

Fleece Baby Blankets

Madison Knitters' Guild Community Projects

Materials

- MKG Kit with **prepared fleece** and choice of yarn
- **OR**
 - 1 yard of 60" fleece cut in half to make two 30" by 36" pieces or 1½ yards of 60" fleece, folded in half twice and cut twice, to make four pieces, approx. 29" square
 - fingering/sock or light sport weight yarn (with a ball-band-recommended gauge of 22-28 sts/4"); **yarn must be machine washable and machine dryable**
 - rotary cutter with a regular blade
 - "Skip Stitch" blade (For the MKG project, we purchased a #2 blade from <http://skipstitch.com/>)
 - blade holder
 - cutting mat
- crochet hook size C or #2 to fit into cut holes of the blanket
- darning needle (optional; see finishing)



Abbreviation key

sc = single crochet

ch = chain

sl st = slip stitch

Prepare fleece pieces

Cut fleece into pieces as described above and remove selvages. Fold the piece in half with three sides matching. Rounding corners: Use a rotary cutter with the regular cutting blade (or scissors), and round off two layers of corners on one side. You can use a dinner plate as a guide if desired. Fold the piece in half again, with three sides matching. Using the previous rounded corners as a template, cut the corners of the other two layers.

Unfold the blanket and lay it flat. If you are right-handed, have the raw edge to your right and the blanket to your left (reverse, if left-handed). Using the Skip Stitch blade and a cutting mat, run a line of little holes around the blanket edge about 3/4" in from the cut edge. To save time, be sure to mark the starting hole with a pin, and the ending hole with a pin, when you have to stop to adjust the blanket to cut more holes. The holes can be bit hard to find.

Crocheted Edges on Fleece Baby Blankets

Determine a right or wrong side of the fleece. With the right side facing you, pull up a loop through any hole. Leave a tail of yarn about 6" long to hide later. *As you crochet, the edge of the fleece will roll toward the back making a nice secure hemmed edge.*

Round 1

Option 1 - looks like a "blanket stitch"

Draw up a loop in any hole. Ch 2, *make a sc in the next hole, ch 1* ; repeat from *to* around. When you have made the last sc in the last hole, ch 1 and end with sl st in beginning ch 2.



Option 2 - looks like a denser "blanket stitch"

Draw up a loop in any hole. Ch 2 make a sc in same hole. Work 2 sc in each hole around. End with sl st in beginning ch 2.

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You can stop here (after Round 1) or continue with a decorative Round 2.

Round 2 *(optional)*

Choose only one stitch option. Use a different color yarn, if desired.

Option 1: Begin with a sc in any sc of round 1. Sc in each sc of previous round.

Join with sl st in beginning sc.

Option 2: Begin with a sl st in any sc of the first round. *Ch 3, skip one st and sl st in next Round 1 sc*; repeat from *to* around, ending sl st in beginning ch 3.

Option 3 (similar to option 2, but a bit more lacy or dainty): *Sc in any sc of the first round, ch 3 and sl st into the next Round 1 sc*; repeat from *to* around. End with sl st in beginning sc.

Finishing

Hide the long ends by pulling them into the hem with a crochet hook or darning needle.



Thank you for knitting for others!

Special thanks to Guild members Connie Roden and Joan Lahy for their work on developing this project and writing the pattern.

If you are using a Madison Knitters' Guild Ready-to-Knit kit, please return the bag for reuse.