

Pocket Blanket Instructions

Supplies needed: fabric, pins, scissors, 1/4" ribbon, sewing machine

Fabric types: Fabric can be cotton (for the outside), or flannel. The inside where the baby would be placed should be soft flannel. It should be in soothing colors with neutral designs (no smiling animals, happy sayings, or holiday themes). Avoid colors like orange, red, brown, or black.

Step 1

Cut 3 flannel squares. These can be anywhere from 12" squares for the smallest babies up to 18" for larger babies. Cut one of the squares in half from corner to corner.



Step 2

Iron (press) long edge of triangle piece under 1/4" or less, then stitch.



Step 3

Lay triangle piece on top of one square, edge to edge (both printed (right) sides of fabric will be visible.

This forms the pocket.



Step 4

Lay the other square piece wrong side up on top of pocket square. Again, match edges (check that right sides are facing each other) and pin all layers in place. On one of the edges (avoid the pocket area) there will be a stitch-free section about three inches long to enable turning the piece after sewing. I like to mark where I want to stop with double pins. Stitch along perimeter at $\frac{4}{8}$ ". You can use the edge of your presser foot as a sewing guide as this is usually $\frac{1}{2}$ ".



Step 5

Cut diagonally close to stitching at corners. Turn piece right side out using finger or a closed pair of scissors to force the corners.

Press piece.



Step 6

You will need two pieces of approx. 10" ribbon to finish. Place the bunting in front of you as a diamond shape. It will fold corner to corner with a slight overlap. The first ribbon will be attached on the back of the left corner. Turn the end of the ribbon under slightly before pinning. You are now ready to top-stitch all the way around the perimeter at 1/4" in, catching the left ribbon in that stitching that comes around that corner. (Be careful not to hit the pin as you stitch.)



Step 7

Last step is to attach the right side ribbon. Fold the blanket right side in first (like a tortilla wrap), then fold left side over to judge where the ribbon should go. I put mine about 2" in from the right corner on the back. Again, fold the ribbon edge before pinning, and then stitch in place by going back and forth a few (3-4) times. Try to keep stitching above the pocket so it doesn't catch the pocket.



These blankets provide so much comfort to families who have experienced a devastating loss. Thank you so much for your help!

This tutorial was created with love by Carol Gemmell in memory of her son, Peter Thomas, and grandchildren Grace Noelle and Cooper Conlan.