

HUGS SOCIETY



SNUGGLES PROJECT

"All I want is a Snuggle . . .

and a place to call home."

Hugs Society, formerly Hugs for Homeless Animals, is a nonprofit 501(c)(3) organization dedicated to homeless and displaced animals worldwide.

THE SNUGGLES PROJECT

www.snugglesproject.org

The Snuggles Project is a very important project for Hugs Society. Our dedication to homeless animals combined with the caring and giving attitude of so many have made this project an incredible success.

SNUGGLES ARE SECURITY BLANKETS FOR SHELTER ANIMALS.

They provide physical and psychological comfort to the animals awaiting new homes.

In most instances the animals are kept in areas with stainless steel braces or hard plastic flooring. It is our goal that each animal would get a Snuggle to cuddle up with to feel comfort as well as a bit of security during their stay. The Snuggles would allow them to have a little reprieve from the coldness of the cage they are kept in.

I am so very happy that it has become as popular as it has. My heart is overjoyed each time someone donates a Snuggle to a homeless animal. I hope that after you read this, you will want to help too.

Do you love to crochet or knit or quilt or sew? If so, I would like to tell you about our Snuggles project. My name is Rae French and I am the founder and president of Hugs Society. I love animals and it breaks my heart when I see them suffering in any way.

For years I had been feeding any stray cat who came to my home for food and comfort. These cats were homeless, abandoned by their owners, or born feral. And as I knew that one day I may have to take them to the humane society in hopes of finding them a new home, my heart aches when I picture them waiting in their hard cold cells. It is this heartache that helped me create the Snuggles Project in 1996.



MAKING SNUGGLES

We are asking you to donate a little of your time and leftover scraps of yarn or fabric to make Snuggles for your local animal shelters. Crochet, knit, quilt or sew cloth blankets in the following guideline sizes:

14" x 14" for cats and small animals

24" x 24" for cats and small to medium dogs

36" x 36" for medium to large dogs

These sizes are just guidelines. The actual Snuggles don't have to be exact. They could be made out of acrylic yarn or cotton in any pattern or color that you choose. The ends should be double-knotted and fastened off long and woven through the work to prevent unraveling from washing and wear. Also make them thick for comfort and warmth.

Many of our participating animal shelters and rescue groups also accept donations of blankets and towels. All blankets and towels should be cleaned before sending.

If you prefer, you can send Snuggles to our headquarters at the address below. You may also send yarn to our headquarters and we will distribute it to Snuggle groups, such as senior centers, nursing homes and schools who wish to help with the project but do not have the funds to buy yarn. Please do not send yarn to your local shelters unless they have specifically requested it. Very few have the volunteers or the resources to convert it to Snuggles.

MUTUAL BENEFITS

The Snuggles Project is a multi-beneficial project. It is beneficial to the animals who receive them for physical and psychological comfort. It is beneficial to the shelters who can present a more homey atmosphere and adopt more animals. It is beneficial to the Snuggle maker who receives the warm feeling that comes with doing good work to help others.

Furthermore, the project is a very good project for the elderly as it gives them worthwhile work that they can do to keep them active. It is a very good project for kids and people learning how to crochet, knit or quilt because the Snuggles don't have to be perfect. The animals love them any way they can get them. All that is required is that they be made with love.



MAKING SNUGGLES DONATIONS

HOW TO MAKE A SNUGGLES DONATION TO A LOCAL SHELTER

Snuggles may be donated directly to any of the participating shelters listed in our Worldwide Shelter Directory located on our website. Look for participating shelters marked with a Snuggle Kitten icon.



You can feel confident donating directly to the participating shelters as they have specifically requested to receive Snuggles and understand how they should be used. If your local shelter is not listed, please let us know by either filling out the online Add a Listing form or by sending us a note including the shelter's name, address, telephone, fax, as well as email or website, if available.

You will find within this information packet a Snuggles Donation Form to be used whenever donating directly to any local shelter. You can get more copies from our website.

DONATING TO SHELTERS WITHOUT A SNUGGLE KITTEN ICON

Before delivering to them, ask them if they accept Snuggles security blankets for the animals. There are still many shelters who do not know about the Snuggles Project or do not have the facility to wash them. The key question to ask your shelter is if they use towels and blankets in their cages and kennels. If they answer "yes" then more than likely they will want to receive Snuggles for their animals.

