



Fleece Blanket Step-by-Step Directions

When you sponsor a \$10 “no-sew” fleece blanket kit (fleece, fringe template, tag, directions) from My Very Own Blanket, **TWO** essential things are happening.

1. You are hand making a blanket to help us bring love and comfort to a child going through the foster care system.
2. You are financially supporting My Very Own Blanket to continue our mission and ministry, with as little as \$1.50, helping us keep our space open for volunteers to sew tags on blankets, silk screen our special tags, as well as getting the blankets ready to deliver to children in foster care!

We are so grateful for your desire to support children in foster care and urge you to help in this way both with providing a blanket and providing financially!

If you buy your own fleece rather than purchasing one of our kits:

- You’ll need **1.5 yards** of fleece (in any colorful pattern that would appeal to a child/youth).
- Before cutting fringe, please **cut off the selvages** (machine finished edges) that are on 2 edges of the fabric.

Our blankets are a single layer with **TWO** OPPOSITE sides fringed and tied. (*Caseworkers prefer single layer over the double fleece blankets as they can easily give them to toddlers on up to teenagers.)

1. Folding the fleece in half will allow you to cut fringe **IN BOTH ENDS AT ONE TIME**. Line up the edges and use the fringe template to start cutting your fringe. *If you hold the scissors in your RIGHT hand, start cutting the fringe on the LEFT side, moving to the right. If you hold the scissors in your LEFT hand, start cutting the fringe on the RIGHT side, moving to your left. **The fringe should be 1” wide by 4” long.**

2. Once you have the entire side fringed, open the blanket and you are ready to tie a knot in each piece of fringe. Take one piece of fringe and put a simple knot in it – or “tie it to itself.” **If you have 50 pieces of fringe, you should end up with 50 knots.** Do not tie two pieces of fringe together. If you do so, the fringed ends of your blanket will be pulled into the center, and the blanket will not lie smooth, square and relaxed. Tie the knot about $\frac{1}{2}$ ” from the fabric to prevent the edge from bunching.



3. Sign your first name with permanent marker on our special tag after the heart that says “**Handmade by.**” You may also add a message to the child if you wish. This will show the child in foster care who receives your blanket that someone truly made this **“just for them!”**

4. If you are able to sew the tag on the blanket, here’s how: The tags are sewn on the back of the blanket, near a corner, at least 3” from both edges. You can use a straight or zigzag stitch, sewing $\frac{1}{4}$ - $\frac{1}{2}$ ” in from all four edges of the tag. You can use white thread or thread that coordinates with the blanket color.