

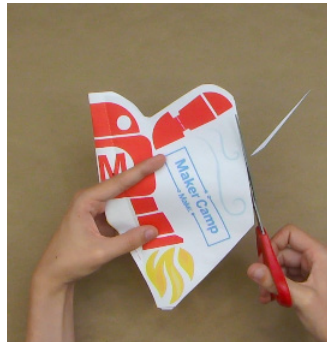


Makey Kite



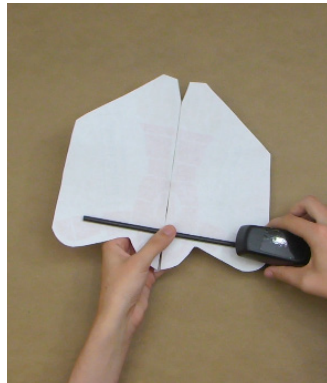
1. Make some folds.

Fold the Makey template down the middle along the dotted line in the "mountain fold" style, as specified by the template. » Now make the two "valley folds" on either side of your mountain fold.



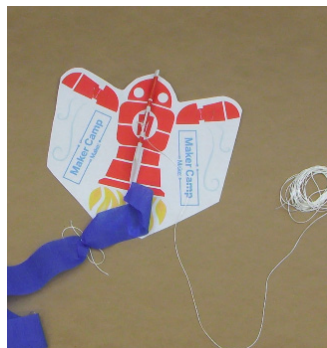
2. Cut the excess.

Cut off the yellow portions of the template. » Fold the Makey in half again along the mountain fold and trim any edges that don't line up.



3. Add the straws.

Cut one of the straws in half and place it in the center of the Makey Kite. » Secure the straw in place by stapling above it on either side of the black dot that is in the middle of the M. » Now staple a full-length straw across the back of the kite at the two points specified on the template (behind Makey's elbows).



4. Add the tail and string.

Staple your kite tail to the place specified on the template. Feel free to decorate your kite tail with bows! » Use your sharp object to poke a hole through the black dot on the M. » Loop your kite string through the hole and tie it around the straw. Make sure it is tightly attached! » Measure out enough string for your kite to fly high and cut it. » Take your new kite out on a windy day and watch it soar!



Supplies

Makey Kite template

Scissors

Pushpin, craft knife, or anything with a sharp point

2 straws

Stapler with staples

Kite string

Ribbon or paper streamers



✂️ Cut off all the solid yellow parts, leaving only the white kite.

7 Staple a full straw in 2 spots behind Makey's elbows.



4 ✂️ Cut off all the solid yellow parts so only the white kite remains.

