Crocheted Edgings on Flannel

Crocheted edgings on flannel make beautiful baby blankets and are easy to do. There are three basic steps which can be done in a number of ways.

A. Create your flannel blanket

B. Create a foundation row on the edge

C. Crochet your edging

Figure A. Create your flannel blanket.

- Cut 2 pieces of coordinating flannel to your desired size.

- Place them right sides together and pin to secure.

- Stitch 1/4 inch from raw edge all around, leaving an opening of about 6 inches for turning.

- Clip corners.

- Turn right side out, pushing out corners with a chopstick or similar tool.

- Whipstitch opening closed.

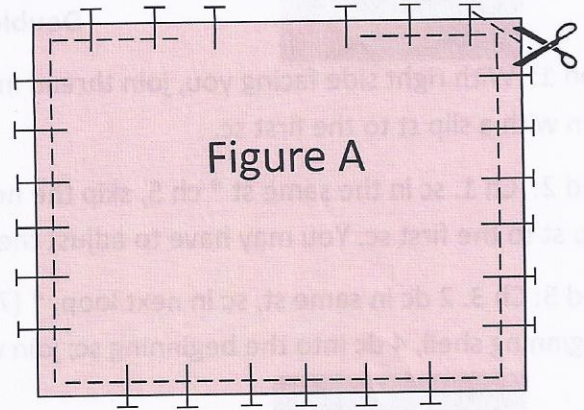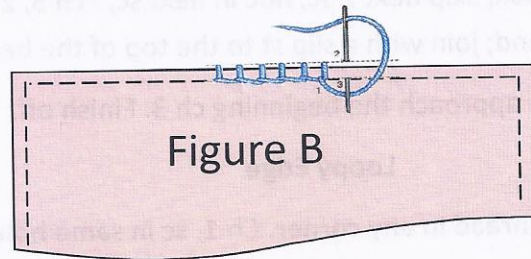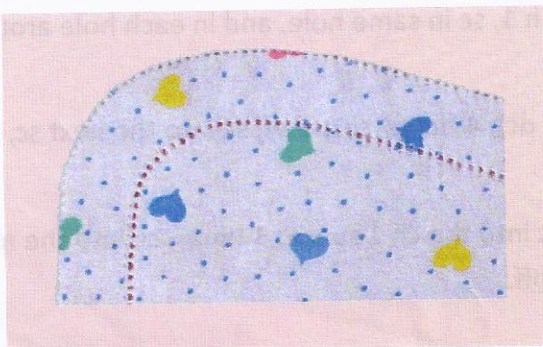- Top stitch 1/4 inch from edge.

Figure A

Figure B. Create your foundation row using one of the following methods:

- Using a Skip Stitch Blade, a ruler and a mat, run your rotary cutter around the edge of the blanket between the edge and the top stitching.

- Figure B. Using a darning needle and perle cotton thread, create a blanket stitch around the edge of the blanket.

Figure B

- Purchase hemstitched fabric. Hemstitching dates back to the early 1900's, and is done by a special machine that makes a reinforced hole on the raw edge of the fabric so that a finished edge can be applied. The machines were made by Singer, but they stopped making them in the 1950's. However, you can find hemstitched articles online or if you are lucky enough to find an owner near you.

Here are some websites where you can purchased hemstitched items:

www.hemstitcher.com

www.ammeesbabies.com

www.deniseshemstitching.com

C. Crochet your edging: There are countless beautiful crochet edging patterns available. Here are just a few to get you started. One you get the hang of it, it's easy to experiment and make up some of your own variations.

Double Crochet Shell Stitch

Rnd 1: With right side facing you, join thread in any corner, Ch 1, sc in same hole, and in each hole around; join with a slip st to the first sc.

Rnd 2: Ch 1. sc in the same st * ch 5, skip the next 4 sc, sc into the next sc, repeat from * around; join with a slip st to the first sc. You may have to adjust the pattern as you approach the first sc.

Rnd 3: Ch 3. 2 dc in same st, sc in next loop, * (7 dc in next sc, sc in next loop), repeat from * around to the beginning shell, 4 dc into the beginning sc; join with a slip st to the first ch 3, finish off.
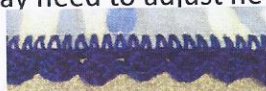
Picot Stitch

Rnd 1: With right side facing you, join thread in any corner, Ch 1, sc in same hole, and in each hole around; join with a slip st to the first sc, continue with the same color for round 2, or finish off and change colors joining new color in any sc.

Rnd 2: Ch 1, sc in the same stitch and in each of the next 4 sc, work *picot (ch 3, sc into the top of the last sc), sc into the next 5 sc, repeat from * around; join with a slip st to the first sc, finish off.

You may need to adjust he sc between the picots as you approach the first sc.

Sideways Shell

Rnd 1: With right side facing you, join thread in any corner. Ch 1, sc in same hole, and in each hole around; join with a slip st to the first sc.

Rnd 2: Ch 3, 2 dc in the 2nd ch from hook, skip next 2 sc, hdc in next sc, *ch 3, 2 dc around the hdc, skip next 2 sc, hdc in next sc, repeat from * around; join with a slip st to the top of the beginning ch 3.

You may need to adjust stitches as you approach the beginning ch 3. Finish off.

Loopy Edge

Rnd 1: With right side facing you, join thread in any corner. Ch 1, sc in same hole, and in each hole around; join with a slip st to the first sc.

Rnd 2: Ch 1, sc in same sc, * ch r, skip 1 sc, sc in next sc, repeat from * around; ch 4, join with a slip st to the first sc, finish off.

Lacy Shell

Rnd 1: With right side facing you, join thread in any corner. Ch 1, sc in same hole, and in each hole around; join with a slip st to the first sc.

Rnd 2: Ch 1, sc in same sc, * skip 2 sc, in the next sc dc, (ch 1, dc), 4 times, skip 2 sc, sc into the next sc, repeat from * around; join with a slip st to the first sc.

Rnd 3: Ch1, sc in same sc, * sc in the next ch 1 space (ch 3, sc into the ch 1 space) 3 times, sc into the next sc, repeat from * around; join with a slip st to the first sc, finish off.