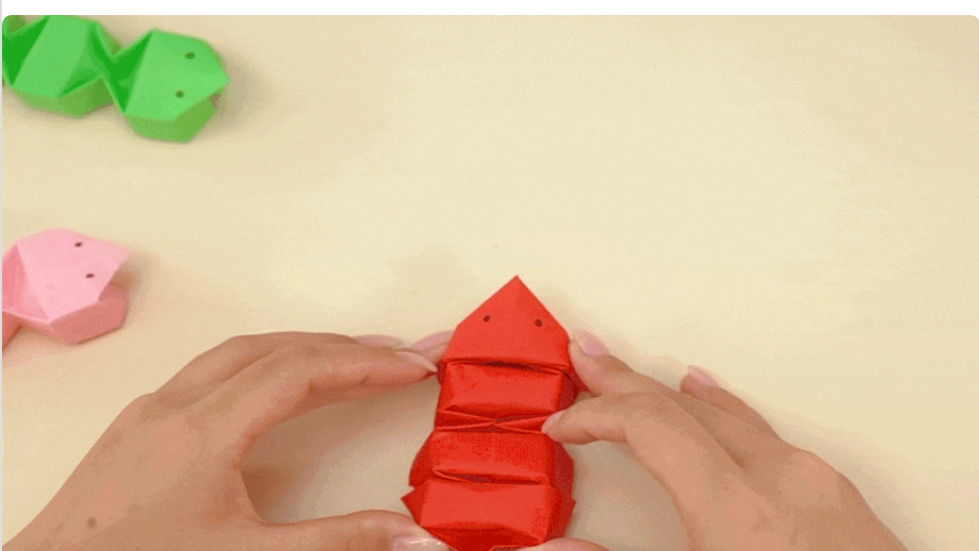


Wiggly Bouncy Snake! A Fun Craft for All Ages!

October 22, 2024 / DIY / STEM Activities / Marvelous Mechanics Motion / Age 6 - 8 / Bouncing Origami Snake



Let's enter the wonderful world of origami! Make your own super-elastic bouncing little snake and compete with friends and family to see whose snake can bounce the farthest!

