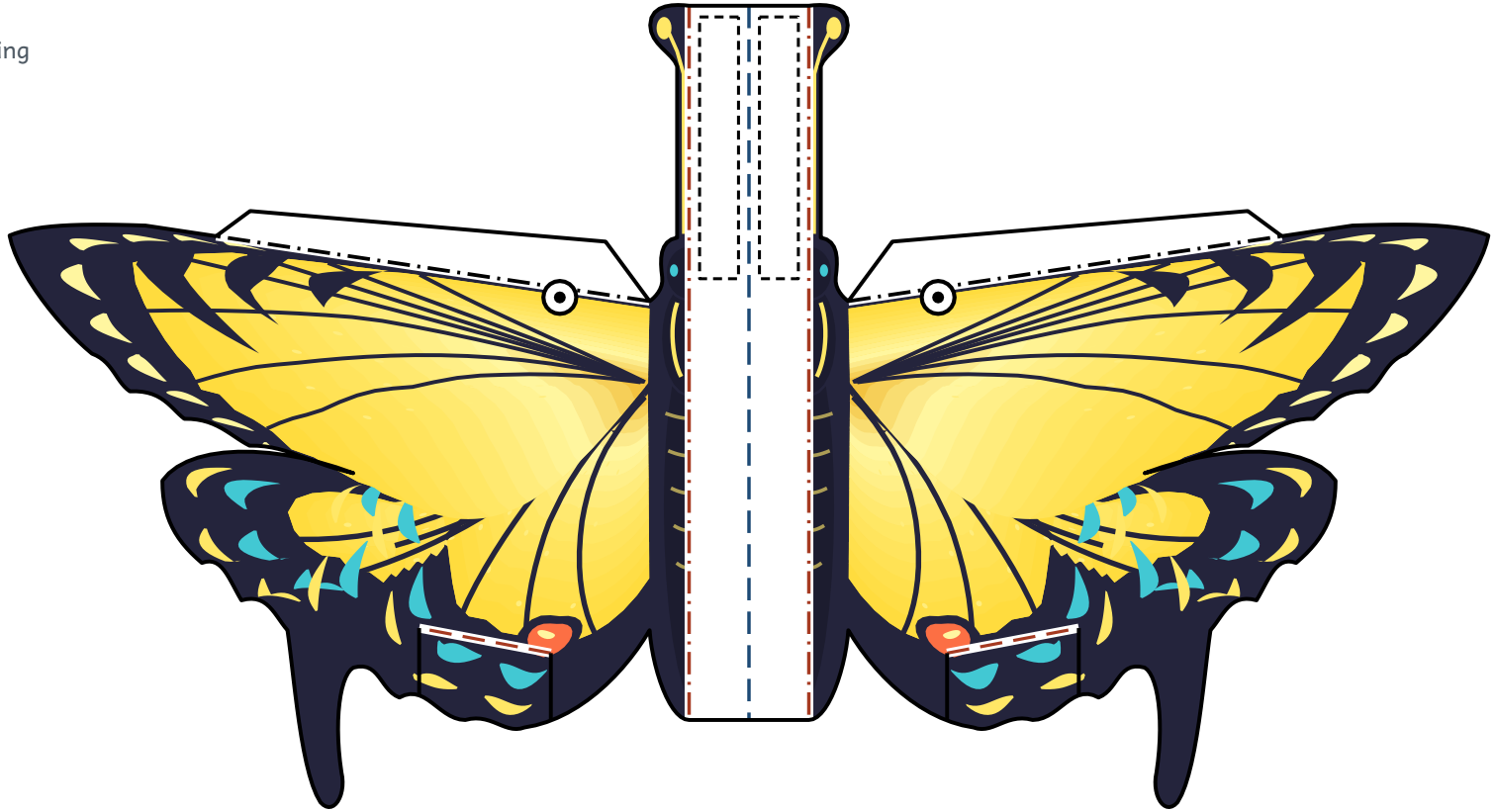
Open Flight K2

Swallowtail

176 mm finished span

K2 costa glider · Fold the leading edge under each wing



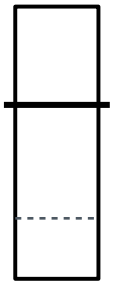
Cut — Center valley — Wing and costa mountains — Edge strip folds under — Clip zone — Balance dot

50 mm Print at 100% / actual size, landscape. Measure this line before cutting.

Paper and clips

120 g/m² uncoated printer paper or light card (100–140 works).
The wings run along the long side of the sheet. Most office paper is stiffer that way.
2 standard metal paper clips, 33 mm long.
Estimate for 176 mm on 120 g/m² with two clips: balance 39 mm behind the nose, glide about 2.7 m/s. Not yet measured.

Tip-height strip



wingtip

Cut out. Stand it on the table beside a wingtip. 15 mm above the body.

