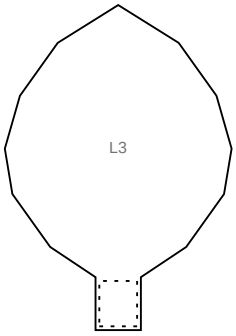
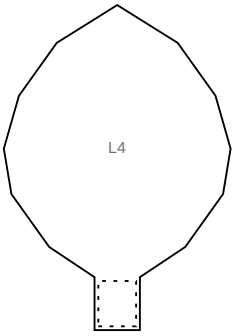
Thankful Tree

thankful-tree / 1.0.0 / Letter / Template page 1

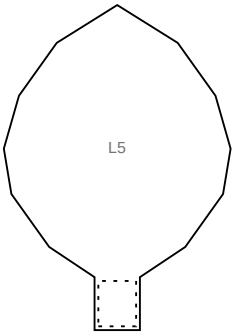
L3 | cut 1
30.00 x 43.00 mm



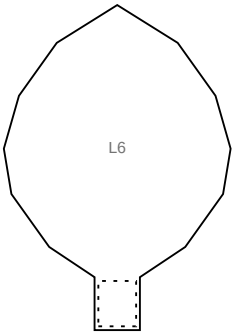
L4 | cut 1
30.00 x 43.00 mm



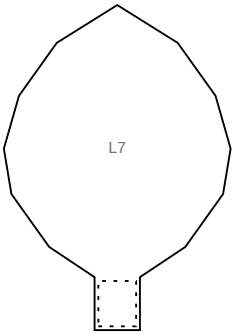
L5 | cut 1
30.00 x 43.00 mm



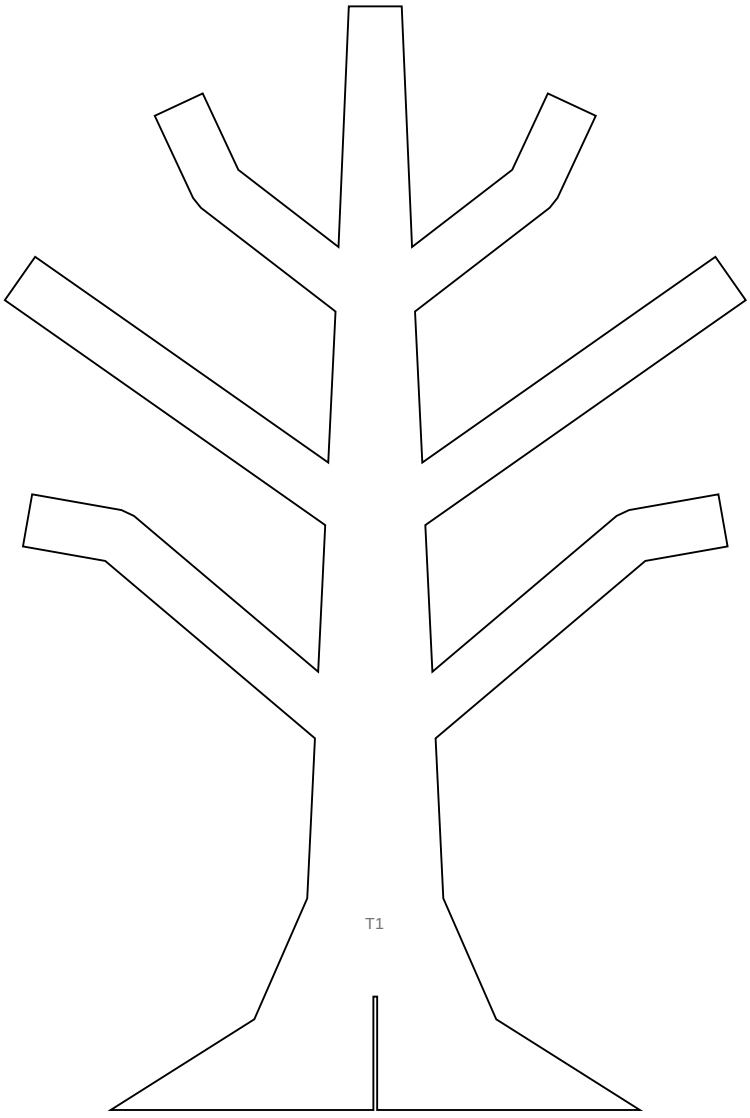
L6 | cut 1
30.00 x 43.00 mm



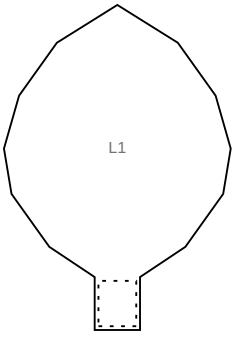
L7 | cut 1
30.00 x 43.00 mm



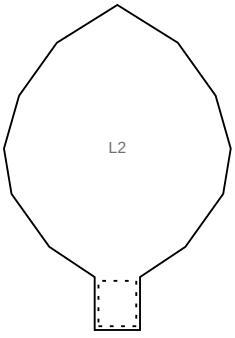
T1 | cut 1
98.02 x 146.00 mm



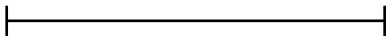
L1 | cut 1
30.00 x 43.00 mm



L2 | cut 1
30.00 x 43.00 mm



Solid: cut | Dashed: valley | Dash-dot: mountain | Dotted: glue



50 mm calibration

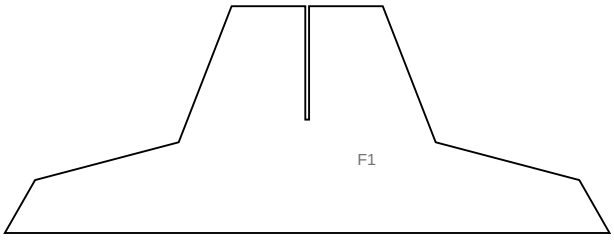
Print at 100% / Actual size. Do not fit to page. Original paper craft template.