5 Place a half of a straw behind the "M" on Makey's chest. Staple just next to it.

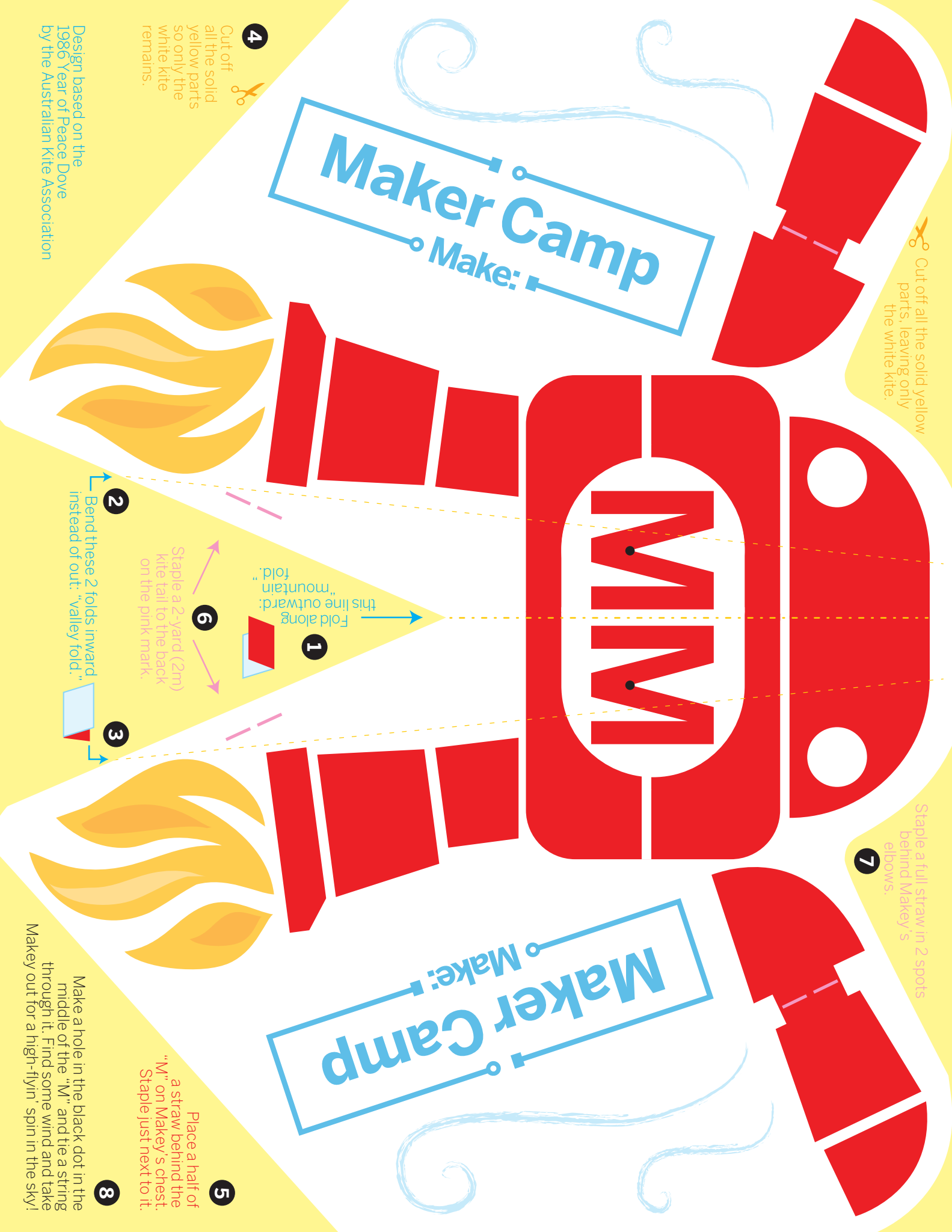
2 Bend these 2 folds inward instead of out: "valley fold."

6 Staple a 2-yard (2m) kite tail to the back on the pink mark.

1 Fold along this line outward: "mountain fold."

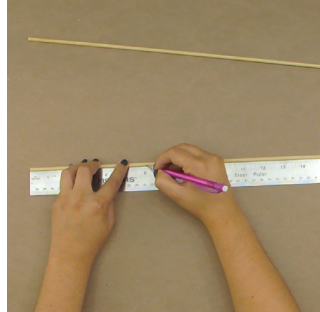
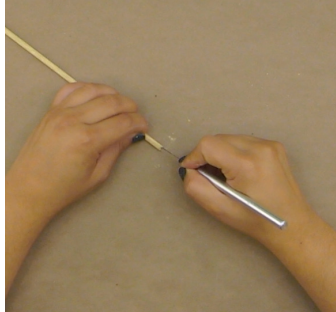
Design based on the 1986 Year of Peace Dove by the Australian Kite Association

8 Make a hole in the black dot in the middle of the "M" and tie a string through it. Find some wind and take Makey out for a high-flyin' spin in the sky!





