

Baby Blankets - Specifications

What are the Quality Standards?

We have specific quality standards for blankets we accept and gift to our partner hospitals. We cannot accept blankets exposed to cigarette smoke or blankets that have pet hair on them. Our goal is to provide blankets of the highest quality to grieving families at their time of loss. We ask that volunteers use the specific yarn types and colors mentioned below as they are most preferred by hospitals, grieving families, and bereavement photographers. **We cannot use blankets made of bright colors, dark colors, beige, black, red, orange, or solid yellow.** All donated blankets are inspected before distribution to hospitals.

What Sizes does Rachel's Gift Accept?

Blankets must fit inside our keepsake boxes to be used. The best size is approximately 21in. x 21in. If you're having trouble sizing down a beloved pattern, no larger than 25in. x 25in.

What Pattern Should I Use?

You choose the pattern, we don't have a preference. The final size and color are most important. If you need ideas, search The Crochet Crowd's YouTube channel for detailed instructional videos. Their instructions for different stitches will say multiples of 3 or 4 depending on the pattern. Crochet loose and use 60 in your chain. If you end up with a blanket that's too small, add a border.

What Yarn Type and Color Should I Use?

Baby yarn is preferred for both its softness and weight of about 3.5oz to 5oz. Blankets made of yarns with a weight of 7oz. or more are often too bulky to fold into our keepsake boxes. **We cannot use fuzzy yarn.**

We ask that you donate gender specific blankets, so always consider blue or pink the base color. **Keep all colors pastel, please!**

What Should I Make for a Baby Girl?

Consider pastel pink your base color. Use pink only or mix in / add a trim of complementary shades of lavender, mint, yellow, or white. Some ideas: pink with white trim; white with pink trim; pink with yellow trim; mix pink/lavender/white; mix pink/mint/white. Use yellow sparingly.

What Should I Make for a Baby Boy?

Consider pastel blue your base color. Use blue only or mix in / add a trim of complementary shades of pale green, yellow, or white. Some ideas: blue with white trim; white with blue trim; blue with yellow trim; mix blue/green/white; mix blue/green/yellow/white. Use yellow sparingly.

Can I Make a Gender Neutral Blanket?

Yes! Always include both pink and blue. Mix in complementary shades of pale green, yellow, or white. A mix of blue/pink/white is beautiful. Stay away from off-white/beige to replace white. ***Please do not donate all white or all yellow blankets.*** These colors do not compliment baby's skin tone when pictures are taken.