snipfold.com/work/thankful-tree

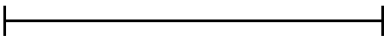
Thankful Tree

thankful-tree / 1.0.0 / Letter / Template page 2

F1 | cut 1
80.00 x 30.00 mm



Solid: cut | Dashed: valley | Dash-dot: mountain | Dotted: glue



50 mm calibration

Print at 100% / Actual size. Do not fit to page. Original paper craft template.

Thankful Tree

thankful-tree / 1.0.0 / Letter / Assembly instructions

Finished size: Approximately 165 x 80 x 182 mm; crossed ground-contact spans 70 x 80 mm

Materials: Stiff flat cardstock for T1 and F1: 300-350 gsm, measured 0.40-0.45 mm thick; Light autumn-colored paper for L1-L7: 120-160 gsm, about 0.15-0.20 mm thick; Scissors; pencil or fine pen; small amount of PVA glue; Adult-use craft knife, cutting mat and metal ruler for the narrow slots; Ruler and preferably calipers; scrap of the same card for a fit test

Step-by-step guide with a 3D model: https://snipfold.com/work/thankful-tree. Not yet test-built in paper by SnipFold: measurements come from the digital model, so check the fit as you go.

Original nine-piece design.

Templates are unfilled black outlines: print on suitable light-colored stock or trace onto it. The seven leaf blades are blank for short handwritten thanks. No folds or hanging strings are needed.

Slots remove real 0.50 mm-wide strips. T1 opens upward from its bottom edge to height 15 mm. F1 opens downward from its top at 30 mm to height 15 mm. Both cuts are 15 mm deep; assembled foot bottoms share z=0.

Use measured 0.40-0.45 mm structural card for 0.05-0.10 mm total slot clearance. GSM alone is not thickness. Test on waste; choose matching card rather than widening slots for thin paper. Office paper is unsuitable for the stand.

All surfaces are exact rigid flat templates, with no simulated paper thickness, friction or flexibility. Leaf midplanes are 0.30 mm in front of the tree to represent paper-layer contact; glue thickness is idealized.

A 70 x 80 mm crossed foot gives a diamond-shaped support footprint. Display indoors on a level surface away from drafts. This is a front-facing flat canopy with a dimensional foot, not a round full-foliage sculpture.

Part inventory (cut each instance once):

T1: Branching tree

F1: Cross foot

L1: Writable autumn leaf

L2: Writable autumn leaf

L3: Writable autumn leaf

L4: Writable autumn leaf

L5: Writable autumn leaf

L6: Writable autumn leaf

L7: Writable autumn leaf

1. Print and measure [T1, F1]: Print at 100% / Actual size and measure the 50 mm ruler. Use the thick stock for T1 and F1. On offcuts first test a 0.50 mm-wide notch with another edge of the same card: it should slide with light friction, without buckling or wobbling. Choose stock in the stated thickness range.

2. Cut the nine pieces [T1, F1, L1, L2, L3, L4, L5, L6, L7]: Cut one of every piece; keep the IDs nearby. Trace L1-L7 onto light autumn paper if using different stocks on a shared page. Preserve each leaf's short square root. An adult cuts the two slot boundary lines and their closed ends with a knife: remove the 0.50 x 15 mm waste from the bottom of T1 and the top of F1. Do not cut beyond the stops. Keep everything flat.

3. Mark seven small thanks [L1, L2, L3, L4, L5, L6, L7]: Write a name or a few thankful words in each broad leaf blade before attaching it; keep the square root clear. The central writing area is about 22 x 18 mm. Use a fine pen and let the ink dry. The preview colors are suggestions, and the PDF deliberately leaves the blades blank.

4. Insert the cross foot [T1, F1]: Hold F1 upright on the table, top slot facing up. Hold T1 upright above it, with its plane at 90 degrees to F1 and its bottom slot over F1's top slot. Lower T1 straight down until the two slot stops meet at height 15 mm and both bottom edges touch the table. Do not invert either piece. If tight, withdraw and remove burrs; never force the branch tips.

5. Attach the left leaves [L1, L2, L3]: Choose the front of the tree. Apply a very thin coat of glue to the back of each dotted root patch. L1 goes on the lowest left branch, L2 on the middle left branch, and L3 on the upper left branch. Overlap the final 7 mm of each branch with the 7 mm square-ended leaf root, blade pointing outward along the branch. The wide blade starts exactly at the branch tip; all leaves stay in the tree plane. Pinch only the root until set.

6. Attach crown and right leaves [L4, L5, L6, L7]: Glue L4 upright onto the top of the main trunk with the same 7 mm root overlap. Add L5 to the upper right branch, L6 to the middle right branch and L7 to the lowest right branch. Match the left-side arrangement, keep every written face toward the front, and let the glue dry fully. Only the dotted 5 x 6 mm patches need glue.

7. Check and display [T1, F1]: Look down at the stand: T1 and F1 must make a plus sign. All four radial foot edges must rest on a flat table with the tree upright. A raised edge means incomplete insertion or warped card. If the joint is loose, remake the structural pieces in matching thicker stock. Check stability gently before displaying.