- Age: 6-8
- Time: Less than 30 minutes

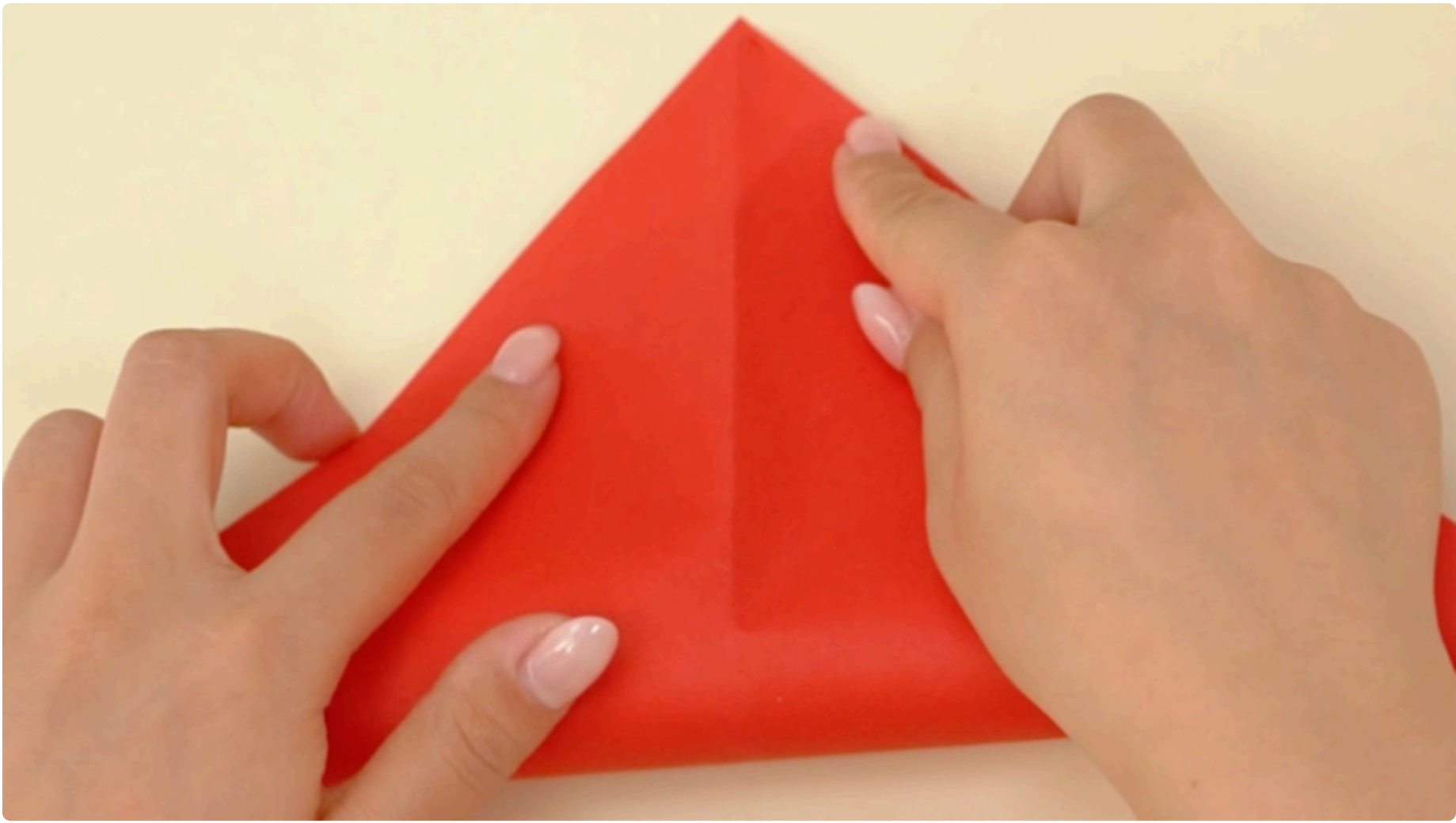
Materials Needed:

