

The Ultimate Blankey

By Jean Wells

I love working with the cuddly "Plush" fabric, which is 60" wide. Always pre-wash and dry the fabric on a warm setting before cutting it out. I have made receiving blankets by cutting a square and adding binding around the edges. Newborn receiving blankets are 36" to 40" square, but my two year old granddaughter has a crib size which is 40" x 55". The other technique I like is to use flannel on one side and let the plush act like batting and backing. I use the pillowcase turn for this finishing technique.

Binding Instructions:

1/4 yd for a receiving size blanket or 1/3 yd for a crib size blanket

Cut 2 1/4" wide strips across the fabric.
Sew together lengthwise. Press seams open.
Fold in half lengthwise and press the fold.
Open up one end and bring the corner in at a 45 degree angle and press. **Figure 1.**

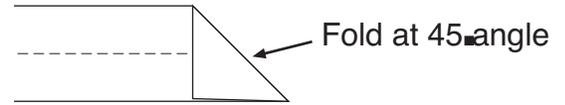


Figure 1

Place the folded back edge of the binding fabric as shown in **Figure 2.**
Using a 1/4" seam allowance stitch to within 1/4" of the corner of the fabric.
Stop and back stitch. Fold up the binding creating a 45 degree angle. **Figure 3.**

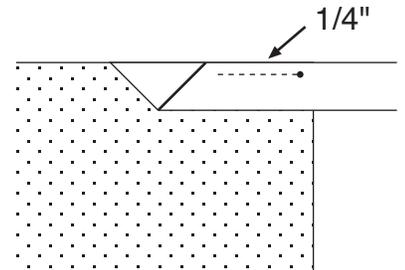


Figure 2

Then fold the binding strip back down even with the raw edge of the fabric. **Figure 4.**
Continue stitching to the next corner and repeat.

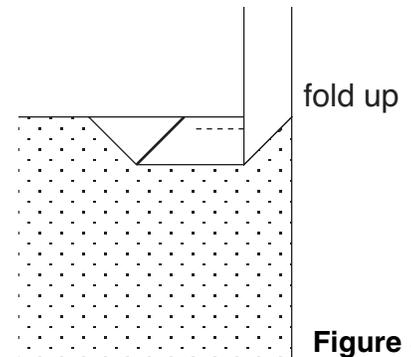


Figure 3

After the four corners you will meet the folded back edge where you started.
Stitch to within an inch of the beginning binding and pull the fabric from the machine.
The remaining binding will tuck into the fold at the beginning.

Trim off excess fabric and pin the edges. Continue sewing.
Turn the folded edge of the binding to the back of the blanket and hand stitch down.
The corners will automatically make a miter. **Figure 5.**

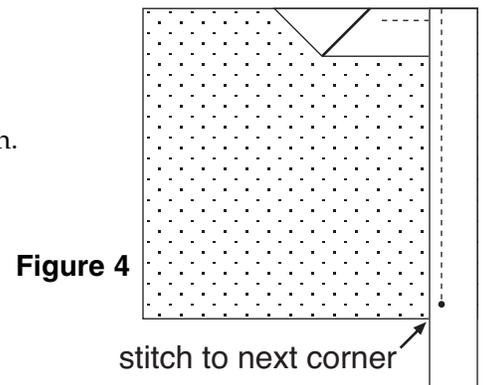


Figure 4

Pillowcase Turn Technique:

The flannel can be one piece or it could be a patchwork design.
Place right sides together of the flannel and plush and pin around the edges.
Set the stitch length to approximately 10 stitches to an inch or use a walking foot if you have one as you are stitching over a nap on the plush.
Stitch on the flannel side 1/4" away from the edge, leaving a 4" opening on one side to turn the blanket to the right side.
Trim excess fabric from the corners and turn to the right side.
Hand-stitch the opening shut.

Place the blanket on a flat surface and pin around the edges and in the middle.
The two layers need to be stitched together to secure them to each other.
If you have patchwork you can follow the seams in the patchwork otherwise I made some drawings below to give you ideas.

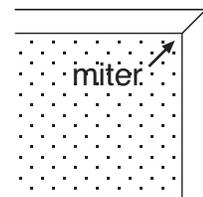
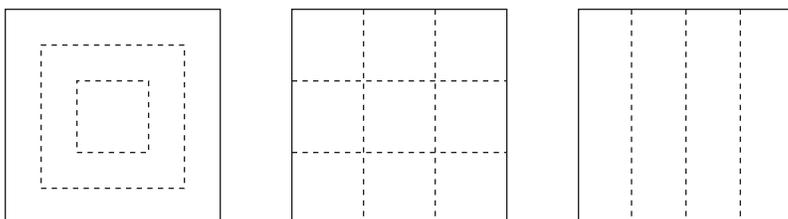


Figure 5