

Pieced Fleece Blankets for Everyone

This pattern is a quick and easy way to turn those small pieces of fleece leftovers into a blanket

needed:

- Q small pieces (6" or larger) of double-sided fleece
- Q serger or sewing machine
- Q rotary cutter (optional)

preparation tips:

- Q this blanket can be made with strips, squares, maybe even triangles ... just be sure to stay away from curves
- Q the pieces are a breeze to cut and square with a rotary cutter and straight edge. if you don't have one, just cut with your regular sewing scissors.
- Q because of the number of seams that would be involved, it's suggested that the finished size of the pieces be no smaller than 6" square.
- Q do a test layout before you start assembling -- this might be a fun way to test some geometric quilt blocks that you've been dying to try out, but find you don't have the time to make a "real" quilt. Kaye Wood's 6-Hour Quilt layout would easily lend itself to this type of blanket as well.
- Q assembly will be done 2 pieces at a time, each new piece will be added to the short side if making longer strips of smaller pieces. (the blanket shown was made with six 18" squares). If making longer strips, assemble the strips together first then attach the strips to form the blanket
- Q If you have oddly shaped pieces, try assembling the pieces first (straight edges together) crazy quilt style. Make straight edges on the long sides then cut the strip to the desired width (or length) of the finished blanket.



close up view of joined squares



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- Q 36" x 45" is a good finished size for a crib or a toddler, 45" x 60" for a child, 45" x 72" for a teenager or adult. Attach a 12" x 12" (for smaller sizes) or 15" x 15" (for larger sizes) pocket in the wrong-side center of one short edge, opening toward the center of the blanket, to allow the blanket to be folded and tucked inside for convenient storage as a pillow.
 - Q when blanket is desired size square all sides one last time with scissors, or rotary cutter and straight edge. if rounded corners are desired, a salad plate or cereal bowl makes a good template.
 - Q finish by serging around the outside with a wide, close stitch. Woolly Nylon makes a nice finished edge, although I used regular serger thread to assemble the strips.
- ### sewing machine construction:
- Q test your tension setting on a doubled piece of fleece before starting. i found it necessary to make it looser.
 - Q the seams for sewn construction will be flat felled and are most easily created by placing one square on your work surface, right side up, then putting the other square next to it (also right side up) with the seams overlapping about 3/8".
 - Q sew the seam by making two rows of straight stitches or using a wider zig zag. For straight stitches, make one row of stitching from the right side of the pieces near the cut edge, then turn over and repeat on the other side.
 - Q when blanket is desired size, square all sides one last time with scissors, or rotary cutter and straight edge. if rounded corners are desired, a salad plate or cereal bowl makes a good template.
 - Q finish by attaching blanket binding, or by folding under 3/8" and stitching (from the wrong side) close to the cut edge.

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