

Thank you for crocheting for Sands memory boxes.

This crochet pattern is available to help you to create your memory blanket.

You can use an alternative pattern but please check the FAQs as we have further guidance. We can only accept **white blankets** no larger than a 24 inch/60cm square. Please make sure there are no metallic inclusions.

Easy Baby Blanket with Lace Option

This lace border makes the easy blanket very special, however, you can also crochet to the basic pattern, without the border.



Basic blanket

170gm of Double-Knit Wool and 4.5mm crochet hook

Abbreviations used: Ch or ch – chain; Dc or dc – double crochet;

Tc or tc – treble crochet

This pattern uses UK terminology.

Foundation chain – Work 104 ch

Row 1 – 1 dc into 2nd ch from hook *1ch, miss 1ch, 1dc into next ch; rep from * to end of row. TURN

Row 2 – 1 ch, (this acts as the first dc), * 1 tr in next 1 ch space, 1 dc into next dc; rep to end (your row should end on a dc)

TURN

Row 3 – 1 ch, 1 dc in first dc, * 1 ch, miss 1 tc, 1 dc into next dc; rep from * to end. TURN

Repeat Rows 2 and 3 until blanket is square. Ensure that you end on a Row 2 (this will be around 84 rows depending on your tension)

If you are not edging your blanket fasten off yarn, weave in ends and block. If you are edging, then no need to fasten off.

To crochet the blanket with lacy edge

To crochet the blanket with a lacy edge follow the instructions as above but chain 96 as the foundation row – this will reduce the size of the basic square to around 19 inches. When you reach the end of your final row do not fasten off the yarn.

Edging

The edging is worked in rounds around your completed square blanket.

When you reach the end of your final row (this will be a row 2) chain 4 TURN (These 4 ch act as the first 1tr, 1 ch of the first round of your edging)

Edging Round 1 - * Miss 1 tc, tr in next dc, ch 1 rep from * until you have the first row of edging all the way around the blanket. (To make the corner's work the tr into the corner dc as normal, ch 3, tr into same dc.) at end of round slip stitch into 3rd chain – Ch 4 Edging Round 2 is worked as edging round 1 –to make the corners work 1 tr, 3 chain, 1 tr into the 3 ch space. At end of round slip stitch into 3rd chain – Ch4 (this acts as 1tr, 1 ch at the beginning of round 3)

Edging Round 3 – As edging round 2. At end of round slip stitch into 3rd chain – Ch 1 (this 1ch acts as the first dc at the beginning of round 4)

Edging Round 4 – work 1 dc, 2 chain, 1 dc into each 1 ch space. This forms the picot edging. (To make the corner edging into the 3 ch spaces work 1dc, 2ch, 1dc, 2ch, 1dc, 2ch, 1dc.

At the end of the round slip stitch into the first dc. Cast off and weave in the ends. Block if desired.

After you have knitted or crocheted your blanket:

Once you have completed knitting or crocheting your blanket, you must fill in our [form](#). Then, print off your completed form and include it in your parcel with the blanket.

If you do not have a printer, then please include your name, address and the form submission number with your blanket so that we can send you an acknowledgment.

You can post your blankets to: Sands Memory Box Blanket Appeal, C/O Partridges, Eagle Avenue, Magnetic Park, Desborough NN14 2WD

Sands can reimburse postage costs and the cost of wool if necessary. Please fill out our [expenses form](#) and email it to volunteering@sands.org.uk along with any receipts you have.

Any queries? Please email the Sands shop on sands@sands-shop.co.uk

Frequently asked questions:

Q: Why do Sands Memory Box blankets need to be white?

A: Sadly, there is great need for our Memory Boxes which go to bereaved parents from all walks of life and from different backgrounds and beliefs. So, to ensure that Memory Boxes are appropriate for every baby, we only use white blankets as they are a neutral colour. In some cases where a baby has died early in pregnancy, parents simply do not know the gender of their baby, and different colours can have different cultural significances.

Q: Do you accept blankets that are not hand knitted or crocheted, for example fleece?

A: No. We only accept hand knitted or crocheted blankets.

Q: Do you only accept woollen blankets, or can I use a synthetic fibre?

A: We accept wool or synthetic fibres, as long as they are white, and the blanket is handmade.

Q: Where do I send finished Memory Box blankets?

A: Sands Memory Box Blanket Appeal, C/O Partridges, Eagle Avenue, Magnetic Park, Desborough, NN14 2WD. Please include your full contact details so that we can acknowledge receipt.

Q: I'd like to knit a blanket for a Sands Memory Box, can I do this?

A: Yes! Please use our knitting pattern available at: sands.org.uk/get-involved/volunteer-sands/knit-sands

Q: I am crocheting as part of a group and/or have a large number of blankets to send

A: Please collect your blankets together in a box and if you have more than 25 blankets, please contact us as we may be able to arrange a courier pickup. Please contact us to discuss this further on 0203 897 6092 or email shop@shop-sands.org.uk.

Q: How else can I support the work Sands does?

A: There are loads of ways you can get involved to help us support bereaved parents, improve the care they receive and help us ensure that fewer babies die in the future. Find out more in the Get Involved section of our website: sands.org.uk/get-involved