

Christmas Star

It is important to have paper strips cut exactly, preferably with a paper cutter (or use stiff ribbon as you see here). You need 4 strips with the ends trimmed to points:

2 Sided Star: Length = 24 times width:

$$1/4'' \times 24 = 6'' \quad 1/2'' \times 24 = 12''$$

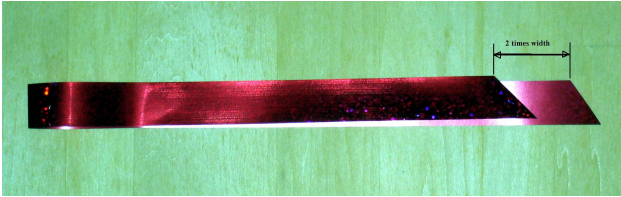
$$5/8'' \times 24 = 15'' \quad 3/4'' \times 24 = 18''$$

1 Sided Star: Length = 18.5 times width: (See Note at the end)

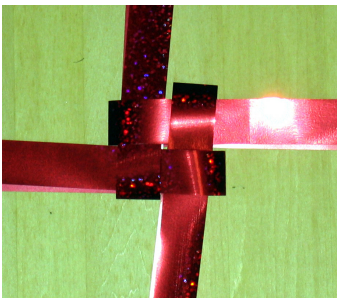
$$1/4'' \times 18.5 = 4.5'' \quad 1/2'' \times 18.5 = 9.5''$$

$$5/8'' \times 18.5 = 11.5'' \quad 3/4'' \times 18.5 = 14''$$

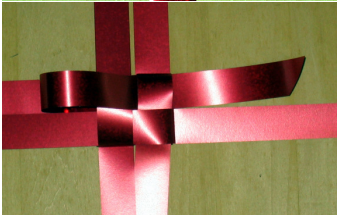
***Also offset ends by 8 widths**



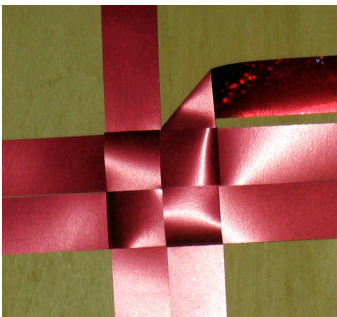
Step 1: Fold each strip in half: offset the ends by 2 times the width.



Step 2: Weave the 4 strips together to form a square: assemble so the points are to the outside.



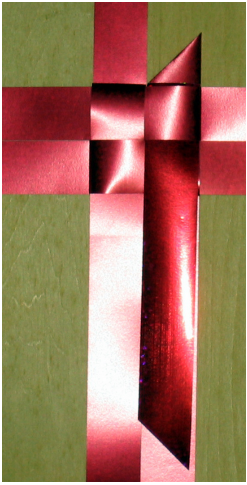
Step 3: With the longest side of the strips up, fold the top strip back over the square. Continue folding the top strip back over the square; the last strip needs to be woven under the fold created by the first strip. You now have a tight square with 2 strips coming out each side that is the base for star.



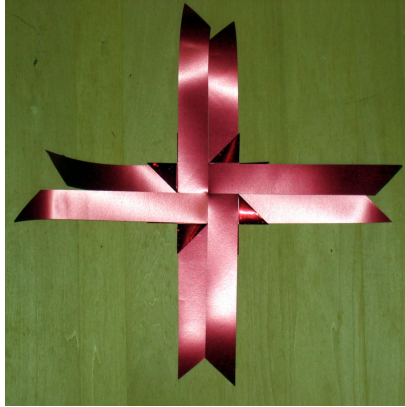
Step 4: To form the first point: the top strip is folded back under itself and parallel to the 2 strips on that side. Crease it firmly.



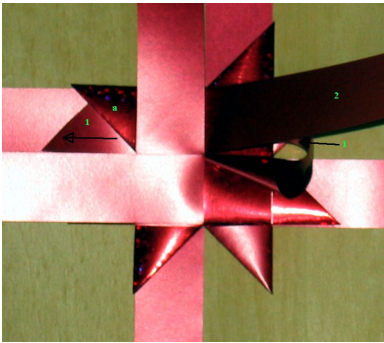
Step 5: Fold the strip back up and back down parallel to itself; leave a gap of 4 or 5 thicknesses so it won't bunch up in the next step.



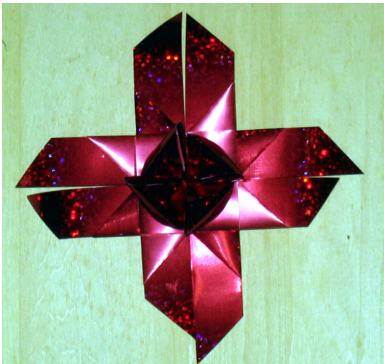
Step 6: Fold the strip over to form a point and weave it back under the loop it came from. Continue around to form the other 3 points. Turn over and repeat for the remaining 4 points.



You will now have 8 points with 2 strips coming out each side.



Step 7: Turn a top strip back under itself (to the outside) and under the adjacent strip and pull it through (enlarged picture shows strip 1 folding back under itself, under strip 2 and out point a). When done correctly there will be a point and the same side will be on top.



Step 8: Continue with the remaining 3 points; turn over and finish the 4 points on the other side. You want to finish with 8 points; 4 on each side.



Step 9: Trim off the excess paper (ribbon) from the outside points. I like to pull each strip firmly while trimming; that way I get a firm tight star.



Step 10: If you want to hang the finished star on your tree, put a thread through one point of the star and form a loop as a hanger. Try making stars with 2 or 4 complimentary colors for interesting effects.

Note: If you only finish one side of the star in Step 8, trim the excess from the unfinished side and apply a double stick foam tape you have a unique Christmas Package decoration.