



U.S. CURRENCY  
EDUCATION  
PROGRAM

KNOW ITS FEATURES. TRUST IT'S REAL.



Feel the paper



Tilt the note



Check with light



## Feel the paper

Move your finger across the note. It should feel slightly rough to the touch as a result of the printing process and the unique composition of the paper.



## Tilt the note

Tilt the note to see the ink in the numbers on the lower right corner change color. On the current style of notes, the color should change from copper to green.

- Color-shifting ink appears on denominations \$10 and higher.
- The current style \$100 note includes two additional security features you can check by tilting the note: a color-shifting Bell in the Inkwell and a 3-D Security Ribbon. The 3-D Security Ribbon contains images of bells and 100s that shift as you tilt the note.



## Check with light

Hold the note to light to check that the watermark and security thread are visible from the front and back of the note.

- The security thread is in a different location on each denomination \$5 and higher.
- The watermarks on the \$10, \$20, \$50, and \$100 notes should match the portrait on the front of the note. The \$5 note has numeral 5 watermarks.

Visit [uscurrency.gov](https://uscurrency.gov) for more information and training resources on authenticating current and older styles of U.S. currency.

Become familiar with your organization's counterfeit-reporting procedures, and follow those procedures if you are uncertain if the banknote you are handling is genuine U.S. currency. Procedures may include notifying your manager, notifying your loss-prevention representative, or calling your local law enforcement authority.