REPORTING YOUR SNUGGLES DONATION

Whenever you donate Snuggles to your local shelter, give the shelter a copy of the Snuggles Donation Form. Send a copy to us or report your donation on our website and save the postage. These reports help us keep our records accurate and help us to keep track of the work that we are able to accomplish. Donation reports receive a tax-deductible receipt by email. If you require a return receipt by regular mail please include a self-addressed stamped envelope.



SNUGGLES PATTERNS

“QUICK AND EASY” CROCHET SNUGGLE

This is an easy pattern that even the most novice crocheter can make. It is a great teaching pattern for beginners as well as a good exercise pattern for the elderly with hand/arm disabilities.

MATERIALS: Worsted weight yarn, size M (13) hook.

DIRECTIONS: With 2 strands, chain to desired width (add 1 for turning chain).

Row 1 (right side): Ch in 2nd ch from hook, sc in each ch st across, ch1, turn.

Row 2: Sc in each st across, ch1, turn. Repeat Row 2 for pattern until desired size.

Finish off. If you like, you can work a border around the snuggle to give it personality and to stop the piece from curling. For best results, leave ends long and weave through the work using a tapestry needle; or weave through as you crochet.

“SEED STITCH” KNIT SNUGGLE

This is a very easy to learn teaching pattern helping the new knitter to learn gauge and tension.

MATERIALS: Worsted weight yarn, size 10 knitting needles

DIRECTIONS: With 2 strands, cast on a multiple of 2 sts + 1 + 2 edge sts.

Row 1 (right side): K1 (edge st), K1, P1*, repeat from * to * ending with K1 and K1 (edge st).

Row 2: Exactly in the same manner as Row 1. Repeat Row 1 and Row 2 until desired size.

Fasten off. Weave in ends. For best results, leave ends long and weave through the work using a tapestry needle; or weave through as your knit.

QUILTED OR SEWN SNUGGLE

Quilt Snuggles must be able to survive multiple machine washings. Use cotton or any washable material. Machine quilt rather than hand quilt or tie.

Use layers of material (such as flannel or terry cloth) for filling. Polyester or cotton batting is not recommended as the batting is easily torn out by a hyperactive animal. Most shelters will not accept Snuggles filled with batting as it is too messy and may cause health problems for the animals if the animal should get at the batting. But we have found a nice way around this: double stitch the hems and stitch over the snuggle with a cross-hatch or other pattern. This will hold the snuggle together and the shelters will accept these without a problem.

These quilt Snuggles don't have to be complex pieces of work. There is no need to go out and get expensive quilting fabrics. Polar fleece, cotton flannels and terry cloth work wonderfully and wear very well. Even old clothes can be converted into Snuggles this way.

WANT MORE SNUGGLES PATTERNS?

You will find them on our Snuggles Project website's Pattern Library at www.snugglesproject.org

Sign up for our email newsletter and get a new pattern every month.

BECOME A MEMBER

This is a great way to support the project and get to know other Snugglers. The Snuggles Project website is a social networking website for our members. We have forums, groups, newsletters, and more just with a click of the mouse.

BECOME A GROUP LEADER

Love to get together with your friends? Love to meet new people? Love to plan parties and get-togethers? Become an official Snuggles group leader. Have fun doing good! See our website for details.



HUGS SOCIETY

www.HugsSociety.org

Founded in 1996, Hugs Society continues to be dedicated to homeless and displaced animals worldwide.

OUR MISSION STATEMENT

As an advocate for companion animals, our mission is:

- to provide comfort to those animals who are awaiting placement into good homes
- to work with animal caring organizations to assist in increasing the availability of good permanent homes
- to address the middle ground issue of temporary housing and health care for animals
- to educate the public in proper care and ownership
- to provide outreach programs to bridge the public and animal caring organizations
- to provide resources and support programs for animal caring organizations to strengthen their animal care programs

PLEASE MAKE A MONETARY DONATION

Monetary donations would be greatly welcomed in any amount to help pay our overhead costs and advance our programs, such as the Snuggles Project, our adoption program, our lost and found pet program, etc. We provide many programs to help the animals directly or through our animal caring network. Please make a monetary donation to Hugs Society today. Our need is great. Your help would be greatly appreciated.

Make your donation securely on our website or send your check to:

Hugs Society
PO Box 231024
Portland, Oregon 97281-1024