

Fleece Blankets for CASA of NJ

By Joan Henry, Liberty District

Crocheted edge fleece blankets can be made in a range of sizes:

36 X 36 for infants

42 X 48 for toddlers

48 X 60 for older children

To make the perforated edges, you will need a quilting cutting mat, a rotary cutter handle, and a skip blade. I recommend keeping the blade on its own handle, as it is difficult to handle. (Joann's and AC Moore sell them, as does Amazon. I've used the Clover. There is also a web company skipstitch.com that sells the blades and handles.)

Clean and straighten the raw edges. I use a long quilting ruler and line it up in one inch from the edge. Use a long pin to mark the spot to begin and end, as the holes are hard to see and you want them to be even. Move the bottom of the ruler up to the pin and continue to cut all the way around. Clip the excess off the corners. Turn the edge under $\frac{1}{2}$ " and make a slipstitch. Half double crochet down each side, putting 3 stitches in each corner. Join round with a slipstitch. There are many options for finishing: 2 rounds of single crochet with a slipstitch, a picot edge, and a scallop edge. Tie in the ends and you are done.

There are very clear, explicit directions on YouTube. Search crocheted edge fleece blanket, ranging from 5 minutes to 25 minutes. Search crocheted edges for baby blankets and there are a bunch of directions.

Pinterest also has a large variety of pictures and directions when you search crocheted edge fleece blankets.