

## Blanket Guidelines

### New, Handmade, Washable

We accept handmade blankets and afghans for children up to 18 years old. They should be crafted from age-appropriate fabric or yarn and contain no buttons or decoration. Low loft batting is preferred.

### Recommended Blanket Sizes

Baby	30"x30" or 36"x36"
6-12 yrs old	40"x60"
13-18 yrs old	45"x72"

### Recommended Fleece Sizes

Single layer	
6-12 yrs old	1.5 yards per blanket
13-18 yrs old	2 yards per blanket

### Afghans

- Use small crochet hooks or knitting needles and soft baby yarn
- For larger hooks, consider making teen-sized afghans
- Weave in all yarn ends

### Quilts

- Make from cotton or flannel
- Secure batting into outer seams or tie/quilt every 4"

## How can you help?

### Become a Blanketeer

Make a blanket, quilt or afghan and donate it to the Western Arkansas chapter. We will take your handmade blanket to a facility where it will be given to a deserving child.

### Become a Drop-Off Site

Drop-off sites are local businesses or community areas that are convenient for our Blanketeers and donors to drop off items being donated. Other volunteers will come by and pick those items up on a regular basis.

### Donate your time

Participate in Make a Blanket Days, sew on labels, pick up or deliver finished blankets.

### Donate goods and other gifts

Fabric and yarn that are new, unused, washable and free of contaminants, such as smoke, are welcome. We prefer cotton/poly blend fabrics and fleece at least 1.5 yards long. Monetary gifts are used for expenses such as fabric, batting, yarn, and blanket labels.



Providing love, a sense of security, warmth and comfort to children who are seriously ill, traumatized or otherwise in need through the gifts of new, handmade blankets and afghans, lovingly created by volunteer "Blanketeers."



Project Linus  
Western Arkansas Chapter

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## General Guidelines for Fleece Blankets

Single-layer fleece blankets without knots are for our 6-18 year old hospital children, and knotted fleece (single or double layer) blankets can be shared with our other children

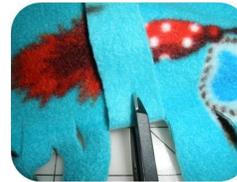
We don't share knotted blankets with hospitals because knots can get caught in tubing, wires and bed rails. They can be uncomfortable for children to lay on and can cause bed sores.

### Preparing Fleece Blankets

- Before fringing, neatly cut off the selvages.
- If you plan to fringe all four sides, cut out all four corners—3" squares for 3" long fringe and 4" squares for 4" long fringe.
- Straighten and square up the fleece before fringing.
- Cut fringe straight and even, the same length and the same width.
- If more than one person is cutting the fringe, be sure everyone cuts the same width and length.

## Single Layer Knotted Fleece Blankets

- Cut 4" squares from corners.
- Place a strip of masking tape 4" from the edge of all four sides.
- Make cuts up to the masking tape, 1" apart from each other all of the way around the material.
- Fold each strip up to where it meets the body of the blanket and cut a small hole in the middle of the strip.
- Pull the strip through the hole and tighten. Repeat all the way around.



### Other Edge Finishes for Fleece Blankets

- Crochet
- Blanket stitch
- Fringe only
- Machine feather stitch
- Serger



## Braided Finish Fleece Blankets

Braided finish blankets will only lay flat if the corners are removed

- Cut 3" squares out of all corners.
- Place a strip of masking tape 3" from the edge on all four sides.
- Turn up the edge of the fleece to the masking tape, and pin securely.
- Sew with a zig-zag stitch directly over the edge of the turned up fleece.
- Cut 1/2" wide fringe. Do not cut through the stitching, and stop within 1/4" of the zigzag stitch.
- Use a large crochet hook or your fingers to pull each loop through the one on its left to make a braid.
- When you get back to where you started, pull the first loop through the last loop and secure with needle and thread.

