

Soldiers' Angels Blankets of Hope

Angels are needed to sew blankets! These blankets have brought hope and comfort to many of our wounded and ill heroes.



"Dear Angel,

I got shot in the foot and I got your blanket in a backpack... I do not mind going back to my unit knowing I am fighting for people like you... "

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"If it had not been for your support I would have had nothing. I know that a blanket may not seem like much back home, but here it can make a lot of difference. You will never know how much you helped me."

Visit the main Soldiers' Angels website at: www.soldiersangels.org
and the Soldiers' Angels Germany blog at: www.soldiersangelsgermany.org

Soldiers' Angels provides Blankets of Hope to the Combat Support Hospitals in Iraq and Afghanistan, medical facilities in Landstuhl Germany, and US military hospitals.



About medical facilities in Landstuhl, Germany

Approximately 500 patients are medevaced to Landstuhl each month for a variety of reasons including battle injury or medical conditions such as kidney stones, tumors, etc. The average stay is 1 – 2 weeks before being sent on to the US or back to Iraq or Afghanistan.

Some soldiers are hospital inpatients and others stay in outpatient barracks during treatment and evaluation. In both cases, blankets are used (and appreciated!) on beds or litters. Most patients take their blanket with them when leaving.

Blankets of Hope Guidelines

1. Size: Minimum 45"x 60", maximum 60" x 80".

2. Fabrics: Fleece or quilted cotton/flannel with batting.

If using double sided fleece, please finish the edges. If using single sided fleece, please back with another fabric and tack with embroidery thread. If using purchased fleece blankets, please personalize with buttons, appliqué, etc.

3. "No-sew" Blankets: Many people enjoy making these in groups. For instructions, copy this link into your browser: <http://www.exploringwomanhood.com/homelife/ideas/pom-jan03.htm>

Hancock Fabrics sells some great fleece "panels" that are perfect for no-sews
<http://www.hancockfabrics.com/category/3110.html>

3. Colors: Most recipients are men. Bright/patriotic colors are good.

4. Important: Roll each blanket tightly, tie with a ribbon, and tag with a note: "Made with love and hope for your recovery by (your name) from Soldiers' Angels". You may wish to include your email address. Quilts may be folded instead of rolled.

5. This is an ongoing project! THANK YOU for your support of our wounded and ill warriors.

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Shipping information to Soldiers' Angels Germany:

Please include a note in your package with your name, email address, and number of blankets sent so we may acknowledge receipt. Please allow 6-8 weeks for receipt confirmation via email.

**21st TSC, Medical Transient Detachment
ATTN: Soldiers' Angels, MaryAnn Phillips
UNIT 23203
APO AE 09263**

You may also send blankets directly to the Combat Support Hospitals in Iraq/Afghanistan. Email me for APOs when you are ready to ship.

Questions? Email maryann.phillips@gmail.com

Money-Saving Shipping Tips

General

1. Do not send Priority Mail!! Parcel Post is fine.
2. Save your postage receipts, which may be tax-deductable. Consider asking your local VFW, etc. to sponsor your project by paying for shipping.

- Shipping to APO addresses for wounded in CSHs or at Landstuhl -

1. Parcel Post should be cheapest, but box dimensions may not exceed a total dimension of 108" (circumference of the box + the length of the longest side).

For example, an 18x18x30 inch box would be $18 \times 4 = 72$, $+30 = 102$ ".

Between 108" and 130", you can still ship parcel post but there is an added fee for "oversized" boxes which makes them too expensive. The combined postage of several boxes which fall under 108" is usually cheaper than the postage for one oversized box!

2. Single blankets usually fit in a regular (non-Priority) Tyvek mail envelope from the post office. Send "regular" (i.e., non-Priority) mail.
3. Waiting until you have several blankets ready, then sending in one larger box within the Parcel Post size limits should be the most cost-effective shipping method.

Wanted to pass this on to you about Jeff, the injured Marine.

He was sent to Germany, then to a hospital in Maryland for further repair and rehab. His folks were flown to Maryland last Wednesday and returned Sunday.

At work the next day, his Mom told me Jeff had his BLANKET with him! She said that it was practically the only thing he had with him when he arrived in Maryland.

THANK YOU SO MUCH!!!!!!!!!!

God Bless you for making sure he got one of your blankets. You're a blessing to those soldiers and for that I thank you from the bottom of my heart.

Kim



Dear Ms Bailiff,

One of your blankets today went to a wounded soldier who lost his friends. It is heartbreaking to listen to him talk about his friends and the incident.

The blanket has a special meaning to him, and although he has a long road to recovery, I know he will never let it go. Your display of compassion and patriotism means so much to them.

It was indeed an honor to pass on the blanket to this soldier who placed everything on the line to protect our freedom.

MAJ C. M., 10th CSH (Combat Support Hospital)

