No Sew Fleece Blanket Guidelines

Project Linus Chapters are instructed by the Project Linus National Office to reject blankets that are not of good quality. Also, blankets must be free of contaminants - smoky & musty smells; scented detergent, softener, dryer sheets; and pet hair. Please follow these guidelines to ensure that the blankets you make are of good quality.

Our hospitals will no longer accept fleece blankets for preemies.
Preferred sizes for fleece blankets:
54” x 60” (1½ yards per blanket)                    60” x 72” (2 yards per blanket

General Guidelines

- **We prefer single layer fleece blankets with straight fringe - NO KNOTS!**
- **The knots can get caught in tubing, wires, and bed rails. Knots are painful for sick children to lie on and can cause bed sores.**
- Straighten and square up the fleece before fringing.
- Cut off the selvages neatly (the edges that are curled or wavy and have tiny needle punched holes near the edges).
- Cut fringe so that it is straight and even. Cut all fringe on a blanket the same length and width.
- If more than one person is cutting the fringe on a blanket, decide on the length and width of the fringe before starting to cut the fringe.
- Check, double-check, triple-check your blankets for straight pins. It’s much better for you to find the pins than the child that receives your blanket.
- **If you buy fleece blanket kits at the fabric store, make two single layer blankets. You’re getting two blankets for the price of one!**

Basic Straight Fringe (Preferred Method)

- Cut the fringe no longer than 2” to 3” long. The longer the fringe, the smaller the blanket is for snuggling.
- If you fringe all four sides, cut out corners as shown in Knotted Fringe Blanket directions. Cut out 2” square for 2” fringe, 3” square for 3” fringe.
- Place masking tape 2” or 3” from edge of fleece. Then place template along edge of tape. Cut from the edge of the blanket to the lines on the template.
- To make template - Draw lines 1” apart on card stock, then cut the card stock into 2” strips.

Instructions for Knotted Fringe

- **We prefer single layer blankets without knotted fringe.**
- However, if you do knot the fringe, please follow these guidelines for a good quality blanket that we can give to a child.

Before starting to make knotted fringe blankets, prepare the fleece using the above General Guidelines.

Single Layer Knotted Fringe Blankets

- If you fringe all four sides, cut out corners as shown below. It’s ok to fringe just two opposite sides.
- Cut fringe no longer than 5” long & neatly knot the fringe.

Double Layer Knotted Fringe Blankets

- Cut a 5” square out of cardboard to use as a template.
- Using the template as a guide, cut out a 5” corner from all four corners of both layers of fleece.
- If you don’t cut out the corners the blanket will not lie flat and will curl up at the corners.
- Cut fringe 5” long (cut both layers at the same time so the fringes will match up for knotting). Neatly knot the two layers together.

Optional Fringe Ideas

- Picket Fence
- Jungle Grass
- Bunny Ears

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