



No-Sew Fleece Blankets

Supplies Needed: A pair of sharp scissors or rotary cutter and mat; ruler or tape measure; two coordinating pieces of any fleece--for a baby or toddler blanket purchase 1 to 1 1/2 yards (in each of two fabrics), for a child's blanket purchase 1-3/4 yards (in each of two fabrics), for a teen or adult blanket purchase 2-21/2 yards (in each of two fabrics). **Note:** Large blankets are always appreciated. Remember: Fabric is usually 54 inches wide or greater; you need two separate pieces of fabric for the blanket (one will be the front, one will be the back); you can choose two coordinating fabrics or the same fabric; double-check the widths of the two fleeces to make sure they are the same; fleece panels look very nice, but be sure there is enough material at the edge to cut the fringe without cutting into the pattern on the fabric; and watch for sales at your fabric store, as you can save a lot of money that way, often more than 50%. For step-by-step instructions with pictures, please visit www.instructables.com/id/No-Sew-Fleece-Blanket-1/

Directions:

1. Cut off the rough selvage edge on both sides. (This is the side that is machine finished, not cut.) Trim only as much as necessary, usually not more than 2 inches on each side. At this point, make sure that your cut sides are relatively straight. (They don't have to be perfect.) Do this on each piece of fabric.
2. Lay your fleece wrong sides together, with edges matching up. (Often times with fleece it's hard to tell which side is the wrong side and it often doesn't matter which side you use as the front or back.). Some people choose at this point to pin the layers together, this is a personal preference. It is quicker not to pin, and there is usually no problem with slippage or keeping the sides aligned.
3. Cut a 4x4" square (or 5x5" square for a longer fringe) out of each corner (through both layers of fleece) and discard. If you want your fringe longer (not recommended for a baby or toddler), make your square bigger. It really does help to cut out your square from each corner before proceeding.
4. Cut all 4" (or 5") cuts into fleece at 1" intervals around all four sides. Tie the overhand knot close to the blanket edge by using one strip from the front and one strip from the back to create a finished fringe edge, then tie again. Repeat around all four sides. Make sure you make two tight overhand knots for your fringe. This should hold it together through washer and dryer cycles.

Several notes here:

- To help make your strips approximately wide (again, it doesn't have to be perfect), you can use a tape measure across the top of your four-inch section so that you not only make your cuts about 1" apart but also only four inches deep.
- To make the tying look more even, tie every other one, all the way around the blanket, then flip the blanket over to the back and tie the rest. That way neither side is really the front or the back.
- Experiment with the way you tie the knots for different looks. You can make the knot show in either fabric as well as the fringe in either fabric.
- The nature of fleece makes two of the sides stretchy. Don't fear! Just be gentle when tying those sides (the selvage sides) so that your fringe isn't stretched out of shape.