

Returning to Fleece Blankets

The original tutorial on crocheting around fleece blankets was pretty popular so I've updated it a bit and added additional ideas. Hope you enjoy!

Crocheted Fleece Squares



1. Cut fleece into 8, 9, 10 or 12" squares and arrange your design. Our Project Linus Chapter uses 9 $\frac{1}{2}$ " squares.

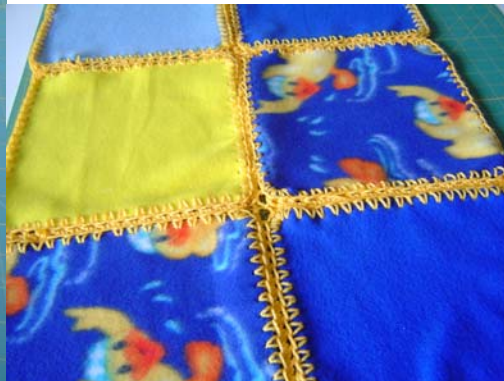


2. Make holes about $\frac{1}{4}$ to $\frac{1}{2}$ " around the outside of your fleece square. I am using a Skip Stitch Blade, but you can make holes using your preferred method.



3. Crochet around the fleece square - single crochet, chain one. Corners will require 2-3 stitches to get around the corner allowing the square to stay flat.

If you like, you can crochet a second round in single or double crochet.



4. To join squares, put two squares right sides together and single crochet. Continue until you have your first row of squares joined. Next put two rows right sides together and single crochet rows together. Continue until all rows are joined. If you don't want a small ridge that is formed by single crocheting the squares and rows

together, you may slip stitch or hand sew the square together using yarn and a very large darning needle or the equivalent.



5. Crochet around the outside of your blanket using your choice of stitch. I like to single crochet then do a shell pattern.



These are basic instructions, but you can use your imagination and design the blanket as you wish.

Other ideas:

1. Mix fleece shapes. Try a rectangle surrounded by squares.

2. Experiment with crochet stitches.
3. Use more than one color yarn in the project.

Now let's get crazy with other fleece ideas!



On My Heart Belongs to You Blanket, some hearts were crocheted; others cut out of various pieces of fleece and sew on fleece squares.



Fussy cut images from other fleece and appliqué onto your fleece squares using a zig-zag machine stitch. A walking foot is helpful when sewing on fleece. I don't recommend using any iron-on adhesives on fleece.



Fussy cut images from other fleece and appliqué onto your plain piece of fleece. Finish by crocheting around the outside edge of your blanket.



Here's the same idea, but rather than finishing the edge with crochet, just make your fringe and tie. Don't forget to cut out your corners first. If you are going to have a 4" fringe, cut a 4" square out of each corner.



Just crochet around a piece of cute fleece - quick and easy blanket!



Rag fleece blankets are also very cute. Sew your fleece squares wrong sides together with about a 1" seam allowance. This is what will give you the raggy look. Then use a decorative stitch all the way around the outside of your blanket. Finish by getting out those scissors and start clipping the fringe around each square and the outside of the blanket. There are special scissors that

make this easier - better yet, enlist the help of a family member - preferably one with young hands.

Use your imagination and ENJOY!

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