

The Star Dome

Instructions

You will need for assembly:

- *small scissors or a craft knife*
- *a ruler, a blunt knife or an empty biro to groove the folding lines*
- *some all purpose glue (in a tube, not a stick)*

Assembly in five easy steps:

Step 1: Cut out the six parts. On each part, groove the two dashed lines (between the yellow and blue parts, and above “Constellations in the southern sky”) and fold them backwards.

Step 2: Glue the top of **Part 2** onto the top flap of **Part 1**, then carry on with the other parts as indicated on the top flap of each of them. All glue areas are marked in light grey. Once the tops of all six parts are connected, a small gap remains between **Part 6** and **Part 1**. To close this gap, bend the six parts into a shallow bowl with the stars on the inside. Now you can glue the last of the top flaps in place.

Step 3: Now glue all remaining flaps behind the neighbouring part to form a hollow hemisphere with the stars and constellations on the inside.

Step 4: Fold the blue rim parts outwards and connect them with the glue flaps to form a complete hexagonal rim around the hemisphere. Now the Star Dome looks like a small brimmed hat.

Step 5: Find the yellow part of the rim that has „1. Where are north and south?“ printed on it and fold it back completely. Glue it onto the back of the blue part to form a double-layered rim. Do the same with the neighbouring yellow part with the text „2. Which constellations are now visible in the south?“. Carry on folding and glueing each of the remaining parts until the double-layered rim is complete.

Congratulations! You have finished the construction of your Star Dome. We wish you dark and clear nights all year round for your astronomical observations and many happy hours finding and identifying the constellations.

How to make the stars in your Star Dome twinkle:

Find 4 or 5 needles or pins of different thicknesses (sewing needle, fixing pin, darning needle, ...) and prick holes in the stars. Start with the thickest needle and the brightest star: Sirius in Canis Major. The fainter the star, the thinner the needle you should use. The faintest stars to prick holes are depicted with a small five-pointed symbol ★. If you now hold the Star Dome up to a light source, the stars will twinkle.