

# Knitting Projects



## Get involved

Here are some ideas for projects to knit for our community knitting group, the LP Wool Pack.

# Blankets



## Blanket strips

You can knit up strips of any colour combination, any width and any length. I tend to do 30 stitches and either 300 or 400 rows, using up my scraps of wool. These can then be sewn together and edged to produce blankets for various projects, such as homeless shelters, care homes, and animal rescue centres.



## Squares

If you don't feel like knitting a whole strip and would like a smaller project, perhaps to practice your skills if you are a beginner, or to extend your skills by using different textured patterns, you can knit some squares, which again are sewn together to make blankets. It is recommended that these squares are about 6"x6" but don't worry too much about that: it's quite possible to mix and match and fit some not-so-square squares together.



## Whole blankets

There are lots of very nice, very easy blanket patterns available and, again, this is a great way to develop your knitting skills or give yourself the challenge of a slightly larger project.

# Hats and scarves



Hat and scarf sets for children and adults are great to knit and can be mixed and matched, as simple or as fancy as you like. There are some easy patterns available.



Adult hats for the homeless are always welcome and much appreciated.



Baby hats, from tiny preemie sizes up, are needed too. Sometimes we might suggest knitting these in red, yellow or green, known as traffic light hats, as these are used in some baby units to denote the level of care needed.

# Babies



Baby sets are among my favourite things to knit: they are just so cute. You can mix and match colours, play with patterns and they are quick and easy.



You don't have to knit matching sets, of course: matinee jackets, rompers, booties and the like are all welcome.

# Other items

There are, on occasion, other items requested by various hospitals, such as cannula sleeves, but I will let you know if these are being particularly requested. I am keen that this group serves the needs of the organisations to which we donate by ensuring that only those items which are most useful and most requested are sent. There are many hospitals and charity groups who have too many donations and they go to waste.

## Twiddle muffs / blankets.

It has been discovered that people with dementia find great comfort from having something to fiddle with as they get restless hands. Twiddle Muffs have been developed in conjunction with aged care groups. These are knitted sleeves onto which items that can be twiddled with are securely sewn. Buttons, zips, textured yarn, even bells and keys can all be used. You can find a pattern for these at [Golden Carers](#).



# Resources and information

We have set up a Facebook group, [LP Wool Pack](#), as a means of sharing ideas, pictures, information and support. If you are a Facebook user, please come and join us there.

There are some wonderful free patterns available on the internet. Some of my favourite designers can be found on [Ravelry.com](#) and many of the patterns can be downloaded for free. You can see all the variations that people have made of the patterns, too. It's free to register.

My go-to patterns, particularly for baby clothes, is Marian Leys. Her blog, <https://mariannaslazydaisydays.blogspot.com/>, has many patterns and they are all easy and a delight to knit.

Yarn can be bought all over the place, of course, but you will often find the best – and cheapest – in Poundland and Aldi. These are 100% acrylic yarns, generally, and usually really soft and perfectly suitable for baby outfits. The self-striping and random designs knit up into interesting outfits. Online retailers such as [Marriner Yarns](#), a small independent retailer based in Cardiff, offer very good value and their yarns are, in my experience, lovely and soft and great to knit with. Their double knit is particularly good value – although be warned, you end up buying FAR more than you meant to!

If there are any other questions, comments, suggestions, please feel free to contact Merion at [meriontaynton@leightonpark.com](mailto:meriontaynton@leightonpark.com)

Happy knitting 😊

