Great White Shark by Joseph Wu

This model was commissioned by the New York Times, and appeared in the business section of the Sunday, April 11, 1999, edition. It was designed on April 7-8, 1999. The tail construction borrows heavily from John Montroll’s blue shark that appears in Origami Sea Life. The body is based on my orca model.

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1. Precrease into fifths.

2. Precrease.

3. Collapse.

4. Mountain fold two corners under.

5. Precrease.

6. Precrease top layer only.

7. Precrease.

8. Precrease. (This step can be omitted.)
9. Grid precreasing complete.

10. Pleat

11. Precrease through all three layers.

12. Zoom in.

13. Squash one side.

14. Petal fold.

15. Valley fold flap down.

16. Tuck the flap inside.

17. Fold flap back.
18. Repeat steps 13-17 on the other side.

19. Zoom out.

20. Mountain fold the tip behind.

21. Fold in half, forming the dorsal fin at the same time. The sides will not lay flat.

22. [Enlarged view.] Collapse the near and far sides against the body.

23. Inside reverse fold the innermost layer.

24. Wrap a layer around to the front. Repeat behind.

25. Fold the near side up. Repeat behind.

26. Inside reverse fold. Repeat behind.
27. Fold corner up. Repeat behind.

28. Precrease the new flap. Repeat behind.

29. Pull out a single layer.

30. Fold the top layer down towards the head. The rest of the side will not lie flat.

31. Fold the long flap down in half, flattening the side.

32. Repeat steps 30-31 behind.

33. Open sink. Be careful since it is not possible to precrease this step. Repeat behind.

34. Pull one layer back out. Repeat behind.

35. Closed sink. The sink must take place along the outermost layer. Steps 34-35 are optional.

36. Squash fold. Repeat behind.

37. Crimp the nose (one layer only).

38. Fold the two sides of the head down to cover the crimp.
39. Precrease through both layers on one side. Repeat behind.

40. Inside reverse fold. Model will not lie flat.

41. Inside reverse fold. Model will now lie flat.

42. Repeat steps 40-41 behind.

43. Bring up two layers from behind.

44. Inside reverse fold the two hidden corners.

45. Fold the top layers back down, incorporating the outside reverse fold in the top layer.

46. Fold the small corner under. Repeat behind.

47. Fold the thick layer inside. There will be a small squash under the back fin. Repeat behind.

48. Make three mountain folds to lock the loose flaps. Repeat behind.

49. Inside reverse fold the back fin. Separate the layers as evenly as possible. Repeat behind.

50. Fold the back fin down, spreading the small pocket shown. Repeat behind.
51. Valley fold the ‘shoulder’ down, incorporating the inside reverse fold to form the front fin. Repeat behind.

52. Crimp the top of the tail, and inside reverse fold the bottom of the tail.

53. Pull out a layer from both sides of the tail. Flatten the front of the head (the model will become 3D).

54. Mountain fold the loose corner under the head inside. Fold the front fins out sideways from the body. Round the body.

55. The completed great white shark.