

"Making a Prayer Shawl"

#1 = START WITH PRAYER!

O God, who has included all commandments in the one commandment of love, we humbly pray that you will create in our hearts such a sincere love of one another, that we may be children of our Father in heaven, and true disciples of Jesus Christ. Amen

[Adapted from R.C. Jones]

...Before Working on a Shawl

Almighty and Everlasting God who created us for yourself, grant us purity of heart and strength of purpose to know your will. In your light may we see life clearly, and in your service find perfect freedom. Amen

[Adapted from John Watson]

...While Creating a Shawl for Healing

Most holy, wise, and powerful Preserver of all your creatures, keep us in health of body and soundness of mind. Keep us in purity of heart and cheerfulness of spirit, in contentment with our lives and in charity with our neighbors. Strengthen us in our labors. Direct us in our difficulties. Defend us from our perils. Comfort us in our troubles. And care for our needs according to the riches of your grace in Christ Jesus our Lord. Amen

[Adapted – The Book of Common Worship]

God of all comfort, we commend to thy mercy all those upon whom any cross or tribulation is laid; all persons oppressed with poverty, sickness, or any infirmity of body or sorrow of mind. We pray for those who desire to be remembered in our prayers and for any such known only to ourselves, whom we name in our hearts before thee. May it please thee to show them thy fatherly kindness in the midst of affliction, that their hearts may turn unto thee, and receive perfect consolation and healing, and deliverance from their troubles, for Christ's sake. Amen

[Adapted – John Calvin]

O Father of mercies and God of all comfort, our only help in time of need; we humbly beseech thee to behold, visit, and relieve thy sick servant for whom our prayers are desired. Look upon him in thy mercy; comfort him with a sense of thy goodness; and give him patience under his affliction. In thy good time and using all wise means, restore him to health, and enable him to lead his life to thy glory; and grant that he may finally dwell with thee in life everlasting; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen

[Adapted – The Book of Common Worship]

...For The Distressed

O You, who understands the frailty of the human heart, hear our prayers for those who have been unfortunate in life and bruised in spirit; those who have toiled without success. For those who have endured with no outside encouragement; those who have given up all earthly prospects to comfort the aged and care for the maimed; those who are lonely in heart, and those for whom we do not know what to ask, but you know, O lover of souls. Amen

[Adapted – Acts of Devotion]

...For Those Who Mourn

O Father of infinite compassion, God of all comfort, reveal yourself as the Light of Life to those who have been brought into the darkness of sorrow. Strengthen the hearts that faint under the heavy burden and support them in the arms of your infinite love. May they know that in all their distress you care for them with unfailing tenderness. Wipe away all tears from their eyes; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen

[Adapted – Book of Church Services]

We pray for all who mourn. You know their sorrow. You know and are the comforter of your children. In taking, as in giving, your hand is the hand of a Father. May they find peace in YOU, in the fellowship of your gracious spirit. May the veil be taken away, and a glimpse of the everlasting brightness alight their faces. Sweeten our adversities; and though we go down into the valley of the shadow of death, may we know that you are strengthening our souls, and that all things are working together for good to those who love you. Amen

[Adapted – Rufus Ellis]

...For Those Who Travel or Move Away

O Lord our God, who is everywhere, from whom no space or distance can ever separate us, we know that those who are apart from us are present with You. We pray that You will hold in Your holy keeping those dear ones from whom we are now separated. Grant that both we and they, by drawing nearer to you; will be drawn nearer to each other. Bind us together by the unseen chain of YOUR love in the communion of Your Spirit, and in the Holy fellowship of Your Saints. Amen

[Adapted – Sir William Martin]

#2 = Let's Crochet/Knit !

LION BRAND HOMESPUN – Knitted or Crochet Prayer Shawl

[Developed by Janet Bristow and Victoria Cole-Galo, co-founders of the Shawl Ministry.]
www.lionbrand.com/patterns/khs-prayerShawl.html

Skill Level: Beginner

Note: Because different “knitting ministry” groups and individuals make prayer shawls in their own ways, there is a great deal of variation. This pattern gives a sample of how to make a knit or crocheted shawl. Your individual choices in yarn and needle/hook size will affect the finished size and thickness of the shawl, but there isn't one “right” way!

Because crochet uses more yarn than knit, a crochet shawl will be a bit smaller than a knit one made with the same number of yarn skeins. To make a larger one, start with a longer chain and use an additional skein.

SIZE: Average size approximately 24” x 60”

MATERIALS: Lion Brand Homespun – 3-4 skeins.

KNIT: Size 10.5 (6.5mm) through 15 (10mm) knitting needles

CROCHET: Size N – 13 (9 mm) or P-15 (10 mm) crochet hook

Knit Version

Cast on 63 stitches or any multiple of 3, such as 54, 57, or 60.

First row Knit 3, Purl 3 to the end of the row.

Repeat row – Turn and knit the purl stitches and purl the knit stitches.

Crochet Version

Loosely chain about 43 stitches.

First row Half-Double Crochet in third chain from hook and in each chain across.

Repeat row Chain 2, turn. Half-Double Crochet in each Half-Double Crochet across.

BOTH VERSIONS

Work about 2 ½ skeins in this pattern. Use the rest of the yarn for fringe, which can be from 5” to 9” long. Knot the ends of the fringes to keep the yarn from frizzing.

Homespun (Article #790) comes in 6 oz. / 185 yard skeins

16 sts = 3” (10 cm) on size G-6