



orchid-gami

NATIVE TO THE U.S. AND CANADA

Hexalectris warnockii Texas Purple Spike



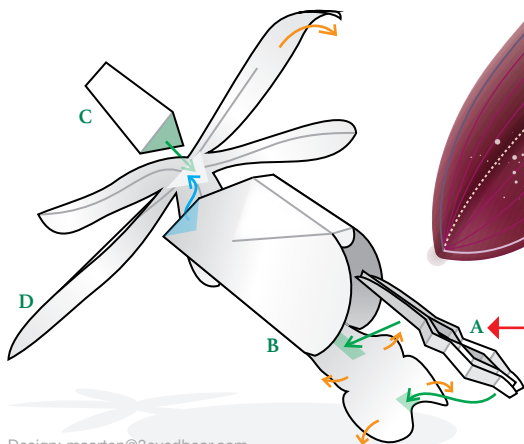
The Texas Purple Spike is a rare, southwestern orchid reported only in Arizona and Texas in the U.S., though it also grows much further west on the Baja

California Peninsula in Mexico. Seldom seen, this orchid hides beneath the deep shade of oaks and juniper trees that form strips of forest along limestone bluffs and hillsides. The only part of the Texas Purple Spike that appears above ground is the slender purple flower spike that emerges in summer. Along this stem, each flower has bright yellow crests that run the length of the white lip, a striking contrast to the rest of the shiny maroon flower. Don't be fooled by this elegant orchid! The Texas Purple Spike belongs to a small gang of leafless orchids called "cheaters." Without leaves, cheaters can't use sunlight to make food like most other plants. Scientists call these orchids "mycoheterotrophs." They survive underground, often for years, by digesting soil fungi. The Texas Purple Spike steals valuable nutrients and carbon not just from the fungi, but indirectly from nearby trees that support these fungi on their roots.

To learn more about the Texas Purple Spike, scan the QR code with your phone or visit the species page on *Go Orchids* at goorchids.northamericanorchidcenter.org

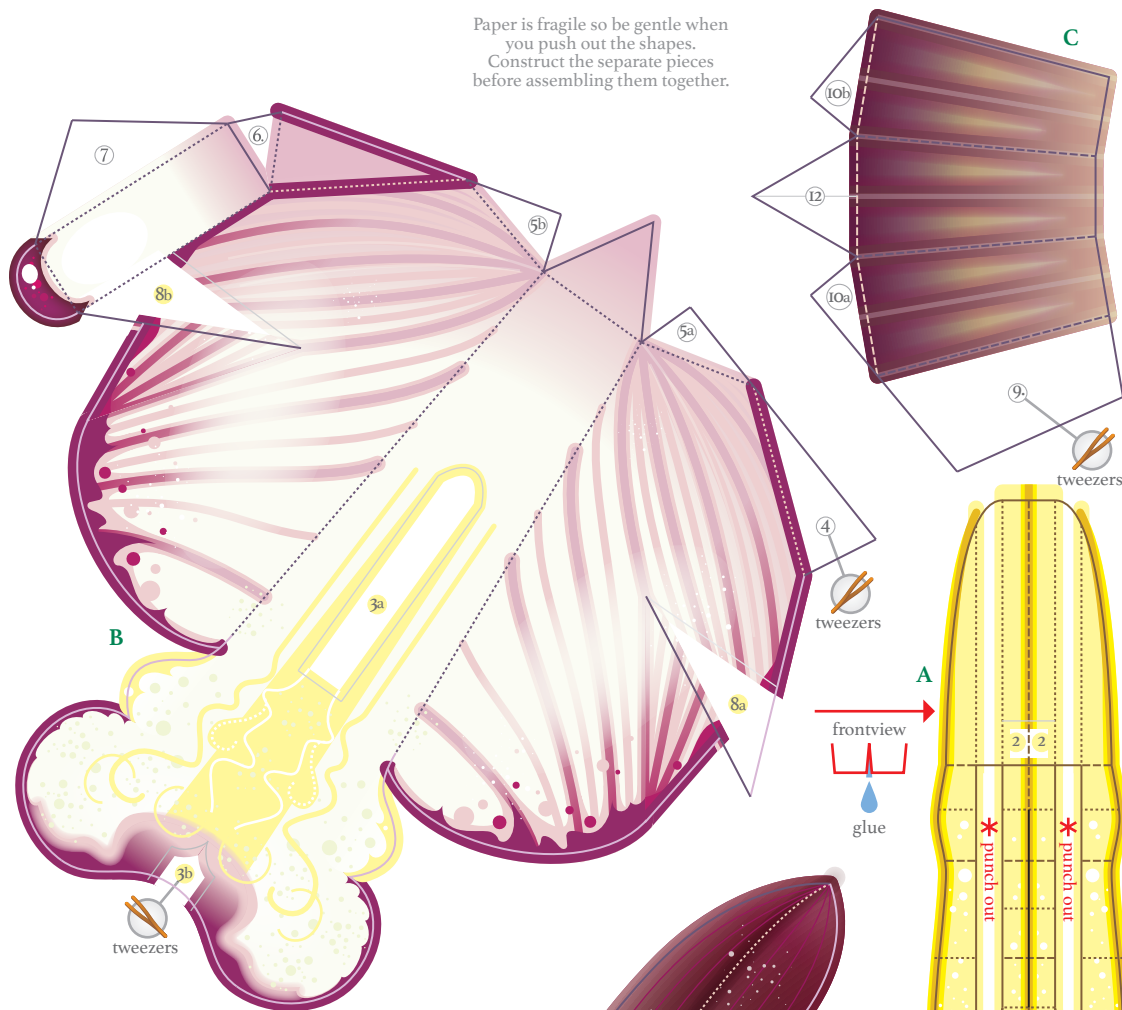


Orange arrows indicate where you can gently curl the paper around a pencil or similar object.



Design: maarten@3eyedbear.com

Paper is fragile so be gentle when you push out the shapes. Construct the separate pieces before assembling them together.



★★★★☆ Model Difficulty
 ----- Hill-fold
 Valley-fold
 _____ Glue Guidance
 ① ② ③ ④ ⑤ ⑥ ⑦ ⑧ ... Glue Order

The goal of the **North American Orchid Conservation Center (NAOCC)**, established by the **Smithsonian Institution** and the **United States Botanic Garden**, is to assure the survival of native orchids in the U.S. and Canada. To learn more about NAOCC and what you can do for orchid conservation, visit:

www.northamericanorchidcenter.org



The Texas Purple Spike was generously sponsored by



Bruce Ballengee
and the
North Texas Orchid Lovers

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This is what the paper Texas Purple Spike will look like when built.



Orchid-gami was developed in collaboration with the **United States Botanic Garden** to raise awareness about conservation and ecology of our native orchids.