Coloured card

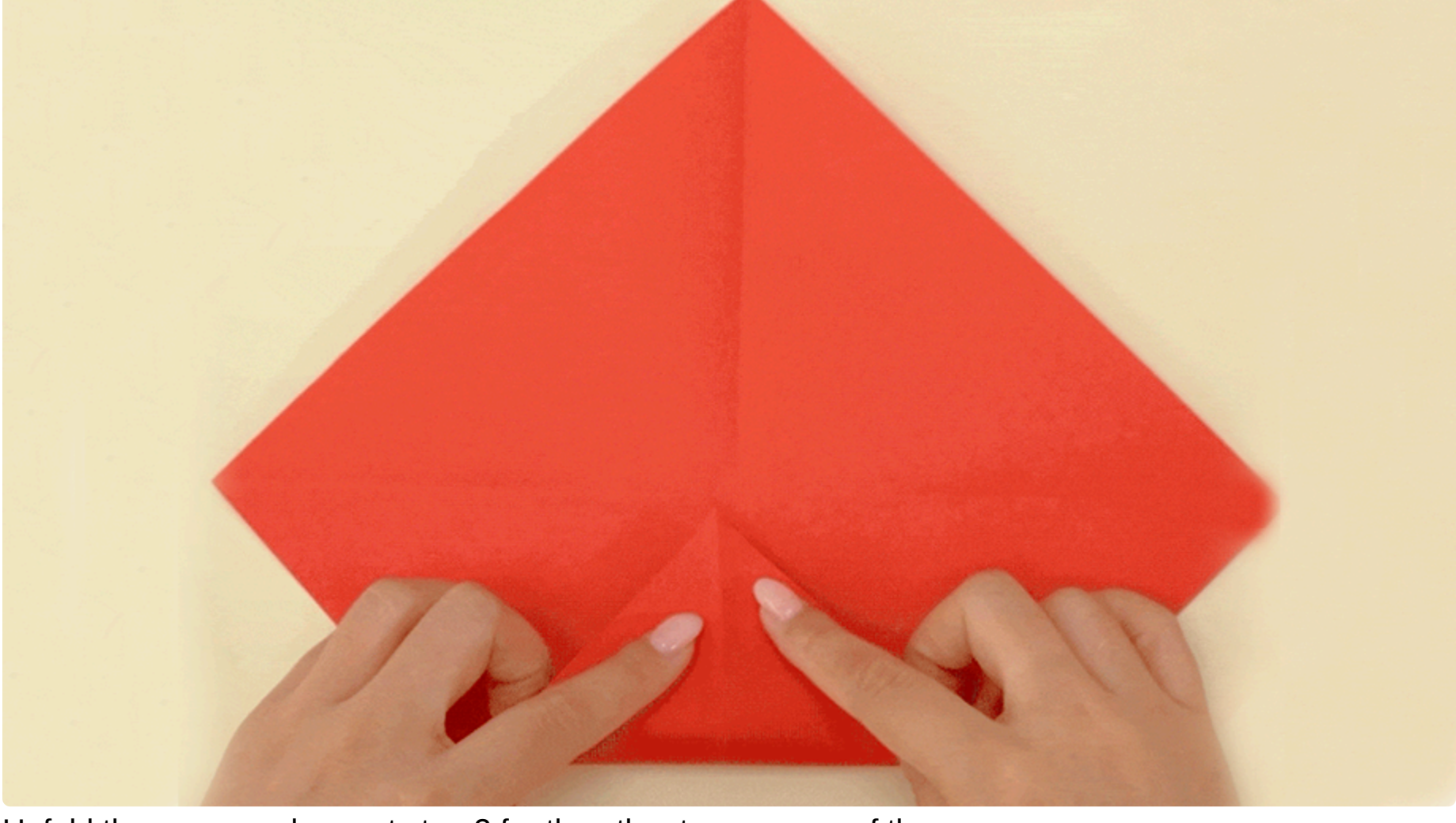


Step-by-Step Instructions:

1. Cut out a square from the coloured card (you'll need a ruler, or you can fold the short edge of the card to align with the long edge and cut). Fold the square card along both diagonals and unfold, leaving two diagonal creases on the card.



2. Fold one corner of the card upwards, aligning the corner with the intersection of the two diagonal lines. Fold the remaining part in half twice. Repeat for the other half.



