



no sew fleece blankets



Why Make No Sew Fleece Blankets?

Fleece blankets are used by many different charities for babies, foster children, children in the hospital, the homeless, for pets and more. Providing a warm blanket can ease many difficult situations.

Hospital rooms can be scary places for kids facing a chronic illness. Fleece blankets serve two purposes. They do keep kids warm while they are in the hospital or a doctor's office. More importantly they provide comfort and a sense of security during a time of many unknowns. Organizations, like Make-A-Wish, and shelters give kids blankets to help provide them comfort and a "big hug". Making no sew fleece blankets is a fun way to provide warmth and comfort to a child in need.

MATERIALS

- Scissors or rotary cutter
- Fleece – 1 1/2 yards for child-size; 2 yards for adult size. For 2-sided blankets double the yards for each side. Use colorful or kid-themed fleece
- Mat
- Tape Measure / ruler
- Masking Tape

CONVERSATION STARTERS

- Do you have something soft that you like to cuddle with? How do you feel when you hold it?
- Why do you think a blanket brings comfort to a child that is sick or living in a shelter?
- How would you feel if you had to spend a long time in the hospital away from your friends? What do you think would make you feel better?

START A RIPPLE OF GIVING

- For your next birthday party or play date, you can make blankets with your friends to give to kids that are sick or scared.



DIRECTIONS

Lightweight Blanket (single thickness -- least expensive to make)

1. For each blanket you will need to cut off the selvage from the sides. Use a ruler to help guide you. The selvage sometimes has words printed on it or can be a different texture or color. the trimmed edge needs to be smooth and straight.
2. Cut out one 5" square from each corner of both fleece pieces. This will serve as your guide as you cut strips for your fringe
3. With the fabric laying flat on the table place masking tape from one side to the other to the other 5' inches you cut out from the edge. This becomes our guide so all of your strips are the same length.
4. Then use a ruler as a guide mark lines every inch on the masking tape to make the fringe, make 5-inch cuts, in 1- inch intervals, around all sides of fleece
5. To finish, gently stretch each strip and knot individually at the base of where the end of the cut meets the blanket

Double-Sided Blanket (Cut both pieces of fabric at the same time)

1. If using printed fabric, place wrong sides together
2. Repeat steps 2 -4 above
3. Knot fringe pieces together around entire blanket, using one strand from the front and one strand from the back tie them in a knot

NEXT STEPS

Donate blankets to a local children's hospital, homeless shelter, Make-A-Wish or animal shelter. Some ideas in the greater Atlanta area:

- Make-A-Wish GA
- Children's Healthcare of Atlanta
- Ronald McDonald Houses
- My Sister's House
- Solomon's Temple
- LifeLine Animal Project
- FurKids

REFLECTION

Have your family come together after you have made the no sew fleece blankets. Challenge each family member to come up with 5 words that describe the day's experience in response to the questions below.

- Why was it important to do this project?
- How did you help?
- What was it like to work together as a family for this project?
- What was the funniest part of the experience?



