

JOEY POUCH MAKING GUIDELINES



Hundreds of marsupial joeys come into the care of Wildlife Victoria volunteers every year. All joeys; including possums, wombats, wallabies, koalas and kangaroos need to be kept warm and quiet. Wildlife carers and volunteers are always in need of suitable pouches to help the animals feel safe and secure. Below are some instructions on how to make joey pouches for our precious wildlife.

Please Note: The measurements in this document are approximates. We need a variety of sizes for a variety of animals, so feel free to make them smaller or larger.



Woollen Pouches



- Instructions are in 3 sizes (small, medium and large) and the pouch has a drawstring top however some carers prefer no draw string.
- Any ply of yarn is suitable but the 5 ply and 8 ply are preferable.
- Pouches can be knitted in garter stitch or stocking stitch and as colourful as you wish (a good way to use up yarn left over from other jobs).

Material: Pure wool (unfortunately we are unable to use pouches made from synthetic materials)

Needles: Size 8 needles.

Approximate Size:

Small – 16cm square

Medium – 24cm square

Large – 30 cm square

Size can vary depending on type of yarn used and tension of the knitter.

4/5 ply yarn

- Cast on 84 (126, 160) stitches and knit until work measures 16 (24, 30) cm
- Next row: Knit 1, (yarn forward, knit 2 together) until last stitch, knit 1
- Next row: Knit
- Cast off loosely
- Fold worked piece in half to form a square and stitch down one side and across bottom. Make a drawstring with crochet chain stitch or use cord or bias binding and thread through eyelet row.

8 ply yarn

- Cast on 66 (100, 130) stitches and knit until work measures 16 (24, 30) cm
- Work as for 4/5 ply.



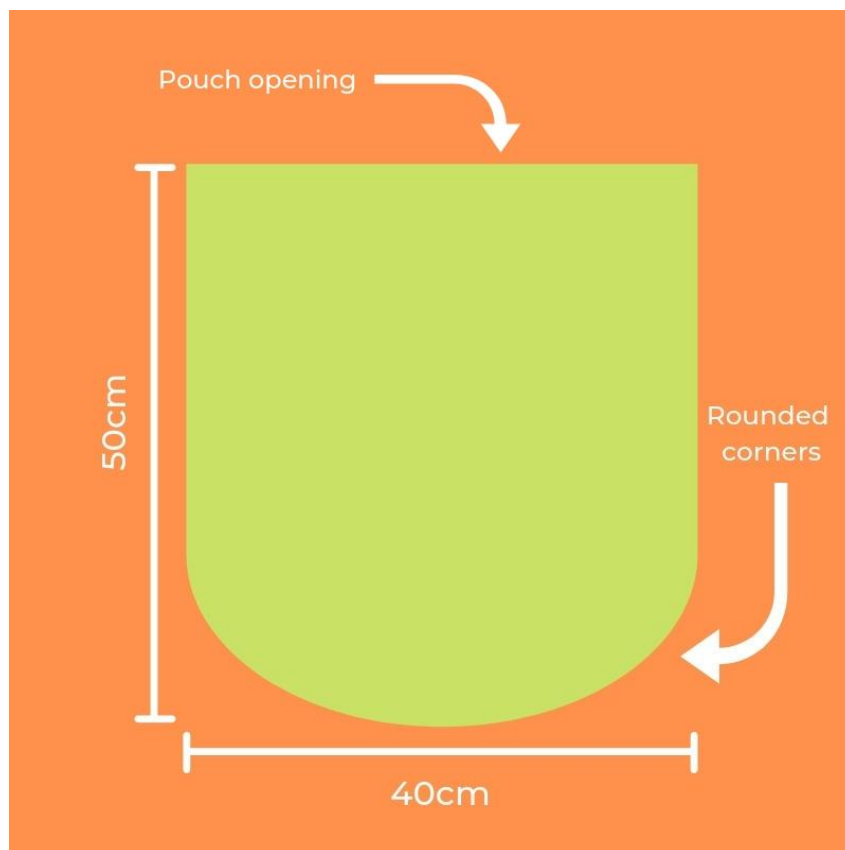
Pouch Liners



Wildlife Victoria carers will need lots of pouch liners as they are changed and washed regularly to ensure the joey is clean and comfortable. The lining pouch should be closed on three sides, have rounded corners and open at the top. Liners are essentially large pockets that can be placed inside a pouch that can be easily removed for cleaning. They can come in a range of sizes just as the pouches and animals. If you are making the liners and pouches it is preferred that the liners are slightly taller so the top can be rolled back over the pouch edges.

All sizes are needed for the varied species vary and joeys keep growing! Below is a template for larger joeys such as wombats.

Material: Pure cotton washable material only, flannelette is a great material to use. Polar fleece is also widely used.



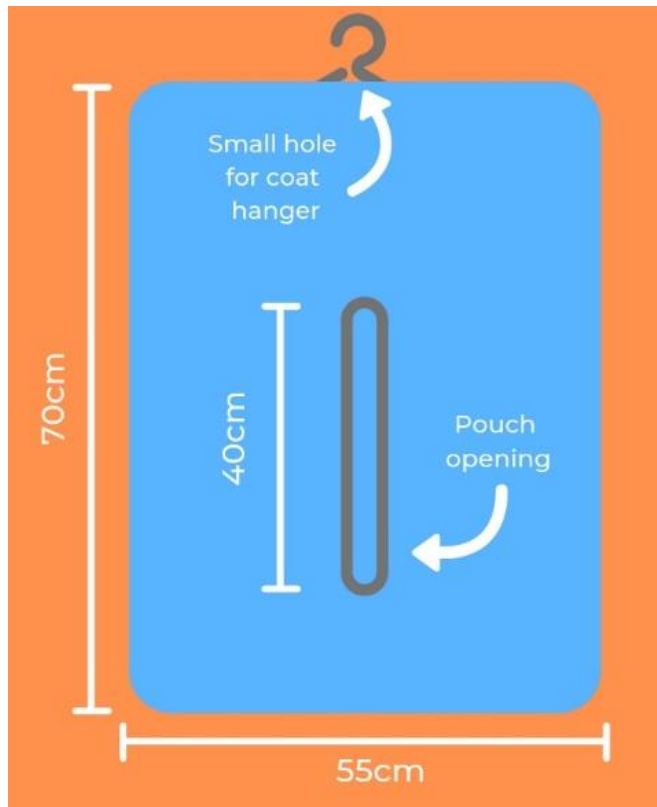
Large Hanging Pouches



To hang on a coat hanger

Hanging pouches make the perfect home for orphaned joeys as they are able to have the familiar suspended security of being in mum's pouch. Generally the larger the better as multiple joeys may be in one hanging pouch.

Material: Blankets, polar fleece or old electric blankets



Please note: Measurements are approximate – a variety of sizes are required and appreciated, get creative!