

Canon World Papercraft Mini-book

**Buildings of the World Series Japan
The Great Buddha of Todaiji Temple**

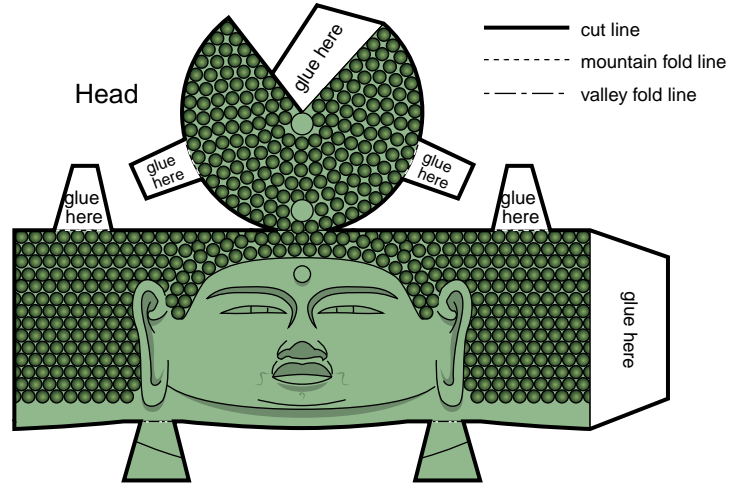
The construction of the Great Buddha of Todaiji Temple began in A.D. 745, and the work of gilding, carving, and constructing the backdrop continued for about 26 years. After being repaired many times over the years, the statue is now 14.98 meters (49 feet 2 inches) tall. However, it is thought that it was originally over 16 meters (52.5 feet) tall. This great statue, built over 1200 years ago, is a cast Buddha statue without peer in the world.



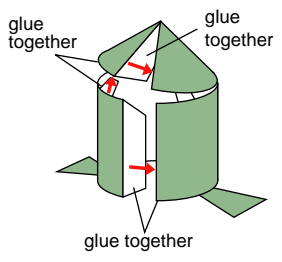
*Cut out the card above and save it. You can collect the cards from each of the Papercraft projects to make your own mini-book!

★Directions

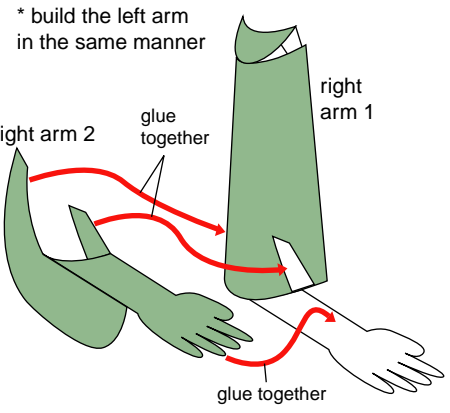
Print out pages 1 through 4, cut out each individual part along their cut lines, and fold along the mountain and valley fold lines.



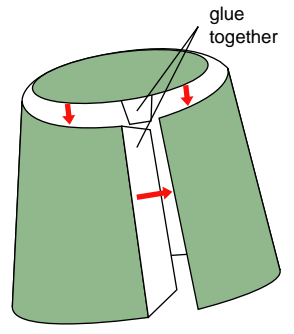
1. Build the head



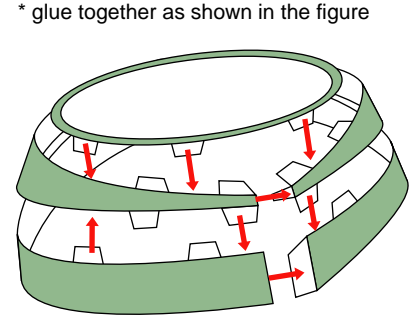
2. Build the arms



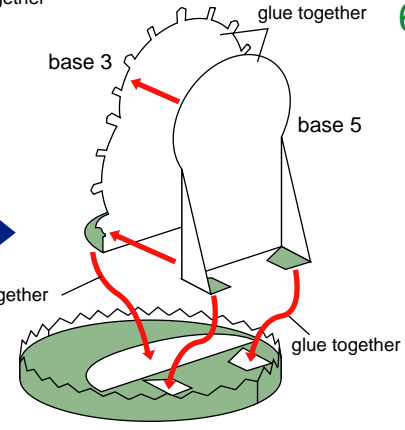
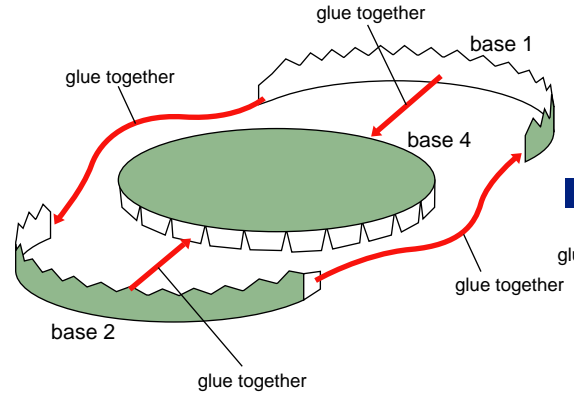
3. Build the upper body



