

Blankets for Wounded Soldiers

eChapter is sponsoring a project to make
Blankets for wounded soldiers in
Iraq and Afghanistan

If you would like to participate here are the specs

To make blankets with batting - approximate size 45" to 60" wide X 60" to 80" long. For wounded/ill troops - they are used on hospital beds and litters on medivac planes. PLEASE - do not make them less than 45" wide... or longer than 80"

1. Knit / crochet / loom blankets should be 36" X 48" and will go to wounded soldiers in hospitals as well.
2. Fabrics: cottons, flannels, fleece: If using fleece, the no-sew ones are great and fun to do. If using a one-sided fleece (with obvious front/back) please back it with another fabric - flannels work really well. If using the double sided fleece, please seam bind or serge the edges to prevent fraying. Or you can fringe them.
3. Colors: most recipients are men!! Bright colors are good and patriotic colors work well! Patterns are ok too but please remember that we do not know if a female or male will be the recipient of this blanket. Even though most are men we have wounded women as well, so keep all blankets "unisex".
4. Please roll them up tight, tie with a ribbon and tag with a note..."Made with love and hope for your recovery by e-chapter" (notes will be supplied by eChapter)



One-Hour Fleece Blanket



Materials Needed

2 yards of 2 coordinating fleece prints /solids
Sharp fabric scissors or pinking shears - or
rotary cutter, mat and ruler
Quilting or safety pins
Painters or masking tape

INSTRUCTIONS:

- 1 - Lay one piece of fabric on your work surface with WRONG side up with selvages on the left and right. Lay the second piece of fabric RIGHT side up on top of the first, with the selvages on the top and bottom. This will stabilize your blanket.
- 2 - Remove selvages and trim fabric so it is straight and square. Use a few pins to hold the pieces together. Place tape on all sides of the top piece of fleece, 4 inches from the edge. Cut fringe at 1 inch intervals, using the masking tape as a guide. You may use scissors, pinking shears, or your rotary cutter and mat.
- 3 - Tie the top and bottom layers in a knot at each fringe. At the corners, cross over the fringe so the bottom right connects to the top left, etc.

QUILLOWS



Quillow: quilt + pillow

What is the difference between a quillow and a quilt?

A quillow is a cross between a quilt and a pillow, it can be as simple as sewing two pieces of 45" x 72" fabric together and adding a pillow section of 18" square... or as complicated as any scrap or quilt pattern pieced design you might choose for the quilt top and pillow portions. A quillow can be used as either a pillow or a cozy lap quilt.

Materials needed

4 - 5 yards total of assorted fabrics for piecing or 2 yds for quilt top and 2 yds for quilt back
1/2 yd for pillow pocket or a pre-printed cushion block
100% cotton batting (a full sized bat 72" X 90" will make 2 quillows)

Step 1: Cutting Directions

For the "pillow pocket" cut as follows:

- (1) 18 ½ " fabric square or a cushion square or a pieced square for top
- (1) 18 ½ " fabric square or pieced square in color 2 for bottom
- (1) 20" batting

For the "quilt" cut as follows:

- (1) 45" x 72" piece (or pieced into blocks) of fabric for top of quilt
- (1) 45" x 72" piece of fabric for back of quilt
- (1) 45" x 72" piece of batting

Step 2: Sewing the Pillow Pocket Together

1. Place batting on flat surface.
2. Place bottom fabric on bat right side up.
3. Place top fabric piece on top of backing right side down.
4. Pin together, stitch closed with 1/2" seam leaving an 8" opening along 1 edge. Clip corners

at 45° angle

5. Reach into opening, pull out to turn pillow, shape corners and hand stitch opening closed.
6. Machine stitch a simple quilting pattern or hand tie to secure into a now flat pillow piece.

Step 3: Sewing the Quilt Body Together

1. Place batting on flat surface.
2. Place bottom fabric (or pieced blocks right side up on top of batting).
3. Place top fabric right side down on backing.
4. Pin then sew closed with a 1/2" seam, leaving a 10" opening on one side. Clip corners at a 45° angle
5. Reach into opening, pull right sides out, shape corners, hand stitch opening closed.

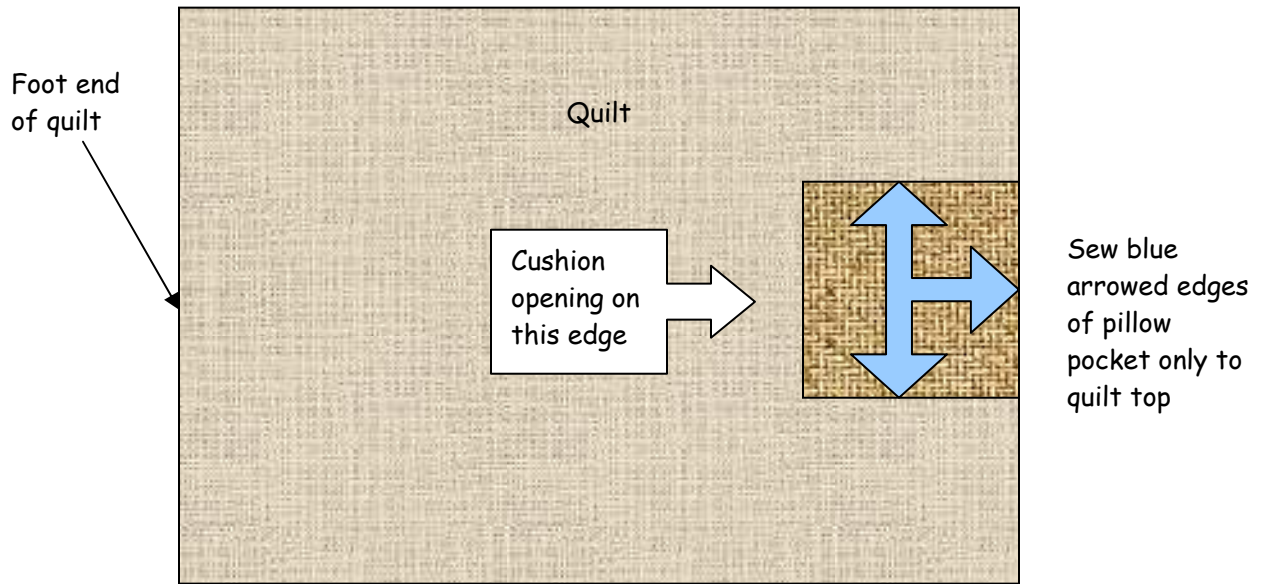
Step 4: Sew the Pillow Pocket to the Quilt Body

1. Lay quilt body, back side up. Center the pillow pocket, flushed edges together, positioning at the center section of quilt wrong side of pillow pocket up, design pointing up towards outside edge. Pillow pocket opening will be at the bottom of the pillow top, facing towards center of the quilt body as you look down at the backing.
2. Pin or baste pillow top to the quilt body along 3 sides
3. Sew only three sides of the pillow down flat to the quilt body, leaving the lower pillow edge open (facing the center of the quilt, not the outside of quilt edge) to form a pocket.
4. Secure the quilt layers together either by hand tying or machine quilting. Quilting should be no more than a hand width apart.

Here are some ideas to get your creative juices flowing



When finished your quillow should look like this:



Folding a quillow

