

# Project Linus

Providing Security Through Blankets

## Bakersfield/Kern County, CA Chapter

[www.projectlinusbakersfield.com](http://www.projectlinusbakersfield.com)

### Blanket Guidelines

A Project Linus blanket is a new, handmade, washable blanket. Project Linus provides blankets to all ages so your blanket may be any size and style (we prefer not smaller than 36x36). Although embellishments are cute we ask that you do not add buttons, glitter, beads, sequins or ribbons to your blankets. If fabric paint is used, please make sure that paint does not dry to produce a stiff, scratchy blanket surface.

#### FABRICS:

Cotton, fleece, flannel, minkie. No upholstery fabric. Please cut off selvages. In other words nothing that you would not want to cuddle up to. NO religious or holiday fabrics. Bright colorful fabrics are preferred.

**AFGHANS:** Use washable yarn. No yarn with wool content. Please make sure the weave is tight so no little fingers can get caught.

#### BLANKET TYPES:

Quilts & Tied Comforters. Please make sure that your ties are not further than approximately 6" apart.

Afghans Please use yarn that is washable. No wool.

Fleece blankets-PLEASE CUT OFF SELVEGES

No Sew/Tying Knots - Please cut 4" squares from all 4 corners of fleece then proceed to cut fringe. This will make your corners lay flat. To avoid blankets looking like a "bowl" do not tie knot too close to blanket edge.

Sewing/Fringe - Machine Sew your piece(s) of fleece 2 or 3 inches from edge with a straight stitch. You can sew around twice approximately 1/2inch. Cut out your 4" corners and fringe every 1/2inch.

Store bought fleece blankets - If you are going to fringe and tie please cut off the blanket stitch border. If you want to crochet around the edge use the blanket stitch on the blanket to hook to. Cut off the store tag.

Serge -Serge around the edges of the blanket.

#### PATTERNS AND IDEAS:

[www.quiltmaker.com](http://www.quiltmaker.com) Project Linus pattern

[quilting.about.com](http://quilting.about.com) Search patterns

[www.projectlinus.org](http://www.projectlinus.org) click "just for fun", patterns and links

[www.interweave.com](http://www.interweave.com)

[www.missouriquiltco.com](http://www.missouriquiltco.com) - great website for patterns, beginners & ideas

Have children color muslin squares to be sewn into your blankets. Use rubber stamps and Soft Scrub with bleach and decorate your own fabric. Lay out in sun to dry, wash out cleanser. *Blanket specifications for our handmade hugs*

Project Linus welcomes blankets of all styles, including quilts, tied comforters, fleece blankets, crocheted or knitted afghans, and receiving blankets in child-friendly colors. Blankets must be new, handmade and washable. You don't have to be an expert to create a blanket that is beautiful to a child! Be sure to check with your local Project Linus Chapter first, to determine specific and current needs.

Here's how you can help:

Make blankets from **NEW, CLEAN, WASHABLE** materials in **infant, child or teen friendly colors**. Remember, these blankets are meant to be colorful, cheerful, and cuddly.

Project Linus donates blankets to children, infants through teens. Many sizes are appropriate depending on the local chapter needs. Blankets can be as small as 36" X 36" but the majority of Project Linus blankets are about 40" X 60", or what is called "crib size." Many chapters accept blankets as large as twin size for teens. Local chapters may have certain preferences depending on the facilities to which they donate. **Please contact your local chapter before you start just to make sure that you will be making a blanket they can use.**

Crochet, knit, quilt, or tie your blankets--or neatly finish the edge on polar fleece. Make blankets from 100% cotton fabric, flannel, polar fleece, or acrylic yarn.

**Check your blanket carefully for straight pins.**

Please be sure to cut off the selvage (rolled) edge of fleece before making your blanket.

Please do not make your blankets out of tapestry, burlap, upholstery fabric, 70's type double knit, felt, vinyl, wool, or wool yarn. Please do not use fabric that has been stored in a damp area or has a musty smell. Mold spores can cause an allergic reaction in a child and are very difficult to remove from the fabric. Blankets that smell of smoke cannot be accepted.

We hope these guidelines will help you with your blanketmaking. We know that our blanketeers want to make blankets that can be used at the Project Linus facilities in their local areas. Thank you!