Quilting with Fabric Precuts with Heather Jones

Chapter 1 - Introduction
Overview
(prancing music) - There are a lot of precut fabric bundles on the market and I'm gonna walk you through some of the more popular ones and explain to you what they are and the things that you can make with them. I'll walk you through fat quarters, honey buns, jelly rolls, and charm packs. And I'll show you some blocks that you can make with them and how you can use them in your next quilting project.

Chapter 2 - Working with Fabric Precuts
All about precuts
- This is a charm pack, and a charm pack is a bundle of five inch square fabrics, and they're typically from different fabric lines and collections so depending on the manufacturer, you've got one or two examples of the entire line in this bundle of fabric. The edges are pinked, so they've got this edge, this pinked edge to them, and that's so they don't unravel since the fabric is cut. So, I'm gonna open up this package and show you a little closer look of it. So, since they are squares that are cut out in this type of a bundle, one project that is really simple to do with them is to make a simple patchwork quilt out of them. And I've sewn four together, here, to show you, and I use a quarter inch seam allowance, press my seams open, and you could even just keep sewing block by block by block into rows and then construct your rows, or you could do something like this and put four blocks together and have those be your quilt blocks. And then, sew them together for a quilt top. This is a jelly roll, and a jelly roll is a bundle of fabric that is pre-cut to two and a half inches wide. So, you get very long strips of fabric. The fabrics are about 44 to 45 inches in length, and they are folded in half, so you get these nice, long strips of fabric. Jelly rolls come in all different colors and palettes. They come in solid fabrics. They also come in prints, and one thing that you can do with them without much cutting is to make a block like a log cabin out of a jelly roll. Starting with a square in the center, so you would just take the strip of fabric and cut a two and a half inch square. So, you make two cuts, and then construct it by sewing a strip to the top, a strip to the side, a strip to the bottom, a strip to the other side, and you can just keep going. Another strip to the top, to the side, to the bottom, and to the other side. And you can see how it is constructed on the back as well. The seams are pressed open. They're constructed with a quarter inch seam allowance. So, a log cabin block is a really traditional block, but using solid fabrics like this gives it a modern spin. Another good use for charm packs is to make half square triangles with them. And, you do that with two squares. Put them down, right sides together. Then, you draw a line diagonally across the center, and then one a quarter inch on one side and another a quarter inch away on the other side. And you stitch the two outer lines, cut along the diagonal, and it looks like this. And after you cut them apart, press the seams open and you've got two half square triangles. These half square triangles are a lot of fun and you can do a lot of things with them. You can make a zig zag pattern. You can turn them in any different orientation and come up with some really fun patterns. This is a honey bun, and a honey bun is a pre-cut bundle. The strips measure one and a half inches wide, and it's the whole width of the fabric. So, they're 44 to 45 inches long. They're folded in half, so you have these really long, thin strips of fabric. They come in all different colors and palettes, printed fabric to solid fabric, and one block that is a good use for a honey bun is a stacked coin quilt. For

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the stacked coin block, I used three inches of each strip. So, I cut each section three inches, sewed them together. If I flip it to the back, you can see they're stacked on top of each other, sewn together with a quarter inch seam. Seams are pressed open, and then I used a white fabric for either side to finish the block. This is a fat quarter bundle, and a fat quarter bundle is a stack of pre-cut fabric that measures 18 inches by 22 inches. I'm gonna open one up to show you. Fat quarters come in all different colors, from solids to patterned fabrics, and when it's a pattern, they typically consist of one print from each fabric in a fabric line or collection. So, I've got my stack opened, and you can see that it's 18 by 22 inches. The difference between a fat quarter and a quarter yard of fabric is the size. A fat quarter measures 18 by 22 inches and a quarter yard of fabric measures nine inches wide by the width of the fabric, which is typically 40 to 44 inches. So, you have a long, skinny piece of fabric. And you can see with a fat quarter, you have a chunkier piece of fabric. When you have a printed fabric on a fat quarter, you get more of the design in the piece of fabric than you would in just a typical quarter yard. You often find fat quarters in fabric stores because they've become popular with quilters because there are so many things you can do with them. So, you don't necessarily have to buy them bundled up in a package. You can sometimes find them individually as well. Pre-cut fabric bundles are a great way to get started with quilting because a lot of the work is done for you. It's also a great way to experiment with color and palette, and another nice thing about them is it allows you to get a little bit of each fabric from the whole collection.

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