



FOSTER CARE TO SUCCESS - CARE PACKAGE PROGRAM RED SCARF PROJECT GUIDELINES

Foster Care to Success developed the Care Package Program for foster kids who aged out of the system and have gone on to college. Each school year, their students receive three care packages to help them feel just like their college peers. Opening a box stuffed with goodies, having something to share with their friends or roommates, and realizing someone is thinking of them, are just some of the ways their students feel supported by the Care Package Program. The handmade red scarves in their Valentine's Day care packages become treasured keepsakes that their students wear for years.

Size: Approximately 60" long and 5" to 8" wide. Scarves should be long enough to be wrapped around the neck, with tails long enough to be tied in the front.

***IVY'S NOTE: I called and they said 70" long is ok so they aren't too short on tall folks.

Style: Think unisex collegiate. Fringes are optional. Your scarf should drape, tie easily and be soft.

Color: Red! However, this could mean burgundy, cherry, russet, red stripes with other colors, or multicolor hues including red.

Finished & tagged: Yarn ends should be securely sewn in. For a personal touch, attach a tag saying "Handmade for You" with your first name, city, and group affiliation, if any. Donors have also included washing instructions, messages of encouragement, gift cards, and more.

***IVY'S NOTE: Please add to your tag the following—

- First name
- City, State
- Knerdy Knitters of SFV (if applicable)
- Fiber
- Washing instructions

Mail to: Foster Care to Success Red Scarf Project, 23811 Chagrin Blvd., Suite 210, Cleveland, OH 44122.

***IVY'S NOTE: Ani has generously offered to ship out the scarves for us. If you can contribute any funds to help her cover the cost, it would be greatly appreciated.

NOTE: *Scarves are accepted between September 1 and December 15 annually. As they have limited storage space, you may only send your scarves only during this time period.*

***IVY'S NOTE: I have very limited space in my home to store all these scarves. Please hold on to them until I collect them in October to ship out.



OPERATION GRATITUDE “HANDMADE WITH LOVE” SCARF GUIDELINES

There’s something about receiving a handmade item that warms the heart, especially when you’re deployed. Why? Because every moment of time, talent, and energy poured into a handmade item is an expression of deep appreciation for the service and sacrifice of the service members who receive the Care Packages.

Size: We recommend that you keep them simple and perhaps use slightly larger needles so more can be made! Please keep your scarves within our size restrictions (no larger than 4”-6” wide, 48”-50” long) so they fit into our Care Packages. If your scarves are a little wider or longer, no worries! They will be given to, and appreciated by, Wounded Heroes or Veterans.

Style: There is no specific pattern to follow so feel free to use your own. **NO FRINGE.**

Fiber & Color: Any soft yarn is fine and any color will be accepted, but if possible please keep the colors on the subtle side—blues, browns, greens, grays, maroon, and black are all good choices, and also appropriate for male and female Troops. Stripes using these colors or multi-colored yarn is acceptable. We have reviewed our policy with our Military advisors and have been cleared to accept scarves and hats made with a red, white, and blue color combination.

Tagging: Yes! The best way to attach your personal notes to your scarves is with a piece of yarn through a hole in the note and then tied to the scarf. The note can be as simple as “Handmade with Love” or a letter telling about yourself. Include your contact information—an email or “snail mail” address—so the recipient can send you a “thank you” if they have time. If you are uncomfortable using your personal address, feel free to use ours (info@operationgratitude.com) but please also include your full name so we can be sure to forward replies on to you. **Due to potential allergies and/or Military uniform restrictions, please list the fiber content on your ‘Made With Love’ note that you attach to the scarf.**

***IVY’S NOTE: Please add to your tag the following—

First name
City, State
Knerdy Knitters of SFV (if applicable)
Fiber
Washing instructions

Packaging: Place scarves all together in one large plastic zip-lock or drawstring bag so they stay clean and dry, and then place in a carton.

***IVY’S NOTE: They are local and accept scarves year round. I will deliver them personally. I have very limited space in my home to store all these scarves. Please hold on to them until a collection is announced.