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## Snowflakes

Posted by carolina chrissy - 2008/07/08 12:31

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I'd like to tell you about how I came to create my snowflakes. Maria tutors my daughters in Math and while I was at her house, I noticed that she had some snowflakes hanging up. It reminded me of the snowflakes I created in the past 10 years using my family's and friends names. Back then, while cutting snowflakes, it came to me that if I could cut around my name using interesting characters, I could make a really cool snowflake. Thus, my idea was born.

I made Maria one that day and she cut it out. She absolutely loved the result. I'm so happy that she's making a computer program so others can share in this fun activity. I can't wait to see the end result.

My background is in drafting for the plumbing trade. I love all types of lettering and for Maria's name I used a type of lettering that looks more hippy-ish and is what I used to copy in the 70's.

I love the internet! Here's the type of lettering I used-the second link is my inspiration:

(<http://www.sonypictures.com/classics/crumb/ks/art.html>)

(<http://www.postergeist.com/posters/scans/truckin.jpg>)

If you'd like me to hand make snowflakes for you, contact me at [chrissyakers@yahoo.com](mailto:chrissyakers@yahoo.com) to discuss your ideas.

Happy cutting!

Chrissy Akers

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## Re:Snowflakes

Posted by MariaD - 2008/07/20 10:27

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Chrissy, I am happy to let you know we started to develop a module for your snowflakes! Here a few pictures from the planning!

A simple 6-fold snowflake for Lizzy:

[http://www.naturalmath.com/images/blog/snowflake\\_example.png](http://www.naturalmath.com/images/blog/snowflake_example.png)

Starting screen: select a fold, name and describe your snowflake:

<http://www.naturalmath.com/images/blog/snowflake%20starting%20screen.png>

A printout screen for 14-folds, for people who want to make a paper snowflake:

<http://www.naturalmath.com/images/blog/snowflake%20instructions.png>

Thank you for the idea!

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## Re:Snowflakes

Posted by Minos - 2008/07/23 06:49

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Impressive=)

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## Re:Snowflakes

Posted by cyberdonkey - 2008/07/29 09:06

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Good Idea!

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## Re:Snowflakes

Posted by MariaD - 2008/10/09 17:49

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This component is in the closed beta now. It makes pictures kind of like this:

[http://www.naturalmath.com/images/snowflakes/snowflake\\_12.png](http://www.naturalmath.com/images/snowflakes/snowflake_12.png)

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## Re: Snowflakes

Posted by FriendlyAnil - 2010/03/16 07:59

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Snowflakes are conglomerations of frozen ice crystals which fall through the Earth's atmosphere. They begin as snow crystals which develop when microscopic supercooled cloud droplets freeze. Snowflakes come in a variety of sizes and shapes. Complex shapes emerge as the flake moves through differing temperature and humidity regimes. Individual snowflakes are nearly unique in structure. Types which fall in the form of a ball due to melting and refreezing, rather than a flake, are known as graupel, with ice pellets and snow grains as examples of graupel.

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## Re: Snowflakes

Posted by banku111 - 2010/07/27 14:10

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To see why snowflakes look like they do, consider the life history of a single snow crystal: the story begins up in a cloud, when a minute cloud droplet first freezes into a tiny particle of ice. As water vapor starts condensing on its surface, the ice particle quickly develops facets, thus becoming a small hexagonal prism. For a while it keeps this simple faceted shape as it grows.

As the crystal becomes larger, however, branches begin to sprout from the six corners of the hexagon. Since the atmospheric conditions (e.g. temperature and humidity) are nearly constant across the small crystal, the six budding arms all grow out at roughly the same rate.

While it grows, the crystal is blown to and fro inside the clouds, so the temperature it sees changes randomly with time. But the crystal growth depends strongly on temperature, thus the six arms of the snow crystal each change their growth with time. And because all six arms see the same conditions at the same times, they all grow about the same way. The end result is a complex, branched structure that is also six-fold symmetric...

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