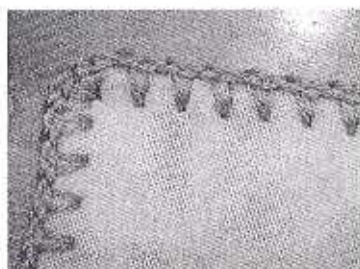


FLEECE BLANKET WITH CROCHETED EDGE



Choose fleece fabric in colors and designs appropriate to the age of the child. Project Linus Tucson's preferred fleece blanket sizes:

- No smaller than 36" x 36" for babies.
- Children's blankets should be somewhat larger (40" to 45") and proportionately sized.
- Teen blankets should be about 45" x 60" or the width of the fleece fabric.

Trim selvages and square the fleece to the desired size. Round the edges slightly (see photo), and punch holes at ½" intervals.

Measure and mark the places where you will make evenly spaced holes, using a ruler. Punch holes around the edge of the blanket at ½" intervals, ½" from the edge of the fleece. Methods suggested by volunteers are:

- Purchase a "Skip-Stitch" blade* (original size) to use in your 45mm rotary cutter. Roll the blade alongside a ruler or template to keep the line straight; do NOT back up or the holes will not be evenly spaced.
- Punch holes with a metal crochet needle (the kind used with crochet thread).
- Mark the places for punching holes at ½" intervals, about ½" from the edge of the fabric, then make holes with a 1/16" paper punch, the tip of your scissors, or use an awl or punch and a tack hammer.
- Use a sewing machine with a wing needle (no thread) to make holes ½" from the edge of the fabric.

Single crochet around the fleece turning the edge under, to the "wrong" side of the fabric, as you go. Chain once between each single crochet, or maybe even twice, depending upon the size of the space between the holes. Be sure to crochet loosely enough so the fleece does not "pucker". Make three single crochets in the corner holes. When you have crocheted around the entire blanket, secure your yarn/thread, making sure that stitching will not unravel. (Edge can be further finished if you are feeling creative.)

*Purchase "Skip-Stitch" blade from www.projectlinus.org; click on Store, Public Store, or from www.skipstitch.com