

OQC LAPGHAN PROJECT REQUIREMENTS

We want to ensure your efforts are successful and that your time and resources will be used in meaningful support of those we serve. For that reason, **please** adhere to the following Project Requirements. Additionally, if you are enlisting the support of others who are not members of OQC to knit or crochet items, please ensure that they receive a **complete** copy of these Project Requirements before they begin. **Anyone** working on these items can contact the OQC with questions or for information, not just OQC members – good communication is the best way to avoid difficulties.

General Project Requirements

Since the items we knit and crochet are going to our troops at the front lines, it is very important that we produce **quality** work as well as **quantity**. If yarns are used that don't fit the guidelines, your items **cannot** be sent to our soldiers but will be donated to charity, and all your hard work will be for nothing.

- **PLEASE** make sure your items closely meet the appropriate size requirements! This is extremely important. The lapghans will be used as litter quilts, and the size has been specified by the front-line medical personnel. Items that are too large or too small cannot be sent. They should be as close to **41" by 53"** as you can make them.
- **DO NOT** knit or crochet items with large holes in the pattern, since these can snag on medical equipment and do not provide sufficient warmth. no holes (or over stitching) bigger than an index finger; this includes granny stitch, lace, loose cables, etc. Make sure the pattern you use provides a warm covering for a wounded soldier.
- There are no specific pattern requirements except for size and yarn types. Just make sure that any pattern you use does not have holes in it!
- If you can't afford any of the yarns on the approved list, please let Katie know so that a request can be put out to the wider membership for yarn to be sent to you to use.

Color Requirements

Remember, we want these items to be soft and soothing. The following list is **very important**:

- Bright colors are **NOT** acceptable.
- **DO NOT** use bright reds, pinks, yellows, oranges, greens, neon colors, etc.
- **DO** use colors that are muted and appropriate for either sex.
- Red in moderation is acceptable with a PATRIOTIC PATTERN ONLY.

- Please use your best judgment. Remember, these items are going to a combat zone, not a stateside facility!

Yarn Requirements

The most important requirement is that all yarns chosen for these projects should be **very, very soft** to the touch.

- Either a smooth or a bouclé yarn can be used, but items made with scratchy yarns **will not** be accepted by OQC and you will be notified of the reason why. We want nothing but the best we can provide for our brave men and women.
- **ALL** yarn should be easy care, i.e. machine washable and dryable; soft acrylics are best since they don't shrink or felt like wool yarns can if washed improperly and since laundry facilities are often extremely limited.
- **DO NOT** use yarn with any glitter in it – we do not want to make our soldiers targets for the enemy by having their lapghan extra-visible!
- **DO NOT** use any fun fur, suede, ribbon, chenille, or other "novelty" yarns. Items made with these yarns do not meet the Project Requirements and will not be accepted by OQC.
- **DO NOT** use cotton yarns or yarns made with exotic fibers.
- No label needs to be attached to these items, so please do not use anything other than yarn in this project.

Lapghans can be sent to:

Operation Quiet Comfort
17671 13th Road
Plymouth, IN 46563

The lists below of approved and disapproved yarns are not all-inclusive, but they do include many soft acrylic yarns available at Joann's and Michael's, two widespread sources of affordable yarns. Your local yarn shop may also have good yarn options, but please make sure all yarns used are (1) very soft and (2) easy care. If you have questions about a particular yarn, please discuss it with Katie **before** spending hours of your time working on something that cannot be sent. This is asked of **anyone** working on this project, not just OQC members.

APPROVED YARNS

Lion Brand yarns:

- Homespun¹
- Jiffy
- Micro Spun

Vanna's Choice (muted colors only)

Bernat yarns:

- Soft Bouclé
- Softee Chunky
- Satin
- Satin Sport

Caron yarns:

- Simply Soft
- Simply Soft Shadows
- Simply Soft Quick

Patons yarns:

- Decor
- Canadiana (available online)

Red Heart yarns:

- Soft
- Collage
- Designer Sport (muted colors only)

Sensations yarns:

- Rainbow Bouclé
- Rainbow Classic

(both of these yarns are available in large, economical skeins at Joann's)

DISAPPROVED YARNS – DO NOT USE!

ABSOLUTELY NO Red Heart Super Saver!!

NO Red Heart Fiesta

NO fun fur

NO yarn with glitter!!!

NO suede yarn

NO ribbon yarn

NO chenille yarn

NO cotton yarn

NO other "novelty" yarn

Any other acrylic which is not **VERY SOFT!**

¹While most Homespun colors are excellent, avoid the brighter ones like Cotton Candy or Coral Gables (pink), Covered Bridge or Candy Apple (red), Golden or Saffron (yellow), or Apple or Florida Keys (green)