

European Central Bank Sonnemannstrasse 20, 60314 Frankfurt am Main, Germany Tel.: +49 69 1344 7455 Fax: +49 69 1344 7401 E-mail: info@ecb.europa.eu			Banque Nationale de Belgique/ Nationale Bank van België Laurent De Nys Caisse Centrale/Hoofdkas Tél./Tel.: +32 2 221 2578 Télécopie/Fax: +32 2 221 3296 laurent.deny@nbb.be
Deutsche Bundesbank Externe Kommunikation Wilhelm-Epstein-Straße 14 60431 Frankfurt am Main Tel.: +49 69 9566 3512 Fax: +49 69 9566 3077 info@bundesbank.de	Eesti Pank Avalike suhete allosakond Estonia pst 13 15095 Tallinn Tel.: +372 668 0719 Faks: +372 668 0954 info@eestipank.ee	Banc Ceannais na hÉireann/ Central Bank of Ireland Currency Planning & Logistics Currency Issue Division Currency Centre PO Box 61 Sandyford Dublin 16 Phone: +353 1 219 8858 euroseries2@centralbank.ie	
Τράπεζα της Ελλάδος Υπηρεσία Τύπου Ελ. Βενιζέλου 21 102 50 Αθήνα Τηλ.: +30 210 320 3447 Φαξ: +30 210 320 3922 press@bankofgreece.gr	Banco de España Departamento de Emisión y Caja Alcalá, 48 28014 Madrid Tel.: +34 91 338 5999 Fax: +34 91 338 6887 emisionycaja@bde.es	Banque de France Direction des Activités Fiduciaires Gestion des Contrefaçons et de la Formation 31, rue Croix des Petits Champs 75049 PARIS CEDEX 01 Phone: 33 1 42 92 94 92 Telecopie: 33 142 92 45 52 euro-formation@banque-france.fr	
Banca d'Italia Tiziana Torres Servizio Cassa generale BANCA D'ITALIA via Nazionale 91 00184 Roma Tel: +39 06 47924878 Fax: +39 06 47923896 eurosecondaserie@bancaditalia.it	Κεντρική Τράπεζα της Κύπρου Γραφείο Τύπου Λεωφόρος Κένεντυ 80 1076 Λευκωσία Τηλ.: +357 22714465, +357 22714503 Φαξ: +357 22378151 pressoffice@centralbank.govcy	Latvijas Banka K. Valdemāra iela 2A Rīga, LV-1050, Latvija Tālr.: +371 67022300 info@bank.lv	
Lietuvos bankas Gedimino pr. 6 LT-01103 Vilnius Tel. +370 5 268 0301 Faks. +370 5 268 0327 info@lb.lt	Banque centrale du Luxembourg Département Caisse et numismatique 2, boulevard Royal L-2983 Luxembourg Tél.: +352 4774 4561 Télécopie: +352 4774 4962 euro2@bcl.lu	Bank Ċentrali ta' Malta/ Central Bank of Malta Clive Bartolo Principal Communications Officer Piazza Kastija Valletta VLT 1060 Tel: +356 2550 3104/5 Fax: +356 2550 4950 publicrelations@centralbankmalta.org	
De Nederlandsche Bank Westeinde 1 1017 ZN Amsterdam Tel.: +31 (0)800 020 1068 (gratis) info@dnb.nl	Oesterreichische Nationalbank Christian Gutliedner Pressesprecher Otto-Wagner-Platz 3 1090 Wien Tel: +43 1 404 20 6900 Fax: +43 1 403 17 44 christian.gutliedner@oenb.at	Banco de Portugal Gabinete de Comunicação Institucional Rua do Comércio, 148 1100-150 Lisboa Tel: +351 213 215 358 Fax: +351 213 464 843 press@bportugal.pt	
Banka Slovenije Odnosi z javnostmi Slovenska 35 1505 Ljubljana Slovenija Tel: +386 1 47 19 153, +386 1 47 19 777 Faks: +386 1 47 19 724 pr@bsi.si	Národná banka Slovenska Tlačové a edičné oddelenie Imricha Karvaša 1 813 25 Bratislava Tel.: +421 2 5787 2143 Fax: +421 2 5787 1128 info@nbs.sk	Suomen Pankki/Finlands Bank Viestintäyksikkö/ Kommunikationsenheten Snellmaninaukio/Snellmansplatsen PL 160/PB 160 00101 Helsinki/Helsingfors Puhelin/Telefon: +358 10 831 2626 info@bof.fi	
Българска народна банка Тел.: (+3592) 91459 Факс: (+3592) 980-24-25 press_office@bnbank.org	Sveriges riksbank Tfn: +46 8 787 00 00 Fax: +46 8 21 05 31 registratorn@riksbank.se	Magyar Nemzeti Bank Tel.: (+36 1) 428-2751 Fax: (+36 1) 429-8000 info@mnb.hu	
Danmarks Nationalbank Tlf: 33 63 63 63 Fax: 33 63 71 03 nationalbanken@nationalbanken.dk	Česká národní banka tel: +420 224 411 111 fax: +420 224 412 404 podatelna@cnb.cz	Banca Națională a României Telefon: 021 313 04 10 Fax: 021 312 38 31 Info@bnr.ro	
Narodowy Bank Polski tel. centrala: +48 22 185 10 00 faks: +48 22 185 10 10 listy@nbp.pl	Hrvatska narodna banka Tel.: +385 1 45 64 576 Faks: +385 1 45 90 314 info@hnb.hr	Bank of England Phone +44 (0)20 7601 4878 Fax +44 (0)20 7601 5460 enquiries@bankofengland.co.uk	

