

The Simple Secret **8 x 8 x 8**

The secret to making a blanket is very simple: just spend at least **8** minutes a day crocheting or knitting. Soon you will have an **8" x 8"** (20cm x 20cm) square. When you have made 48 squares, you sew them together and will have a blanket that measures 48" x 64" (120cm x 160cm).

Through Blankets for Canada, this blanket will be given FREE to organizations who care for those who have no shelter, or are in need of warmth.

It can be even simpler: Knit or crochet strips, instead of squares! Much less sewing is required. Make the strip a minimum of 64 inches long, and as wide as you want - 8", 12", 16" or 48". Knitting or crocheting long strips means there is significantly less sewing together of pieces that needs to be done.

Making blankets wider and longer than 48" x 64" will be good for recipients who are larger. A 48" x 64" blanket is four feet by five feet, four inches, and that wouldn't be big enough for someone who is more than six feet tall and two hundred pounds!

Making the blanket is fun, and a good way to use up those scrap balls of yarn that are laying around the house. Squares can have many different **colours** in each one. This makes for a very colourful blanket too! You can use any stitch you want. It's a great way to try a new pattern.

Remember too, we don't make mistakes! We make ORIGINALS!



All over Canada, Blankets for Canada volunteers gather in churches and community centres, donated store front spaces, craft stores and coffee shops for our trademark "Stitch 'n' Chat" sessions. It's a great way to meet new people who are as committed to their volunteer work as you are, and you can mix and match squares and strips to create unique blankets.

When squares or blankets are done, please click on this link to our [Blanket Groups Contact Form](#) to find a Group Contact in your area..

Knitted Blankets **Our Basic Pattern**

Basic Materials

New 4 ply Worsted-weight acrylic yarns

Knitting Needles 4mm (or the size needed for your gauge)

Basic Patterns

Any Pattern can be used to make the squares.

This is a good way to practice a new pattern.

Knitting

Cast on 40 stitches for all patterns (or the number needed for your gauge of 8" (20cm))

When square is finished bind off and tie in loose threads.

Garter Stitch

Knit every row until piece measures 8" x 8" (20cm x 20cm)

Stockinette Stitch

Row 1: Knit all stitches.

Row 2: Purl all stitches.

Repeat these rows until pieces measures 8" x 8" (20cm x 20cm)

February 1999

"Basket Stitch in Knit"

Small amounts Berella 4 or any 4 ply worsted or sayelle yarn

Knitting needle size 5:00 mm

CO 46st.

1-4 Row: Knit - garter stitch

5th Row: K5, *k3, p3*, repeat to last 5 sts, K5

6th Row: K5, *p3, k3, repeat to last 5 sts, K5

7th Row: Repeat 5th row

8th Row: Repeat 6th row

9th Row: Repeat 6th row

10th Row: Repeat 5th row

11th Row: Repeat 6th row

12th Row: Repeat 5th row

These 6 rows form the pattern repeat. Repeat approximately 7 X until 7½". Knit 4 rows. Cast off.

March 1999

"Diagonal Rib in Knit"

Small amounts Berella 4 or any 4 ply worsted or sayelle yarn

CO 42st.

1st Row: k1, *k4, p4, rep from * to last st, k1

2nd Row: k2, *k4, p4, rep from * to last 8 sts, k4, p3, k1

3rd Row: k3, *p4, k4, rep from * to last 7 sts, p4, k3

4th Row: k1, p3, *k4, p4, rep from * to last 6 sts, k4, p1, k1

5th Row: k1, *p4, k4, rep from * to last st, k1

6th Row: k2, *p4, k4, rep from * to end

7th Row: k1, p2, *k4, p4, rep from * to last 7 sts, k4, p2, k1

8th Row: k4, *p4, k4, rep from * to last 6 sts, p4, k2

These eight rows form the pattern. Repeat until you have 8" then cast off.

January 24, 2006

Material:

Sugar'n Cream 4-ply,

color red. Straight needles #7 US (4.5 mm)

I am not a gauge big fan, and I especially don't think that it really matters for washclothes anyway (right?) so we are going to skip that part...

I only will give the measurements: 7.5" X 7.5"

Instructions:

Cast on 35 stitches.

Knit 3 rows.

Row 4 and each odd row: * K1, P33, K1.

Row 5: K7, P1, K9, P1, K9, P1, K7.

Row 7: K6, P3, K7, P3, K7, P3, K6.

Row 9: K5, P5, K5, P5, K5, P5, K5.

Row 11: K4, P7, K3, P7, K3, P7, K4.

Row 13: K4, P3, K1, P3, K3, P3, K1, P3, K3, P3, K1, P3, K4

Row 15: K5, P2, K1, P2, K5, P2, K1, P2, K5, P2, K1, P2, K5

Rows 17, 19, 21: Knit across. *

Repeat from * to * 2 times more, ending on row 19 the second time. Knit 1 row and bind off in knitting the last row.

We have 3 rows of 3 hearts (= 9 total)

Crocheted Blankets Our Basic Pattern

Basic Materials

New 4 ply Worsted-weight acrylic yarns

Crochet Hook size 5mm (or the size needed for your gauge)

Basic Patterns

Any Pattern can be used to make the squares.

This is a good way to practice a new pattern.

Crocheting

Basic Single Crochet

Chain 30 for the foundation chain (or necessary to obtain gauge)

Row 1: Single crochet in 2nd chain from hook, and in every chain in the foundation row. Chain 1 and turn.

Row 2: Work under the 2 top loops of each stitch in the previous row, single crochet across the row. Chain 1 and turn.

Repeat row 2 until piece measures 8" x 8" (20cm x 20cm).

Basic Double Crochet

Chain 27 for the foundation chain (or necessary to obtain gauge)

Row 1: Double crochet in 3rd chain from hook, and in every chain in the foundation row. Chain 2 and turn.

Row 2: Double crochet in each stitch across the row. Chain 2 and turn.

Repeat Row 2 until piece measures 8" x 8" (20cm x 20cm).

Quilted Blankets

Are you not a knitter or a crocheter but want to volunteer with Blankets for Canada? We have a place for you, too!

Blankets for Canada has many talented volunteers who sew quilts from donated fabric. The quilts are based loosely on the same theme as the knitted and crocheted blankets; 8" x 8" squares sewn together, with flannel backing and a solid blanket inside. As with the yarn, the fabric is donated by caring individuals and companies to Blankets for Canada, and all you have to do is sew the squares together.

Then there are the traditional quilts with toppings made of artistic squares, sometimes colourful backings and quilt batting between.

Both of these styles make a wonderful blankets for someone on the street.

Check in our **Blanket Albums** in the **Resources Menu** and you will see some of these creations.