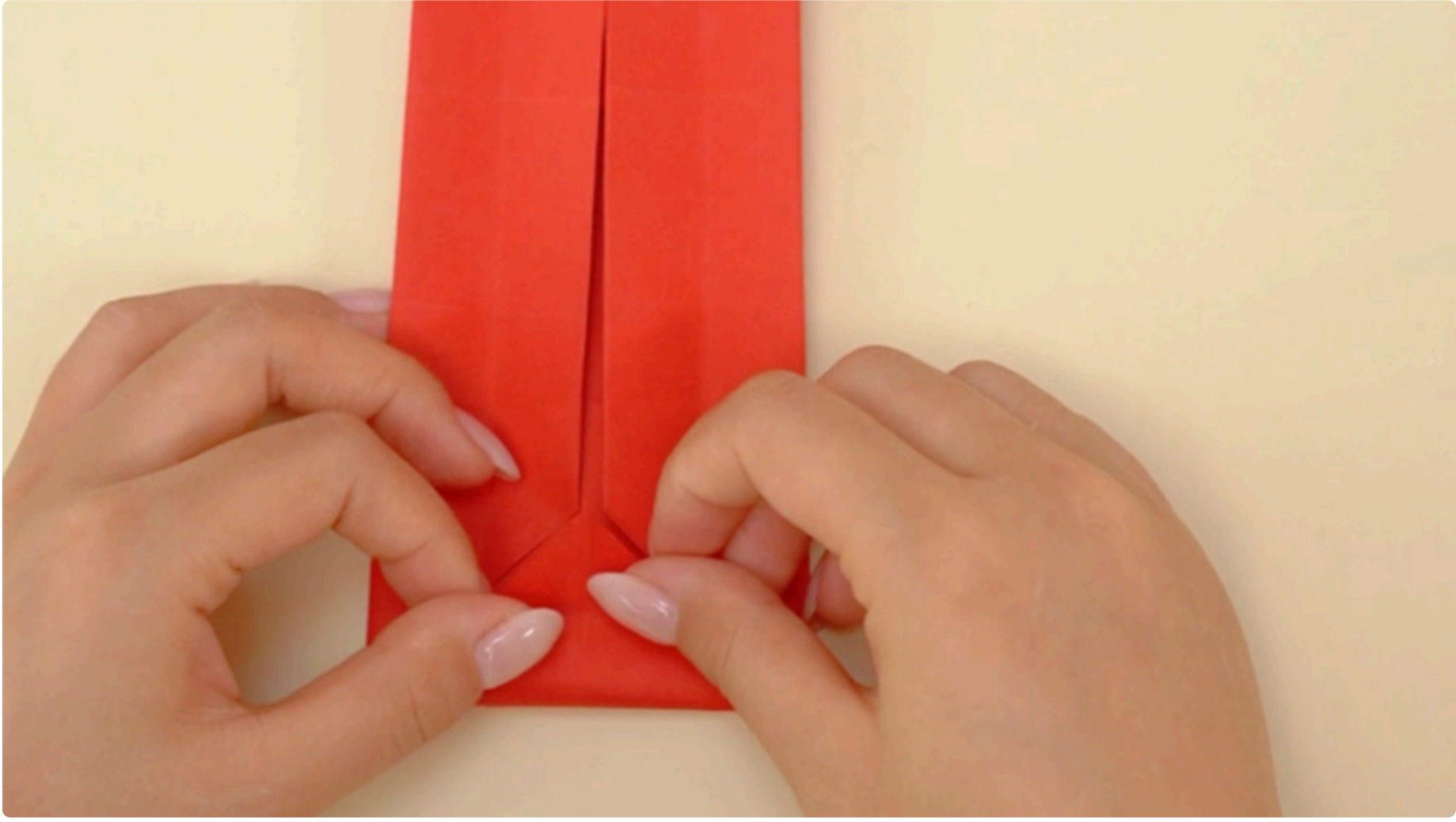
3. Unfold the paper and repeat step 2 for the other two corners of the square.



4. Open up both sides of the folded paper backwards, unfolding just one layer.



5. At this point, you'll notice two triangular areas at both ends of the paper. Choose one triangular area and fold it up to align with the intersection of the folds on both sides.