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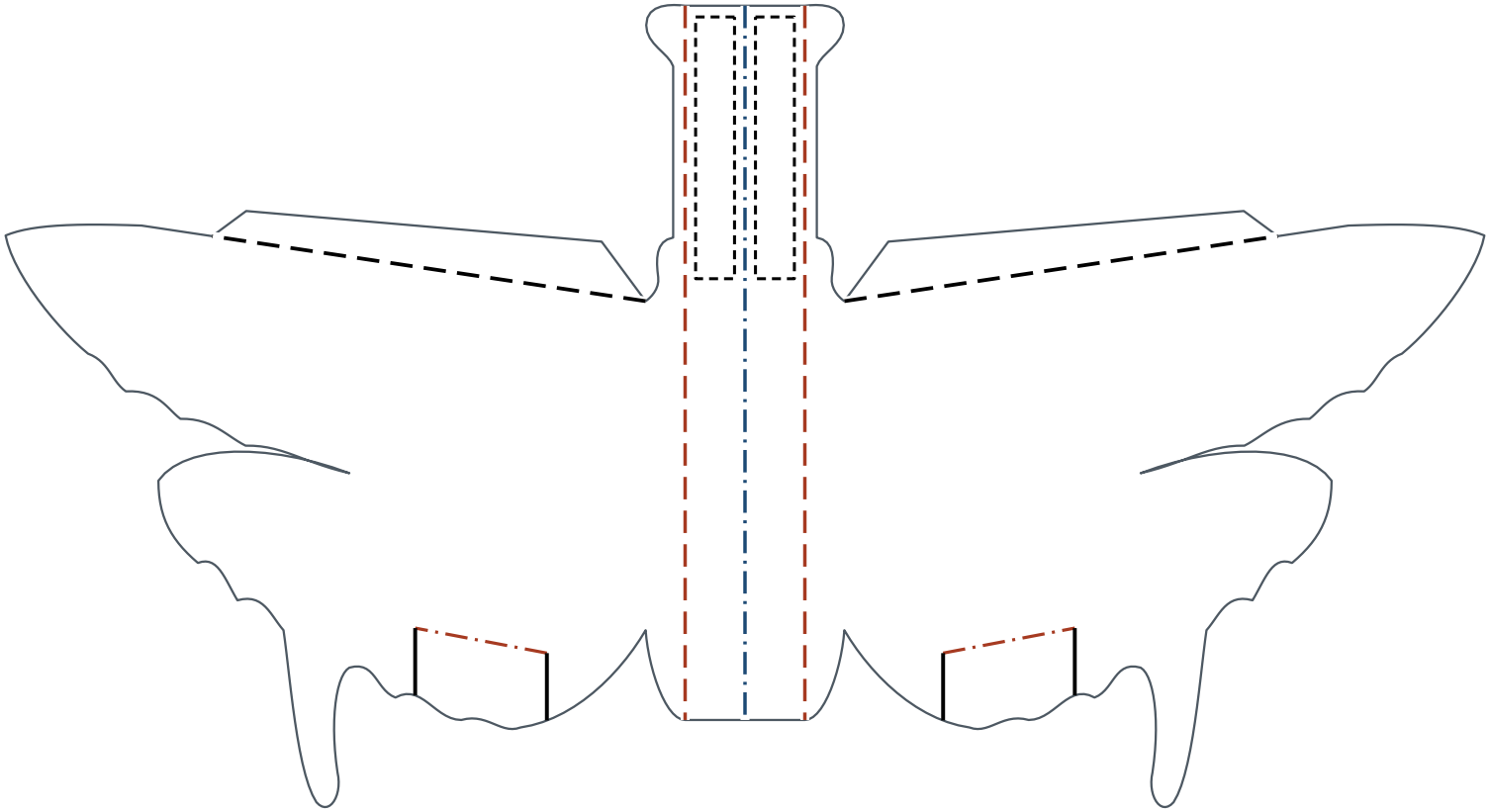
Swallowtail · Back of the sheet



Print both pages double-sided, flipping on the short edge, to see the fold lines on both faces.
Folds that are valleys on the front are mountains here.
Hold the sheet to a window: each pair of crosses should overlap.

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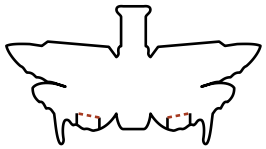
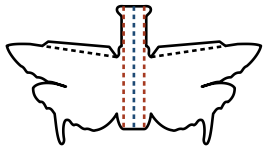
Build, balance and trim · Swallowtail



1. Cut

Cut the outside line, including the edge strips and the antenna clubs. Cut the four short slits at the back of the hindwings.

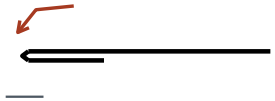
One piece. Each hindwing has a tab between two slits.



2. Score

Lay a ruler on each dashed line and press along it with an empty ballpoint pen.

Every fold line shows a groove. Thick paper now folds cleanly.



3. Fold the costa

Fold each edge strip under its wing along its dashed line. Press it flat.

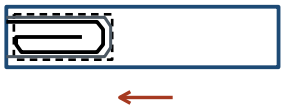
The front edge is straight and doubled, like the costa vein of a real wing.



4. Fold the body

Fold in half on the dashed centre line, colors inside. Then fold each wing back out on its dash-dot line.

The two body layers hang underneath and touch.



5. Clip the head

Slide both clips onto the head over the two body layers, one on top of the other, all the way to the nose.

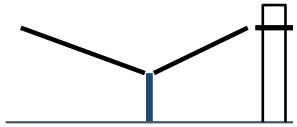
The clips stay inside the dashed clip box.



6. Balance

Rest the wings on two fingertips under the ringed dots. Tail drops: add a clip. Nose drops: slide a clip back, or remove one.

It stays level on your fingers.



7. Set the V

Lift both wings into a shallow V. Look from the tail and compare each wingtip with the strip.

Both tips are the same height.



8. Launch and trim

Push it smoothly forward, nose level, about as fast as a jog.
Dives: bend both tabs up 1–2 mm.
Swoops up and stalls: flatten them.

Turns left: bend the right tab up a little. Turns right: the left tab.

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