

WHEELCHAIR LAP ROBE

Finished Size: 27" W x 36" H (approximate) — please note bottom corners are cut diagonally. This prevents corners from being caught in the wheelchair wheels.

These are only guidelines for the first lap robe, using "stitch & flip" method—only your imagination is the limit.

Materials needed:

Open mind (essential)

Fabric strips pieced together, gather all of those odd pieces you have set aside for just that "someday" project and piece together in the following manner:

1 1/2" wide by 600" (yes, I do mean six hundred inches)

2" wide by 550"

2 1/2" wide by 250"



10 pieces polar fleece, size: 10 1/2" x 10 1/2"

1 piece polar fleece, size 12" x 12"

Blocks can be pieced if needed.

(4) 2" strips of polar fleece, - 36" long.

Thread to coordinate with polar fleece, it will not be seen on the fabric pieces. A possible suggestion might be the "blendables".

Community Service label.



1. On back of 12" block, position community service label: Sew in place. Your subsequent stitching lines will probably stitch through the label.

2. Lay 2 1/2" pieced strip, right side up, diagonally on your fleece.

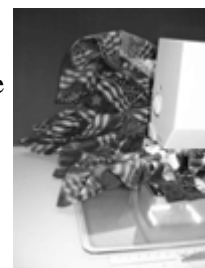


3. Right sides together, lay 1 1/2" strip atop 2 1/2" strip. Stitch in a 1/4" seam. ("Flip and sew" method)



4. Chain piece the remaining blocks in the same fashion. being sure to include the 12" block too.

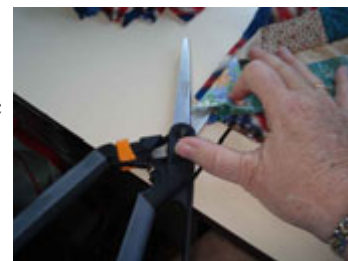
Trim threads.



5. Turn stack upside down (fleece side up). Trim threads between blocks and close to polar fleece. Finger press fabric to side.



6. Fold edges of strip to reveal 1/4" of fleece. Trim fabric (NOT fleece). Do not be concerned about exact measurement. The raw fabric edge will be completely enclosed.



7. Continue adding strips, trimming fabric to reveal 1/4" fleece, until blocks are filled. My method was center: 2 1/2", next 1 1/2", then 2", until block was covered, being sure that 1/4" of fleece is showing after each addition. You may change this order to whatever is pleasing to you.



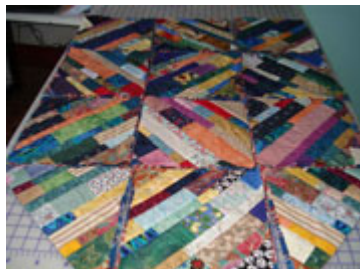
8. You may add half square triangle as last piece to fill block.



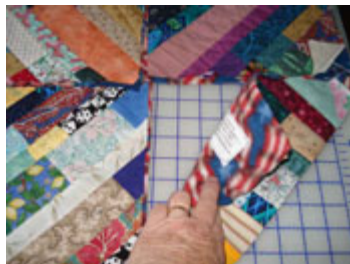
9. Cut 12" block (the one with the label on the back) diagonally in half.



10. Layout blocks 3 across and 4 down, positioning triangle blocks on bottom of last row.



Note position of label block at bottom right of quilt.



11. Indicate by numbered pin or other method to show top of each row.



12. Stack row **WRONG** sides together. Stitch using 3/4" (three-quarter inch) seam.



13. Finger press the seams open. Stitch 1/4" from fleece seam edge on both sides of the stitched seam. (Remember, fleece doesn't fray). You will be completely enclosing the cut edge of the fabric. Backstitching is not needed.



14. Lay out again, with first two rows pieced together. Add third row, stitch. Again, finger press seams open and stitch.



The bottom triangles will be oversized. Trim to an even measurement.

15. Pin rows together, being sure to match seams. Sew rows together. Finger press seams open and stitch as before, 1/4" from fleece seam edge.



16. I found the sewing process easier by "accordion pleating" the quilt.



Be sure to bring completed quilt to the next regular meeting.

Feel free to change the pieced fabric method to one of your choice. Could be log cabin, twisted log cabin, or any other method to cover the fleece blocks.

17. To cover the outside raw edges: using the 2" cut strips, lay one strip with 1" hanging off edge of quilt. Stitch, with decorative stitch if desired. You will need TWO seams, one close to edge of fleece and the other about 1 1/4" from outer edge of strip. The two rows will completely enclose the outer raw edge. *Alternate:* bind the edges in the traditional manner.



Another alternative: using batting and backing instead.. Cut batting 1 1/2" smaller than desired block size. Cut backing blocks 1" larger than finished block. Cover batting/backing blocks with strips as above. Piece together with wrong sides together. Cover seam raw edges with chenille strips OR flat-felt 1" piece of fabric. Outside edge may be bound as a traditional quilt OR apply chenille strips. Fluff chenille with brush.

18. Continue adding strips until outside of quilt is covered. If desired, clip added strip edges to create a fringe effect.

