

Knitting for Hamlin Fistula UK



Thank you for your interest in knitting for Hamlin and supporting women and girls in Ethiopia. Every woman treated at one of Hamlin Fistula Ethiopia's hospitals is given a colourful knitted blanket on their arrival and they have come to be a symbol of the warmth and comfort of care that women receive at Hamlin. These beautiful knitted items go on to be treasured for years to come.

We rely on our amazing volunteer knitters to make these items and we are grateful for all the hard work that goes into them. If you would like to knit for women and girls in Ethiopia you can find the guidance on patterns below.

Adult blankets:

Squares knitted in garter stitch, double knitting acrylic yarn in bright colours, No.4mm (UK no.8) needles. Please stitch together into a completed blanket, we are unable to accept individual squares.

We can only send blankets made from DK yarn. Please do not use a thicker ply as the blankets become too heavy. Knitted blankets are preferable to crochet as they tend to be warmer.

Finish with a simple crocheted or blanket stitch border to strengthen.

Size: 91cms x 122cms/36in x 48in or 107cms x 137cms/42in x 54in. We can still accept blankets where the measurements fall between these sizes.

Baby clothes and blankets:

Currently we have reached capacity for accepting baby clothes and baby blankets. We are asking if you could please focus on knitting adult blankets in the coming months whilst our colleagues in Ethiopia distribute the baby items they already have.

Sending your knitted items to us:

We will have three blanket collection weeks in 2023:

Monday 6 February to Friday 10 February

Monday 26 June to Friday 30 June

Monday 23 October to Friday 27 October

Due to staff and volunteer capacity and storage space please do not send knitting outside our collection weeks. If knitting is sent outside collection weeks it may not reach us and could be returned to the sender. If possible please send blankets in cardboard boxes or packaged securely in brown paper, rather than plastic bags and packaging.

Please include a note with your name, address and email address in your package so we can acknowledge your contribution.

Our address is 4 Parade Buildings, Nimmings Road, Halesowen, B62 9JJ.

Knitted items can also be dropped off in person during collection weeks. If you intend to come in person please contact us in advance to confirm date and time.

If you require any further information we can be contacted on 0121 559 3999 or by emailing info@hamlinfistulauk.org.

Thank you for your kind support.

Every woman matters

Obstetric fistula happens when a baby becomes stuck during childbirth. The result is a devastating injury still suffered by many women in the world's poorest countries. Women are left incontinent and sometimes paralysed. They are often stigmatised and shamed.

Women should not be suffering like this. The good news is that obstetric fistula is treatable through surgery and preventable by giving women access to professional midwifery care. Our mission is to end obstetric fistula in Ethiopia.

We'd love to keep in touch with you and send you regular email updates on:

How our pioneering programmes are improving women's lives

The stories of the women we are working with

How you can get involved

The latest news on our work and fundraising

If you would like to receive more information about our work you can sign up to our email updates by visiting hamlinfistulauk.org/sign-up or email info@hamlinfistulauk.org