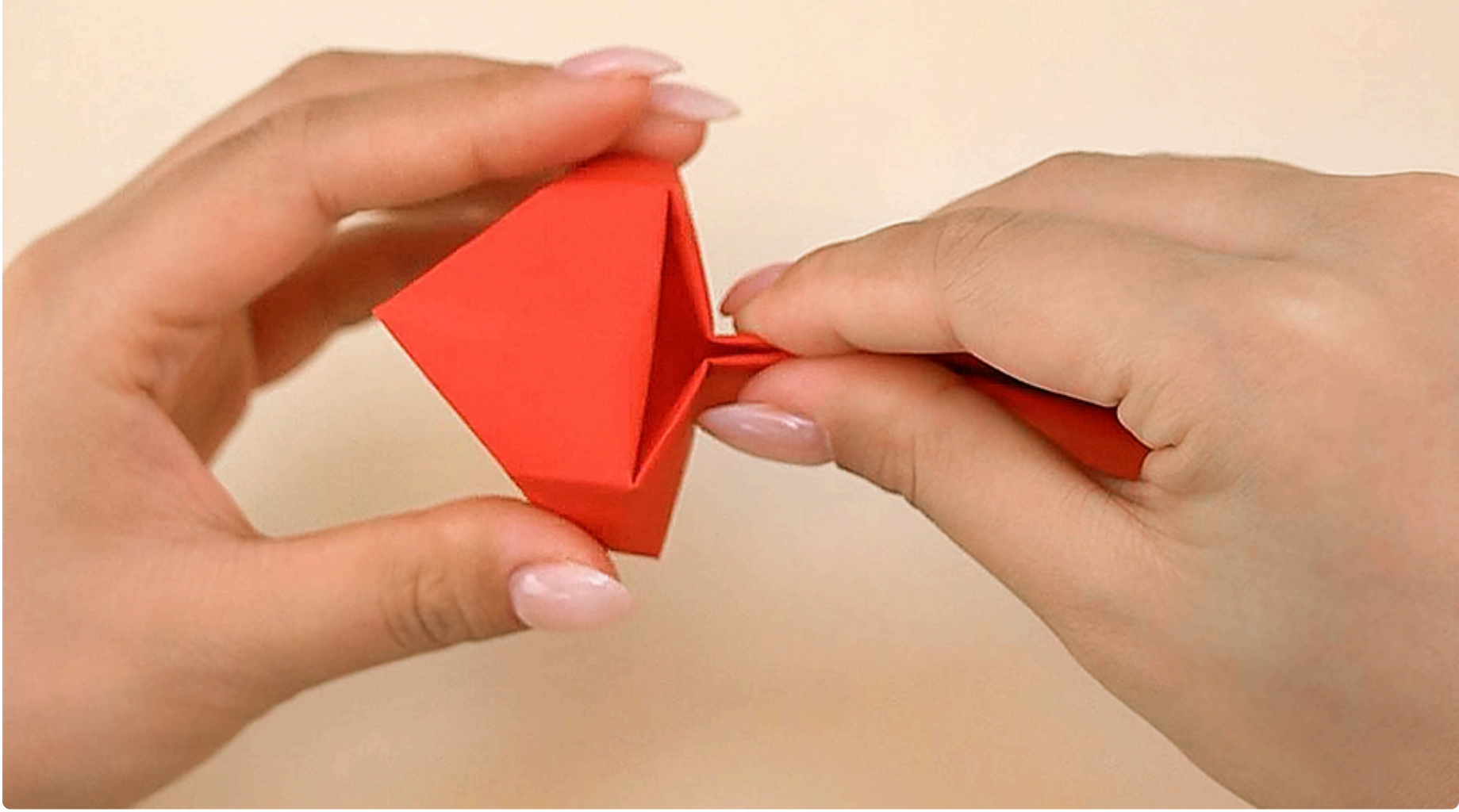
6. Lift up both sides of the paper along the creases to give the paper a three-dimensional effect.