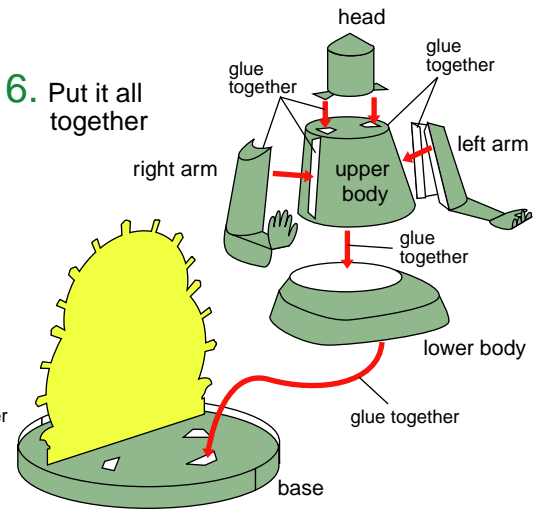
4. Build the lower body



5. Build the base



6. Put it all together

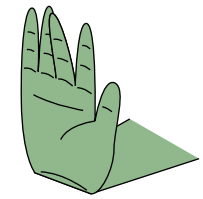


About the hand positions

The hand positions of Buddha statues have a variety of meanings. The meanings of the hand positions of the Great Buddha of Todaiji Temple are explained below. Bend the hands and fingers of your Papercraft sculpture into the positions shown below.

Right hand

This position indicates delivering people by taking away their fears.

