

Chapter 5: Pollen Grain

The Story

How could I portray plants? The complex shapes of flowers do not lend themselves readily to simple solids. Pollen grains, however are another matter. Strictly speaking, pollen grains are not perfect dodecahedrons, but the twelve faces of *Pollen Grain* allowed me to portray twelve kinds of flower, each blooming in a month of the year ranging from hydrangea in June to camellia in December (at least in the part of the Earth I inhabit -- Japan).

Apologies to folk who suffer pollen allergies. If it is any comfort the plants portrayed are probably innocent as they produce heavy pollen in flowers that are attractive to insects or birds as well as to humans. It is the lighter pollen of wind-pollinated species such as rice and Japanese cedar that tends to literally get up the nose.

Time needed: 30 minutes

Assembly

1. Equipment needed

- Net and Blueprint (following pages)
- Cutter knife
- Scissors
- Metal ruler
- Cutting board
- Double-sided tape or Glue

Note: Double-sided tape is easier.

- 2. Score (_____) and cut out (____) the net.
 - Score and cut all the lines that run the length of the net first.
 - Turn the net a little and cut the next set of lines.
 - Repeat until all the lines have been scored or cut.

4. Gently fold all the scored lines, starting with the tabs.



5. Peel the backing tape from the tabs.







3. Apply double-sided tape to all the tabs.



6. Join the tabs to the edges in numbered order.





The complete "Pollen Grain"



A Desk Calendar

Pollen Grain has twelve faces, each one featuring a flower for each month. It thus lends itself very easily to the production of a desk calendar.

If you would like to make this calendar please use the additional net. A3 size or larger is better for readability.



Sources

- I sketched my own photographs or the flowers themselves.
- http://www.mathsisfun.com/geometry/construct-pentagon.html teaches one how to construct a regular pentagon.



The Desk Calendar Net Cy Winskell 2013/0315 FOR CALENDAR 2015年 June 日月火水水木金 土 Sun Mon Tue Wed Thu Fri Sal 78910111 1011 11213 141516 17892 18920 212223 2425 2627 282930 POLLEN GRAIN 91