Benjamin Franklin's Kite



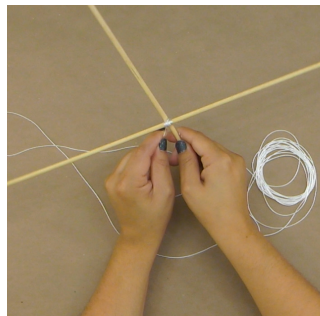
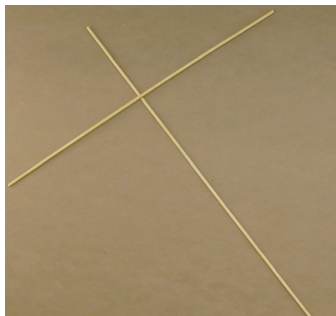
1. Prepare the frame.

Make a notch at each end of the dowel using the craft knife. Make sure that the notches are parallel to each other. » Mark a spot on the longer dowel that is 6 inches from the end of it. » Mark a spot on the shorter dowel that is 10 inches from the end of it. » Match up the marks you just made to make a "t" shape.

Supplies

Two wooden dowels (24 in. and 20 in.)

Paper or trash bag that's at least 26 in. x 26 in.



2. Secure the frame.

Cut a length of string that's approximately 2.5 times the circumference of the kite. » Wrap the string around the two sticks to connect them together. It helps to make an "X" shape with the string. » When the frame feels sturdy, tie a knot to secure it. » Check that all the notches are parallel to the ground, if not, twist the dowel until they all match up.

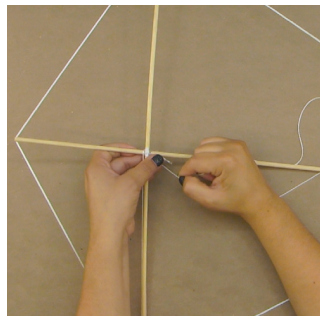
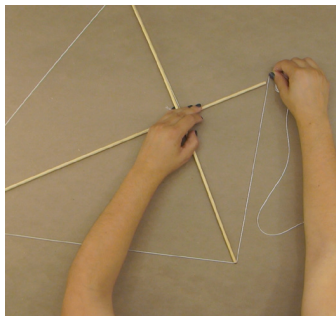
Ribbon

String or fishing line

Tape

Craft knife

Ruler

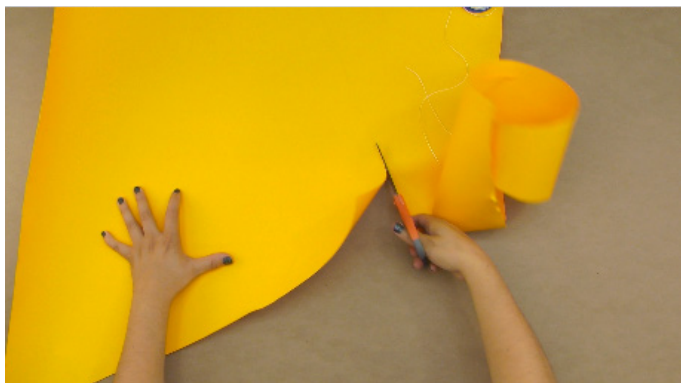


3. Create a diamond.

Thread the string from the center of the frame to the outside through the notches at the end of the dowels to make a diamond shape. » Wrap around the frame with your string twice. » Bring the string back to the center of the frame and wrap around both dowels to make the same "X" shape from step 2. » Tie another knot. » Cut the string.

Scissors

Pencil

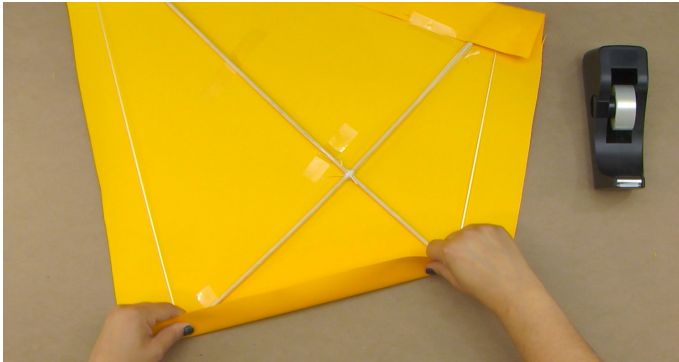


4. Cut paper to correct shape.

Place kite frame on top of the piece of paper or plastic bag. » Draw an outline of the kite that is a little bit bigger than the kite. » Cut out your kite shape with scissors.

