



no sew fleece blankets



MATERIALS

- Scissors or rotary cutter
- Fleece – 2 yards for adult size or 1 1/2 yards for child size. For 2-sided blankets double the yards for each side. Colorful or patterned fleece is best.
- Mat or solid surface
- Tape measure/ruler
- Masking Tape

Why Make No Sew Fleece Blankets?

Fleece blankets are used by many different nonprofits for babies, foster children, children in the hospital, those experiencing homelessness, shelter pets, and more. Providing a warm blanket can ease many difficult situations.

Hospital rooms can be unsettling places for kids facing a chronic illness. Fleece blankets serve two purposes. They 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 provide comfort and a "big hug". Making no-sew fleece blankets is a simple way to provide warmth and comfort to someone in need.

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 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 should 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. To ensure even cuts along each side, lay the fabric flat on a table or mat. Place a strip of masking tape from one side to the other side starting at the base of the 5" cut out from the edge. This becomes our guide so all of your strips are the same length.
4. 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 the 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, cutting both pieces of fleece at the same time.
3. Line up the fringe from the bottom and top pieces and knot the pieces together. Knot the corresponding pieces around the entire blanket.

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
- Childrens' Healthcare of Atlanta
- Ronald McDonald Houses
- My Sister's House
- Intown Collaborative Ministries
- LifeLine Animal Project
- FurKids

REFLECTION

Bring your family together after tying the 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?