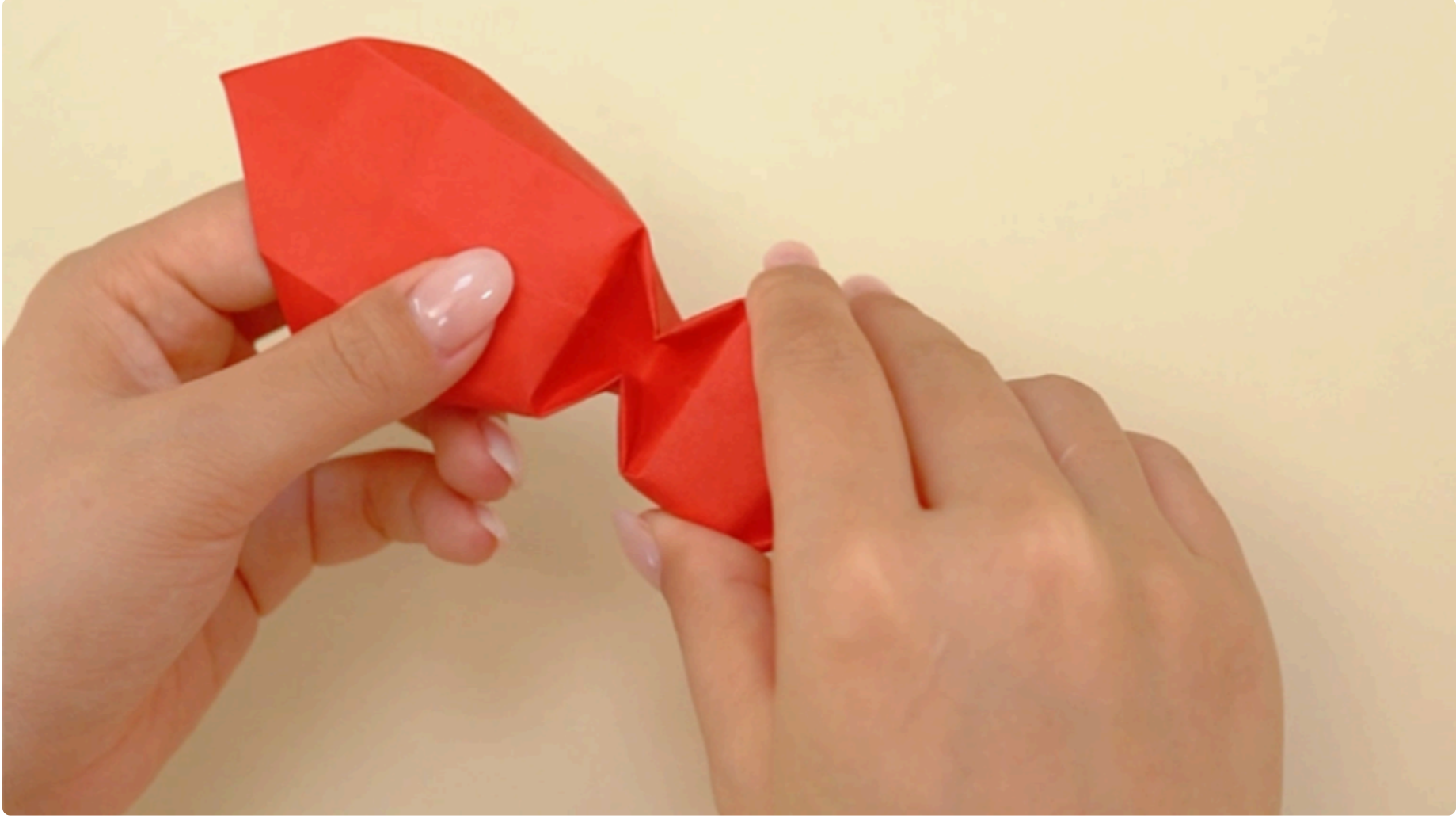
7. Turn the paper over. At this stage, the snake's head and tail are done. You'll see many rectangular creases and a centre line on the paper. Starting from the tail end, push the paper inwards along the centre line, stopping at the first rectangular crease near the snake's head.



