



PATCHWORK GLOSSARY

FAT QUARTERS (SIZE OF CUT 18" X 21" RECTANGLES)

Fat Quarters are the first and most common specialty cuts on the market. The term Fat Quarter refers to a quarter-yard of Fabric cut into a rectangle. Most collections will have Fat Quarter Bundles that contain every print. Also, some collections will have a variety of Fat Quarter Bundles that contain a selection of coordinating prints.

FAT EIGHTHS (SIZE OF CUT 9" X 21" RECTANGLES)

Manufactured by Moda Fabrics, Fat Eighths measure 9" x 22", rather than the typical one-eighth yard cut of 4.5" x 42".

CHARM PACKS (SIZE OF CUT 5" X 5" SQUARES)

Charm packs are the smallest and least expensive specialty cut. Their popularity stems from the fact that they are affordable, easy to use, and the size is very common in quilting. Charm Packs typically include one square of every fabric within a collection so the number of pieces included varies. The size of charm packs may also vary slightly by manufacturer. For instance, RJR Fabrics cuts their Charm Packs to 5.5" x 5.5".

JELLY ROLLS (SIZE OF CUT 2.5" X 44" STRIPS)

Manufactured by Moda Fabrics, Jelly Rolls are different prints from a single collection rolled together and cut length-wise into 2.5" x 44" strips. They are available by collection and have become very popular over the past few years. Jelly Rolls typically include 40 strips of fabric but occasionally can vary.

LAYER CAKES (SIZE OF CUT 10" X 10" SQUARES)

Manufactured by Moda Fabrics, Layer Cakes are similar to a Charm Pack in its square shape but at a larger size. They are available by collection and typically include 42 pieces of fabric, though the number may vary by collection.

HONEY BUNS (SIZE OF CUT 1.5" X 44" STRIPS)

Manufactured by Moda Fabrics, Honey Buns are different prints from a single collection rolled together and cut lengthwise into 1.5" x 44" strips. They are available for select collections and are especially helpful for the tiniest cuts in quilting. Honey Buns typically include 40 strips of fabric. They are a narrower version of Jelly Rolls.

BAIL POPS (SIZE OF CUT 2.5" X 44" STRIPS)

Manufactured by Hoffman Fabrics, Bail Pops are 2.5" x 44" cuts of different prints in a single collection. They are available for some Hoffman batik collections and typically include one of each print in a collection. They also work for most Jelly Roll patterns.

TWICE THE CHARMS (SIZE OF CUT 5.5" X 22" STRIPS)

Manufactured by RJR Fabrics, a Twice the Charm is a roll of 5.5" x 22" cuts of different prints in a single collection. They are available for some RJR collections and typically include one of each print in a collection. They are useful when a cut slightly larger than a Charm Pack is required. They also work for most Jelly Roll patterns.



DEFINITIONS OF TERMS

APPLIQUÉ

A technique in which a piece of fabric, often cut with the aid of a template or die, is sewn onto a larger piece of fabric to form a design.

BACKING

The fabric on the underside of a quilt, made from a single cut of fabric or pieced from various fabrics; the bottom of a quilt.

BIAS

A 45 degree diagonal direction on a piece of fabric, a bias cut has a lot of stretch in it, useful for binding curved edges.

BATIK

A type of fabric that is dyed in some areas to create multi-layered pattern and colours; Indonesia is best known for its batik fabric.

BATTING/WADDING

Soft middle layer of a quilt. It can be made from a variety of materials - cotton, polyester, wool, bamboo or a blend of these, and also in a variety of widths from 45"-124". The different materials affect the loft of the quilt and the distance between the quilting.

BINDING

A long strip, or strips, of fabric that wraps around the edges of a quilt, usually the last piece to be attached to a quilt.

BLOCK

A designed unit that, when combined with other blocks, comprise a quilt top.

BOLT

A long piece of fabric, usually 44" wide, that is wound around a flat piece of cardboard.

BOM, BLOCK-OF-THE-MONTH

A type of quilt club or program in which parts of a quilt are completed on a monthly basis; usually the material and pattern for a single block is sent each month.

BORDER

Outer pieces included in some quilt designs that may act as a frame for the blocks it surrounds.



CHARM QUILT

Traditionally it's made with scraps and no two pieces are the same. The modern charm quilt is more likely to be made using a charm pack – which contains approx. 40 5" or 5.5" pieces all from one range of fabrics. Scrap quilts are made up from scraps as the name suggests, but differ from charm quilts because fabrics can be repeated.

FINISHING

Refers to the piece or pieces that complete a quilt, usually including the binding.

LOF, LENGTH OF FABRIC

The direction of a fabric that runs perpendicular to the WOF.

LOFT

Bounce or thickness of a quilt determined by the choice of wadding.

QUILT

A quilt is always made of 3 layers, the backing, wadding and top – the top may or may not be made of patchwork.

QUILTING

The stitching that holds the 3 layers, top, wadding and backing, together to create a quilt. It can be done by hand or machine.

QUILT KITS

A product that contains the pattern and fabric required to make a quilt, usually without the backing.

QUILT TOP

The front of a quilt, usually comprised of several blocks.

SAMPLER QUILT

A type of quilt in which no block repeats in pattern and typically varies in size.

SELVEDGE

The edge of fabric, usually printed with information to identify the collection it belongs to and the manufacturer.

SPECIALITY CUTS

Yardage that is pre-cut to specific sizes.

WOF, WIDTH OF FABRIC

The direction of a fabric that runs from selvedge to selvedge on a bolt, usually 44" wide unless otherwise noted.