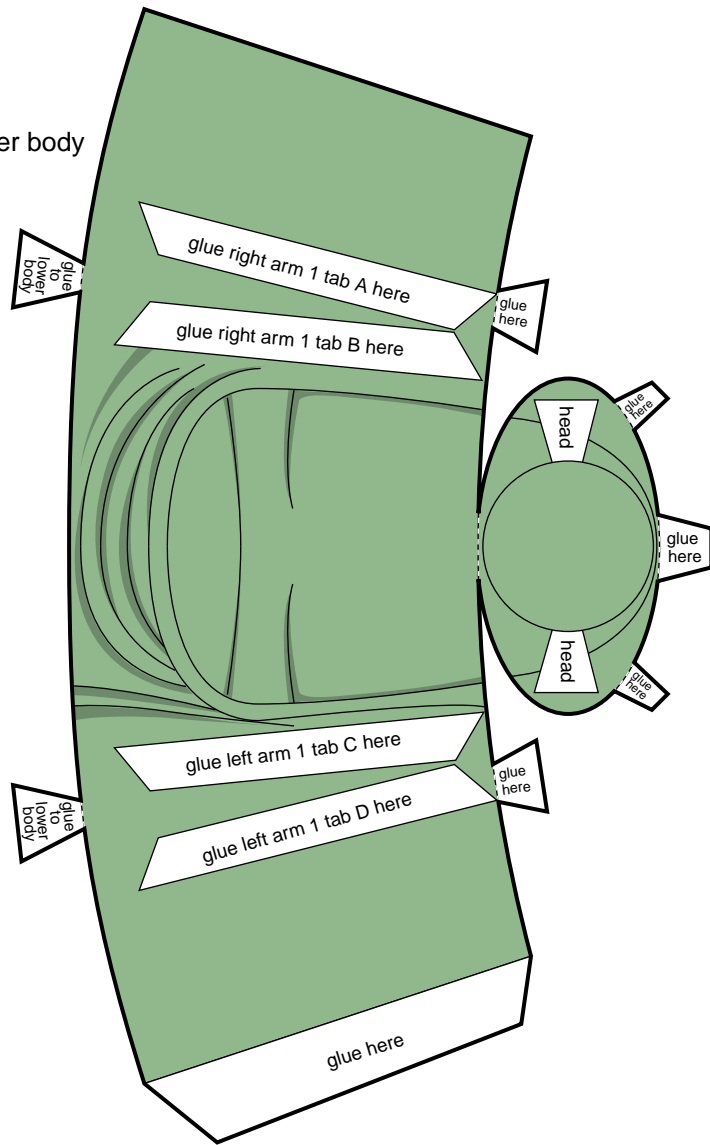


Left hand

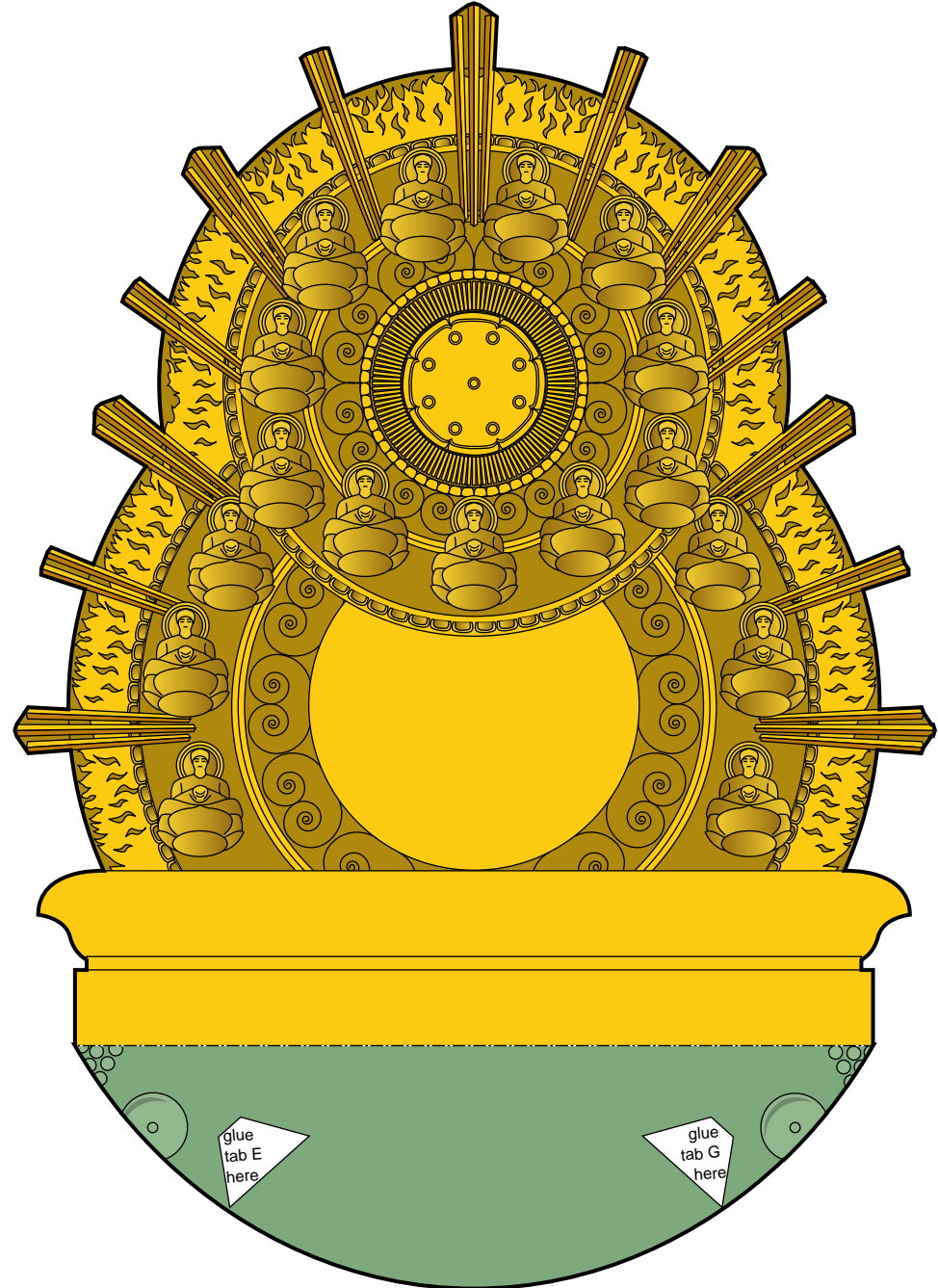
his position indicates granting people's desires and giving them blessings.