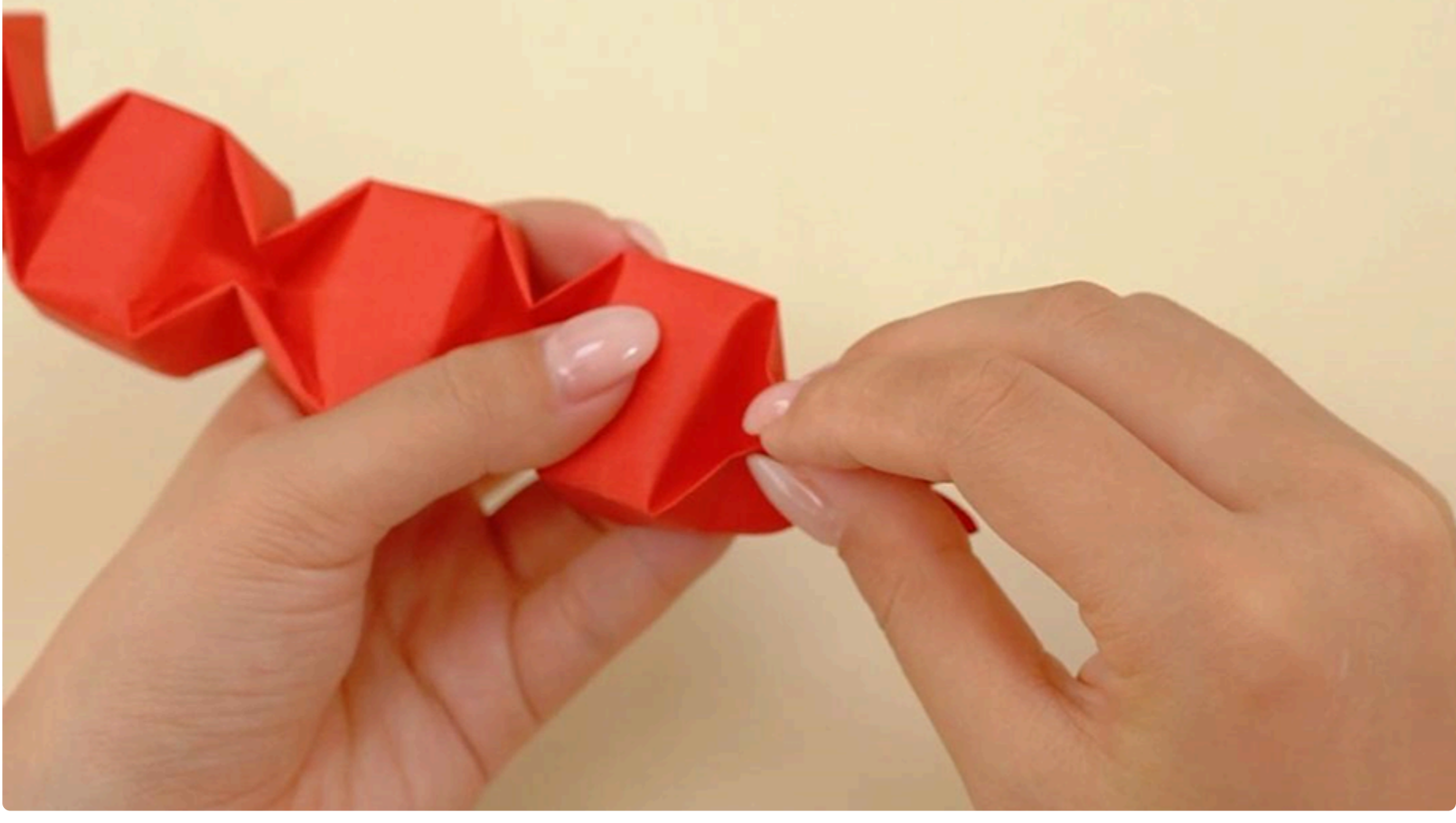
8. Then, pinching the snake's body and head, push the snake's body towards the head.



