Regular Octahedron

An octahedron is made of eight equilateral triangles arranged like two pyramids with their bases stuck together. This shape belongs to a group of closed three-dimensional solids called "polyhedra" (from the Greek poly, meaning "many," and hedra, meaning "faces"). You can build your own octahedron by printing this page and following the assembly directions below.

Directions

1. Print this page on paper (heavier-weight paper will be more sturdy).
2. Decorate the image however you like. You can use the octahedron as an eight-sided die for a game you invent, or draw pictures and patterns on the sides.
3. Cut along the solid black lines.
4. Fold along the dashed gray lines.
5. Apply glue or rubber cement to the pieces marked "FLAP" and tuck these under the other sides as you bring the edges together to assemble the shape.

Things To Do With Your Octahedron

- Use the octahedron as an eight-sided die for a game you invent. Just write the numbers 1 through 8 on the eight triangular sides.
- Paste photos on each of the eight sides.
- Color the sides with different patterns.
- Make several octahedrons and hang them with yarn or thread from your ceiling or on a mobile.
- Use them to create holiday ornaments.