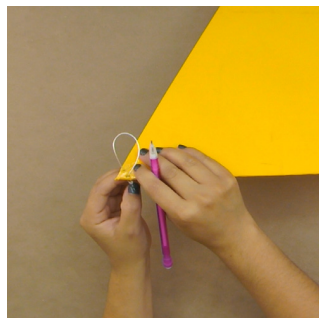


Benjamin Franklin's Kite, continued



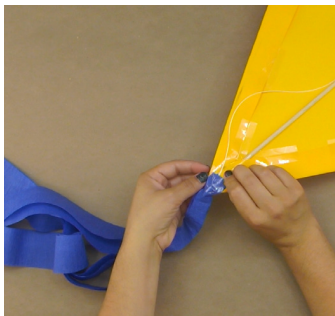
5. Attach paper to frame.

Tape the frame to the paper. » Fold the edges of the paper over the string frame.
» Tape down the paper. » Reinforce the top and bottom corners of the kite with tape.



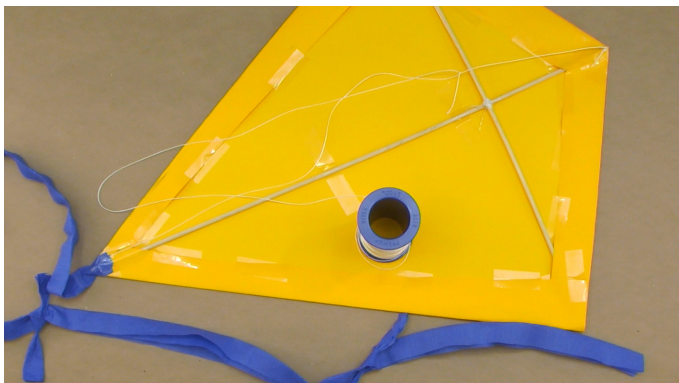
6. Create a birdle.

Using something sharp, like a pen or craft knife, make a hole through the corners you just reinforced with tape. » Thread string through the top hole and tie a knot to secure it. » Cut the string so that it's long enough to reach the bottom hole. » Thread the string through the bottom hole and tie a knot to secure it. This is your birdle.



7. Attach the tail.

Make a tail with your ribbon that's about 2 yards long. » Attach it to the bottom of your kite. » Tie bows around your kite's tail.



8. Attach flying string.

Attach string about one third of the way down the kite's birdle.



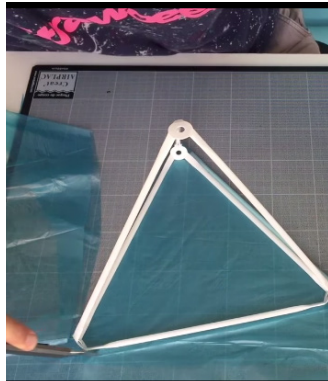
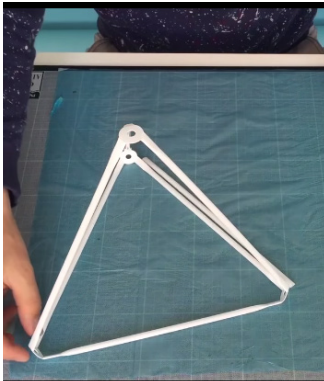


Strawbees Kite



1. Build the tetrahedrons.

Grab four of the three-way connectors and bend their legs down. » Attach six straws to the ends of the connectors so that you construct the tetrahedral shape seen in the photo on the left. » Repeat this process with the 12 remaining three-way connectors and 18 straws so that you have four separate tetrahedrons.



