**Supplies**
The Ultimate Crafter’s Companion  
Fairyopolis 12” x 12” Paper Pad  
White pearlescent card stock  
Crafter’s Companion Tape Runner  
Stick & Stay permanent adhesive spray  
Stick & Spray temporary adhesive spray  
S.w.a.l.k. Stamp Set - Best Friends  
Clevercut 5-in-1 Paper Trimmer

**Introduction**
Box making is fun and easy when you are using the Ultimate Crafter’s Companion. It is the essential tool used in this project because it takes the guess work out of fitting the lid of your box easily over the base when working with more complicated shapes. The basic thing to keep in mind when creating a box with The Ultimate Crafter’s Companion is that you always start with the exact same size blanks for both the base and lid. Second, if you start with a square blank, your box will end up square, start with a triangle and you’ll end up with a triangle, start with an octagon as is the case here and viola, you’ll end up with an Octagonal Box!

Creating those starting blank pieces can sometimes be a challenge though if you are doing anything other than a square or rectangle. As is the case here, you will either need to have some kind of template to cut out the starting octagonal blanks or you can use the handy little template we’ve created at the end of this project instead to create custom sized blanks depending on your need.

**Sizing your Octagonal Box**
The first thing you will need to think about when making your box is how big you want it to be. And by how big, we mean how far across should your box measure (width) and how deep do you want your box to be? Once you know this information you will need to use the following formula to determine what size square blank you will need to start with to end up with the correct size.  

\[(\text{Box Width}) + (\text{Box Depth} \times 2) = \text{Starting Square Blank Size}\]

For this project I want to make a box that is 5 inches wide by 1 1/2 inches deep. Using the formula I quickly figure out that I need to start with 8 inch square pieces - (here’s the math - 5” + (1.5” x 2) = 8”)

**Step 1**
Take two sheets of your pearlescent white cardstock and two sheets of coordinating printed paper from the Fairyopolis 12” x 12” paper pad and cut these down to 8” squares (based on the information we figured out above). The printed paper will serve as the outside design of my box, while the pearlescent white cardstock will show on the inside.
Step 2

I wanted my octagon box to be extra-sturdy, but I also liked the Fairyopolis themed paper that I had. I find that this is often the case, where I have fantastic looking paper, but it is not thick enough to use in my box making. To solve that problem I often mount my paper to cardstock. It’s very quick and easy and allows for you to have a designer look for your box... inside and out! Here’s how! Spray the back side of the pearlescent white cardstock pieces with Stick & Stay permanent adhesive.

Step 3

Stick your printed sheets of paper onto the backs of the pearlescent white cardstock pieces. The Stick & Stay adhesive is forgiving for the first minute, so if you haven’t quite lined it up perfectly you can peel it back and give it another shot!

TIP: As an alternative you can also stick your pieces of cardstock and paper together before you’ve trimmed them down to 8 inch squares.

Step 4

Using the template provided at the end of this project, line up one corner of your 8 inch square blank so it matches up to the black lines marked by 8”.

Step 5

Then line up a ruler across the corner of your piece to the red line marked by 8” also in red.

Step 6

Your two 8 inch square blanks should now be marked with pencil lines as shown to the left. I’ve exaggerated these lines in the picture so you can see them better.

Step 7

Using a paper trimmer, use your pencil lines as a guide to trim down your square blanks. I’ve used the Clevercut 5-in-1 paper trimmer and used the 45 degree angle marks to insure that my lines were cut at exactly the right angle.
Step 8
Your two square blanks should now be transformed into perfect octagonal blanks as shown here!

Step 9
Decide which octagonal blank you wish to make your BOX LID and using the box making portion of your Ultimate Crafter’s Companion tool, place one of the 8 sides up against the edge labeled “BOX LID” and score the 3rd line down.
Reminder: The lines on the box making portion of The Ultimate Crafter’s Companion are exactly 1/2” apart. Because we decided at the beginning of this project that we wanted our box to be 1 1/2 inches deep, I have counted down 3 lines or 1 1/2 inches.

