

REAL OR FAKE?





REAL OR FAKE X?

If you regularly handle cash at work, you might find this brochure useful. It describes the security features of euro banknotes, and how to spot a fake note.



NEW €5





NEW €10 as of 23.09.2014

Both series of euro banknotes will circulate in parallel until further notice.

REAL

FEEL OF THE BANKNOTE



The banknote paper is made of cotton and feels crisp and firm. Run your finger across the front of a banknote and you will feel raised print in some parts, where the ink is thicker. The new €5 and the new €10 also have short raised lines on the left

and right edges.





AN EXAMPLE

The paper used for many counterfeits feels limp and waxy. The raised print is usually missing, so the ink does not feel thicker in places.



WATERMARK



The watermark is produced by varying the thickness of the paper. It can be seen by holding the banknote against the light. The transitions between the light and dark parts of the image are smooth.





If you put the banknote on a dark surface, the watermark becomes darker. This effect is very easy to see in the number.





REAL

HOLOGRAM











Tilt the banknote. In the first series €5, €10 and €20 banknotes, the hologram will change between the value of the banknote and a € symbol. In the €50, €100, €200 and €500 banknotes, the hologram will change between the value of the banknote and a window or doorway. In the background, you can see rainbow-coloured concentric circles of tiny letters moving outwards. On the new €5 and €10 a portrait of Europa, the main image and the value of the banknote become visible.

SOME EXAMPLES



A fake watermark is usually printed on the paper. It appears darker than the surrounding area. The transitions between light and dark areas are often very sharp.

FAKE



Fake holograms are generally static when the banknote is tilted. There are usually no concentric circles of tiny letters.

SECURITY THREAD







The security thread is embedded in the banknote. Hold the banknote against the light. The thread will appear as a dark stripe. The word "EURO" and the value can be seen in tiny letters on the stripe. In the new series of banknotes, the word 'EURO' is replaced by the '€' sign.

REAL

COLOUR-CHANGING NUMBER



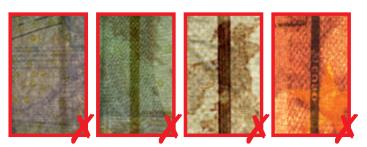






Tilt a €50, €100, €200 or €500 banknote. On the back of the note, the value numeral of the €50, €100, €200 and €500 changes colour from purple to olive green or brown.

SOME EXAMPLES



A fake security thread is often not embedded in the banknote. It is visible as a greyish-black line and is not dark when held against the light. In addition, the text is often missing or unreadable.

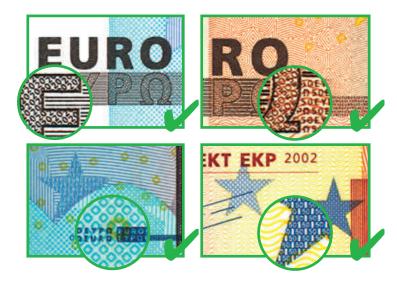
FAKE

SOME EXAMPLES



Ordinary ink or metallic foil is used to imitate the colour-changing number. The colour does not change when the banknote is tilted.

MICROPRINT



On some areas of the banknote you can see tiny writing. This microprint appears as a thin line to the naked eye but can be read with a magnifying glass. Despite its small size, the print is sharp, not blurred, on a genuine banknote.

SOME EXAMPLES



If the banknote is a fake, the microprint is usually blurred or even unreadable.

UV PROPERTIES









The paper does not glow under ultraviolet (UV) light. On the first series, fibres embedded in the paper appear coloured red, blue and green. On the new banknotes, each fibre embedded in the paper shows three different colours.

REAL

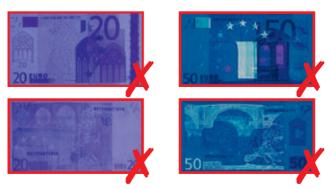
INFRARED PROPERTIES





Under Infrared light, on the front of the note only the right side of the main image and the hologram remain clearly visible.

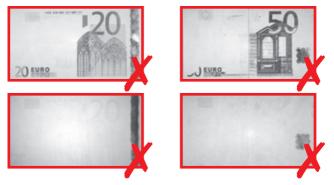
SOME EXAMPLES



Fake banknotes often glow brightly under UV light. The security thread and watermark appear as dark lines.

FAKE

SOME EXAMPLES



Under infrared light, the image either remains fully visible or becomes completely invisible.

crisp and firm. It also feels thicker The paper feels in some parts.

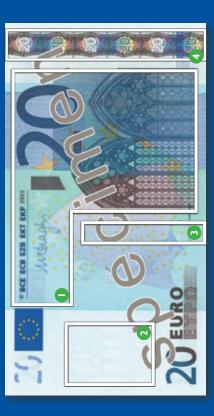






арреаг.





The value and a € symbol appear.

4 Hologram

3 Security thread A dark line appears.





(I) Raised print

The paper feels arisp and firm.
It also feels thicker in some parts.



(2) Watermark

A faint image and the value appear.





3 Security thread

A dark line appears



window appear. The value and a



5 Colour-changing number

The number changes colour from purple to olive green or brown.



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EUROSYSTEM