2. Cut the plastic.

Cut a plastic bag open and lay it flat. » Place one of the tetrahedrons in a corner of the plastic and place a straw directly below it to mark its place. » Remove the tetrahedron and fold the plastic over the placeholder straw. » Place the tetrahedron back on top of the two layers of plastic and use a craft knife to trim off the edges around the triangle. Leave about 1/4" of plastic around the edges.



3. Attach the plastic.

Insert a Strawbees one-way connector through the plastic and through the corner of the tetrahedron to secure it. » Insert another at the opposite end. » The plastic should now be taut around your tetrahedron. » Now glue down all the edges of the plastic to the straws. It's a good idea to roll the plastic around the straws. » Repeat steps 2-3 three more times so that you have four plastic-wrapped tetrahedrons.



4. Build your kite.

Remove all of the one-way connectors that you used to secure the plastic. » Attach the four tetrahedrons together by inserting a one-way connector from the inside corner of one shape into the outside corner of another. » Your kite should look like a pyramid with three tetrahedrons on the bottom and one on the top.

Supplies

25 straws

16 three-way Strawbee connectors

9 one-way Strawbee connectors

Lightweight plastic bags, (approx. 4)

Kite string

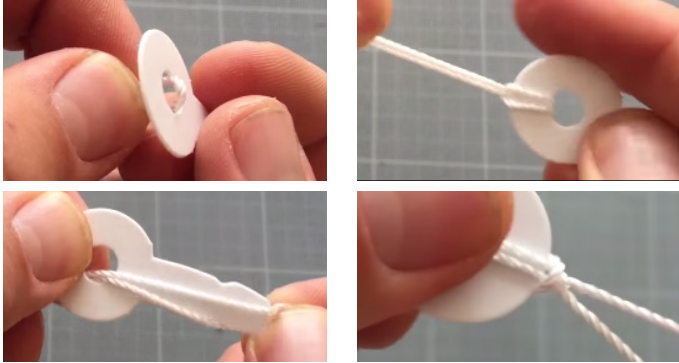
Scissors

Craft knife

Glue



Strawbees Kite, continued



5. Attach the string.

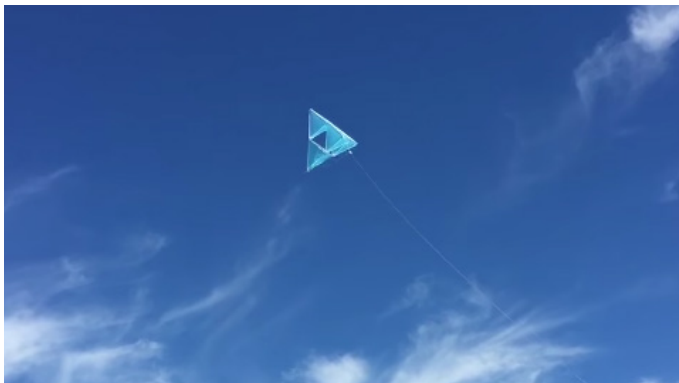
Measure out and cut enough string to span 3x the length of one side of your kite. »

Attach a one-way connector to each end of the string by forming a small loop, pushing it through the hole in the connector, looping it around the arm, and then tightening the knot. It's a good idea to reinforce this knot by tying a second knot with the remaining string. » Insert each of the connectors to the top and bottom of the front of your kite.



6. Finish the kite.

Pull the string that you just attached to the kite until you find its centerpoint. » Using the same looping knot method that you used in step 5, attach one more one-way connector to the centerpoint of the string. » Now, tie a piece of string that is long enough for your kite to fly high to this one-way connector that you have just attached.



7. Test your kite!

Your kite is now ready! Take your new tetrahedral kite out on a windy day to test it out!