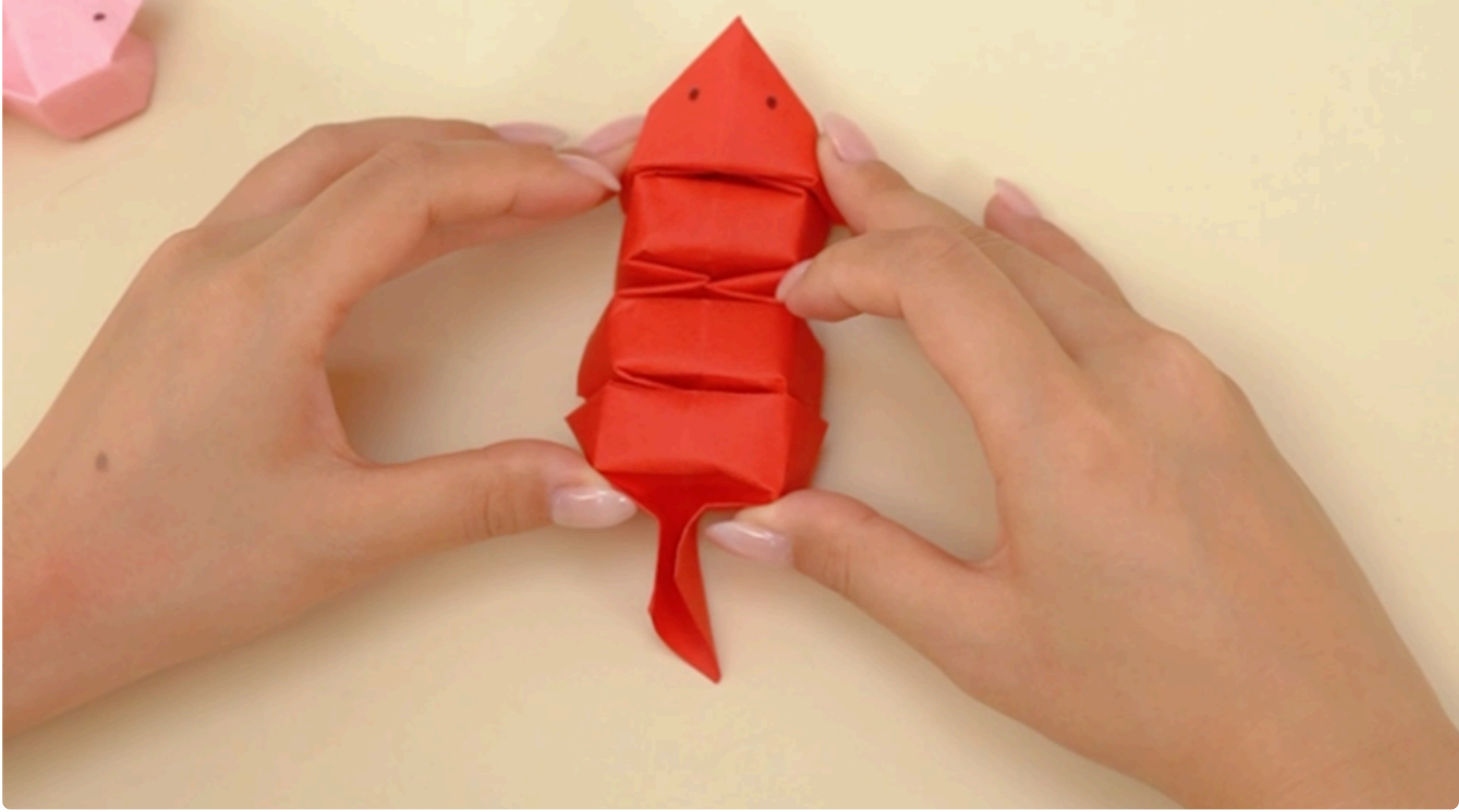
9. Repeat the same process on the other side following the previous step.



10. Fold the entire snake's body following steps 8 and 9.



11. Draw on the eyes, and your spring snake is complete! Time to make it bounce!



The Science Behind It:

What is elasticity? Elasticity is the ability of a material to return to its original shape after being subjected to force. In the process of making the snake, the structure formed by folding the paper can store energy. When we apply force to compress the snake, the paper will return to a certain shape due to its elasticity, producing an effect similar to a spring.