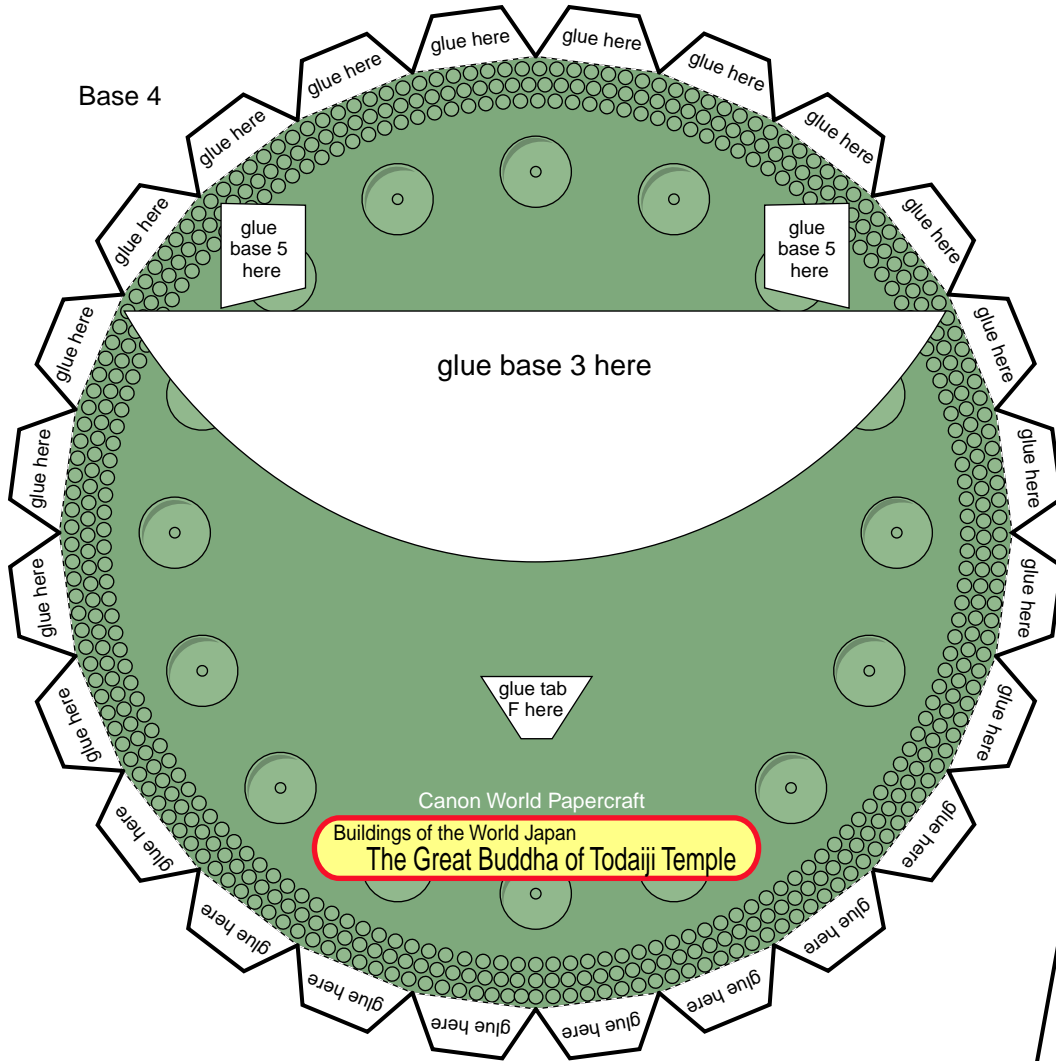
Upper body



Base 3



- cut line
- - - - - mountain fold line
- - - - - valley fold line



- cut line
- - - mountain fold line
- - - valley fold line

Base 5

Great Buddha of Todaiji

Constructed:	A.D. 752
Height:	14.98 meters (49 feet 2 inches)
Weight of bronze:	about 380 tons
Weight of gold:	48.4 kg (about 106.5 pounds)

Casting of the Great Buddha

The Great Buddha of Todaiji Temple is too large to be cast all at one time. So, the statue was made with eight separate castings, as shown in the figure below.

First, a prototype model of the statue was built around a wooden framework. After the outer mold was made from this model, the model was then shaved down to a degree corresponding to the thickness of the bronze to form the inner mold.

Then molten bronze was poured in to cast the lowest portion. When that was done, the lower portion was filled with earth, and then the next section was cast.

This process was repeated eight times to form this gigantic statue.

