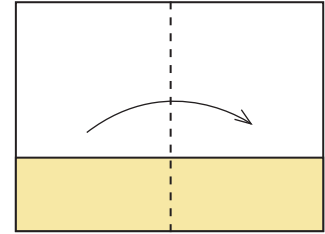
## 2b. Folding screen for hina doll set



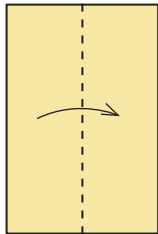
1. Fold to make crease lines then unfold.



2. Fold up to meet centre line.



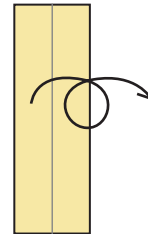
3. Fold in half.



4. Fold in half.



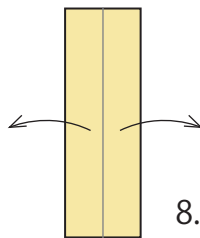
5. Fold in half and then unfold.



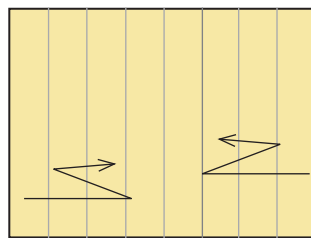
6. Turn over.



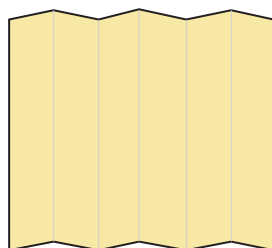
7. Fold in half and then unfold.



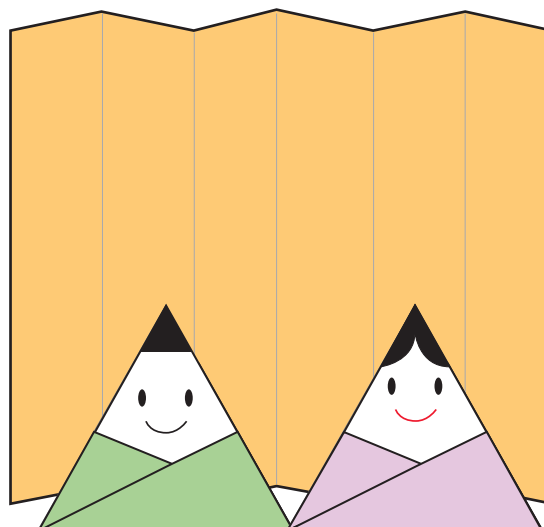
8. Open.



9. Adjust so it folds like an accordion.



10. Done!



Put together the folding screen and the dolls to finish the Hina doll set for the festival.



