Self-Binding Blanket Tutorial

Course instructor: Sara Christensen from www.flannelqueen.com

The Self-Binding Blanket

Featuring flannel from “On the Go” by Riley Blake Designs, and Riley Blake jumbo ric rac

Hello! I’m Sara from Flannel Queen. Today I’m happy to show you how to make my favorite type of flannel receiving blanket: The Self-Binding Blanket. This blanket has two layers of flannel. The flannel from the back is brought around to the front to look like binding. We’re also going to add ric rac to make it extra cute!

Course Materials:

1 ¼ yard of flannel for blanket back (it will come around to the front as the “binding” as well)
1 yard of flannel for blanket front
4 yards of jumbo ric rac
Coordinating thread
Course Instructions:

Cut:
42” square of flannel for blanket back
32” square of flannel for blanket front
Make sure your squares are

Note: Use ½ inch seams.

Step 1: Mark the center of all four sides of both pieces of flannel. I do this by putting a pin in the centers.
Step 2: Lay the two pieces of fabric right-sides together.

Step 3: Beginning on one side, line up the center pins and pin the two fabrics together. Put 4-5 pins on each side to hold it in place. Do this for all four sides. When you have pinned all four sides, you will have extra fabric sticking out on each corner, since the back piece is larger than the front piece.

Step 4. One side at a time, sew from the middle to the outside corner, stopping ½ inch from the edge. This is your “stopping point”. On the fourth side, leave an opening for turning your blanket right side out later.
Step 5. Fold the blanket in half, so it is shaped like a triangle. Working with one corner at a time, Sew a line from the “stopping point” to the fold. This line should be a 90 degree angle to the fold. Repeat for all corners.

Step 6. This is important: turn the blanket right-side out and check to make sure your corners look right. If they do, then turn the blanket inside-out again and proceed.

Step 7. Cut off the excess from each corner.
Step 8. Turn the blanket right-side out. Press entire blanket. I like to press all seams toward the outside of the blanket. This helps it to lay flat.

Step 9. Now you are going to sew the ric rac on. The ric rac will cover the seam between the two fabrics. Remember, there is still an opening in this seam. Make sure you line the ric rac up correctly so you will sew the opening shut as you pass over it. I like to use a large zig zag stitch when sewing ric rac. I have found it is easiest to hide the ric rac beginning/end point in a corner. To do this, have the beginning of the ric rac hang over the corner a bit. When you are almost to the end of the ric rac, take a minute to trim the beginning piece, trim off the end, and tuck the end under the beginning to hide the raw edges. (see pictures)
(The ric rac end will pass over the beginning, then tuck under. Before sewing, trim the beginning to it hides under the end of the ric rac.)

(The ric rac end goes over the beginning and then tucks under to hide raw edge.)

You’re done!