Dollar Bill Origami Box

Instructions on folding a box from a dollar bill.
Brought to you by Jon Beebe of BIG Images.

Setup…
There are a few things to keep in mind before starting out:

1) Use a very new, crisp bill. Any denomination will work, but larger bills certainly have more impact.

2) Have the object you want to wrap nearby so you can use it for measurements.

3) This model can be modified very easily for boxes that are longer, wider, or taller, so be creative when folding.

4) These instructions assume some familiarity with Origami.

And now for the fun…

Step 1: Initial Folds

1

2

3

4
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Step 2: Creating the Hinge

Fold the top edges out (a) while pulling the left side up (b). Press down on the corner (c) and crease sharply so it looks like the zoomed image above.

Rotated 180°. Now we create the other side of the hinge by pushing the bottom edges out (a) while folding the top edges back in (b), creasing the corner (c).

Step 7 shows how to fold the corner so that the hinge can flex easily and still lie flat.

Slowly fold the box top down while pushing the corner flat. This can easily be done using a pencil as illustrated in 7b.
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Step 3: Creating the Lid and Tuck Flap

8. Fold the edge in and create a corner similar to steps 5 and 6.

9. Fold the edge over and crease sharply. This crease should be made so the bottom is now the same length as the top created in the previous step.

10. Your box should now look like this.

Fold the edges in and create a corner similar to steps 5 and 6.
Step 4: Closing the Box

To close the box, fold the flap created in the previous steps down and tuck the edges of the box in as the lid closes.
All photographs and images Copyright © 2006 Jon Beebe. I created these instructions due to the overwhelming response to the article at digg.com about BIG Images 2006 Christmas present to its employees. I wrapped the gift, the Second Generation iPod Shuffle, in this origami box folded out of $100 bills (seen above).

The original box design that this box is based off of is from Andrew Stokers & Sasha Williamson’s origami book titled “FANTASTIC FOLDS, Origami Projects,” published by The Orion Publishing Group in 1997. Instructions on their model, titled “Card Box”, are seen on pages 68-70. If you are looking for more models for boxes this is a fantastic book and I highly recommend it.