Step 10
Repeat Step nine on the remaining 7 sides of your blank so that it ends up looking like my piece to the left.
Now, repeat this same procedure to make your BOX BASE with your other blank, but this time line up your piece to the edge of the box making portion of your Ultimate Crafter’s Companion tool labeled “BOX BASE”.

Advanced User Tip
By scoring your lines all the way across your piece in steps 9 & 10 you will be left with embossed lines that will show up on the sides of your boxes. To avoid this end result, you can create an additional octagonal blank that will match the finished width of your box. In this project it would be 5 inches. Using the box blank template at the end of this project I cut a blank that is 5 inches and then attach it temporarily to the exact center of my blanks using Stick & Spray temporary adhesive.
Instead of scoring my piece from edge to edge in steps 9 & 10, I only score my piece along the outline of the 5 inch blank I have in the middle. If this doesn’t make sense at first, do a sample piece without doing this step and I’m sure you will have an “Ah, ha” moment!

Step 11
You now need to create the lines that will eventually be used to join your piece together in making the final 3 dimensional box lid and box base.
To do this, use a scrap piece of cardstock or some other object that creates a perfect 90 degree angle. Line one edge up one of the 8 score lines parallel to the edge of your piece and line the other edge to the point at which the next edge intersects this line.
Mark a solid line to the right from score line to edge of your piece as shown.
**Step 12**
Using the same method as in Step 11, now mark a dashed score pencil line perpendicular to the score lines on the left. This should now form a “V” in each of the 8 intersections with the line on the left of the “V” being dashed and the line on the right of the “V” being solid.

**Advanced Tip**
Alternatively, you can make a “jig” from a scrap piece of cardstock by measuring the distance between two intersecting points. In this case it is 2 1/8 inches wide. Then just go around all 8 sides and mark a solid line to the right and a dashed line to the left.

**Step 13**
Cut along the solid red lines from the outer edges to the inside score line on both your lid and base.
*Note: Do not cut along your dashed lines!*

**Step 14**
Line up one of the dashed lines to any score line using the box making section of your Ultimate Crafter’s Companion tool. Make sure the line on the opposite side of your piece also lines up into the same groove you are using. This will insure your score line is straight! Repeat this on all of your score lines on both your lid and base.

**Step 15**
Fold up all of your score lines so that both your lid and base look like the picture to the left.

**Step 16**
Flip your lid and base over so that the outside is facing you and using either your Crafter’s Companion Tape runner with extra-strong adhesive or a wet glue, put adhesive on each of the tabs that will be tucked into your box to form each of the corners.
Step 17
Tuck each of the tabs to the inside of the box, making sure that the edges line up and the top of your tab is flush with the piece you are sticking it to. If you are using a wet glue, you can put a paper clip or something similar over the corners until they are dry.

Step 18
Your basic octagon box should now be complete. You will notice that your box lid fits perfectly over the box base!

Step 19
To decorate my box I printed out a coordinating background paper from one of the Fairyopolis CDs, stamped my image (S.w.a.t.k. Best Friends Stamps) and then colored in the image with Copic Markers.

Step 20
Using the Box Blank Template I cut out my stamped piece to a 4” octagon and then cut out a 4 1/2” octagon from a blank piece of white pearlescent cardstock to use as a mat. Each was stuck together using Stick & Stay permanent adhesive spray and my project was done!
Octagon Box Blank Template

To Create Your Octagonal Blank
1. Cut your paper or cardstock down to a square piece corresponding to one of the measurements listed below on the template (between 3" - 12" in 1/2" increments).
2. Put one of the corners of your cardstock into the corresponding black guide lines that matches the size square blank you have created.
3. Using a ruler, mark a pencil line across the corner using the red line marked with the same listed measurement.
4. Repeat for the remaining 3 corners of your stock.
5. Trim on these pencil lines with a paper trimmer, scissors or craft knife to complete your card or paper octagon shaped blank.

Please see the Octagon Box Project Sheet for instructions on using this template!