

Easy No Sew Fleece Blankets

Tools:

If you look for fleece blankets online, you'll see patterns referencing rotary cutters and mats and special rulers. The following two blankets only use readily available tools.



- Yardstick
- Masking tape
- Marker
- Chalk or pencil
- Cardboard
- Scissors with an 8" blade*
- Seam ripper – for the Bunny Ear blanket only

**Fleece is an acrylic and requires sharp scissors to make clean cuts.*

You also need a large flat surface to work on. The floor is a good substitute for a table.

Preparing the Fleece:

One and one-half yards, 54 inches, is the minimum suggested length for a blanket. Fleece suitable for older teens may be up to 2 yards long by the width of the fleece after the selvage is trimmed.

If you are using two layers of fleece, place the two layers wrong sides together and treat as one piece in all the following steps.

Do not stretch a smaller piece to meet a larger piece. Fleece never forgets and will return to its original dimension causing problems.

If there is any writing in the design, make sure that it is legible. If it is backwards, turn the fleece over.

Fleece is usually 58 to 60 inches wide. The manufacturing process leaves a rough edge of about one-half to three quarters of an inch on each side. This edge, called the selvage, must be removed.



In our photos, we used a chalk pencil to draw a line on the fleece for trimming. Chalk or pencil or a sliver of soap will work well to do this – anything that will launder out of the blanket when you are done. Please do not use ball point or marker pens.



Fringe:

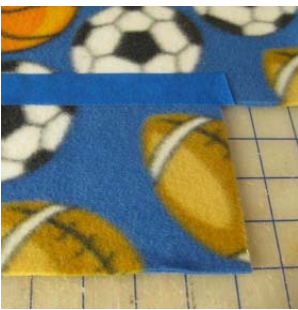
Decorators love a long lush fringe. Project Linus blankets comfort young folks in need - the longer the fringe, the smaller the area of the blanket that comforts the youngster.



The secret to a good fringe is to cut a square from each corner of the fleece. We recommend cutting a cardboard square to use as a template. For the following two patterns, the minimum fringe is four inches, the maximum six inches.



Lay a strip of masking tape, in a straight line, from corner to corner of the cut-out squares. Lay a ruler or yardstick along the tape and mark dots the desired width of your trim.



One inch is commonly used for fringe although it can be as narrow as one-half inch.

Measure your fringe from each corner making any adjustments in the six to ten inches at the center of the side.



Knotted Edge



Cut with sharp scissors from the edge to the dot on the masking tape. The cuts should be as straight as possible but “eyeballing” the cutting line works satisfactorily.

If you are uncomfortable “eyeballing” the cuts, you can draw a chalk line from the edge to the dot and cut along that line.

For the tied edge, you will remove the tape at this time. If you’re making the “Bunny Ear” knot there is one more step before you remove the tape.

Tying the Fringe

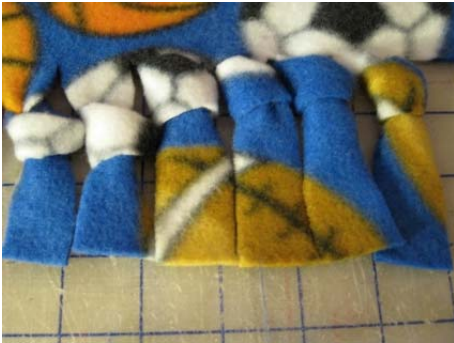


We recommend the knot shown here and above for completing the fringe because it is flat and more comfortable to lay on.

The fringes shown are, from the top, 6”, 4” and 5”.



To make the knot, form a loop, counter-clockwise. Bring the tail of the fringe, under and up through the loop. Slide the knot to a neat position much like a man's tie.



The 4" fringe at the left shows the knot at the top of the fringe and as an alternative, half-way up the fringe.

The 5" fringe at the right is cut 1" wide and 1/2" wide.



Bunny Ear Edge (can be done on single or double layer blankets)

Leaving the tape in place along the top of the fringe, make a tiny slit in the top of each piece of fringe with the seam ripper. Remove masking tape.

Feed the end of the fringe through the back side of the slit and pull through to create a neat and secure fringe edge.

Happy blanket making!!!