THE EUROPA SERIES: GETTING READY

Is your equipment ready for the new €20?

Retailers and others who use cash-handling machines and authentication devices should ensure their equipment is adapted for the new €20 banknote before it enters into circulation in November 2015.

To check whether your machines and devices can be upgraded to recognise the new note, please ask your supplier. A list of the types of machines and devices that can be upgraded is available on the ECB's website at www.ecb.europa.eu/euro/cashprof/cashhand/devices/html/results.en.html

Remember that you can check the authenticity of all euro banknotes by using the "Feel, Look and Tilt" method.



Suspect banknotes

If you handle large quantities of cash every day, you could come across a suspect banknote. Though the risk is small, you are encouraged to familiarise yourselves with the information provided in the link below and/or contact your central bank.

www.new-euro-banknotes.eu/Euro-Banknotes/SUSPECT-BANKNOTES

Please bear in mind that it is a criminal offence to pass on a banknote which you believe or know is a counterfeit.

THE EUROPA SERIES

The new €5 and €10

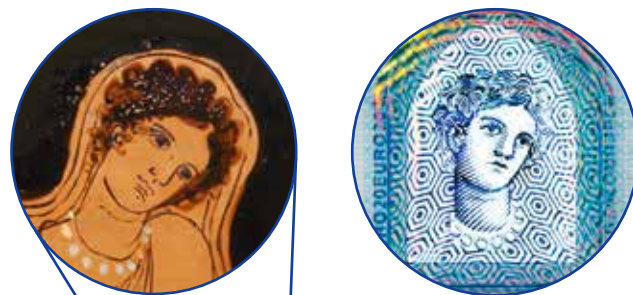


INTRODUCTION

Why new banknotes?

It is very important that the security features of the banknotes are regularly updated and improved to make them more difficult to counterfeit. The new €20 includes an innovative "portrait window" that becomes visible on both sides when the note is held against the light.

The portrait in the new series is of Europa, a figure from Greek mythology and the origin of our continent's name. The depiction used on the Europa series banknotes comes from a vase over 2,000 years old originally found in southern Italy and now shown in the Louvre museum in Paris.



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DISCOVER
THE NEW €20 BANKNOTE

www.new-euro-banknotes.eu
www.euro.ecb.europa.eu

QB-04-15-252-EN-N ISBN 978-92-899-1867-1 © European Central Bank 2015 doi:10.2866/59931

Let’s compare

THE EUROPA SERIES €20

WHAT’S NEW



The new euro banknotes feature the “ages and styles” design of the first series and use the same predominant colours, but have been slightly modified to accommodate the enhanced security features. The notes also now take into account the countries that have joined the EU since 2002. For instance, the map of Europe shows Malta and Cyprus, “euro” is written in Cyrillic in addition to the Latin and Greek alphabets, and the initials of the ECB appear in nine – instead of five – linguistic variants.

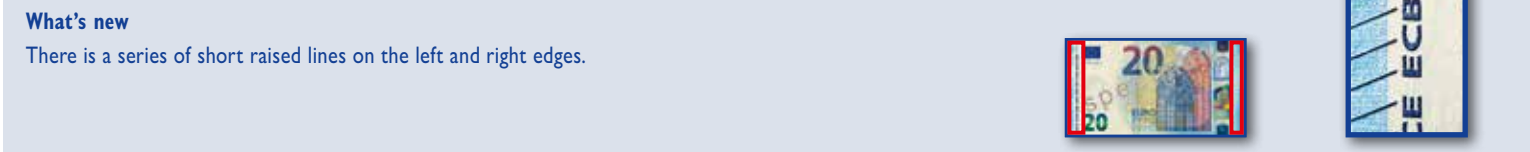
THE FIRST SERIES €20



Easy to check

1 FEEL

Feel of the paper – Feel the banknote. It is crisp and firm.
Raised print – The main image, the lettering and the large value numeral feel thicker.



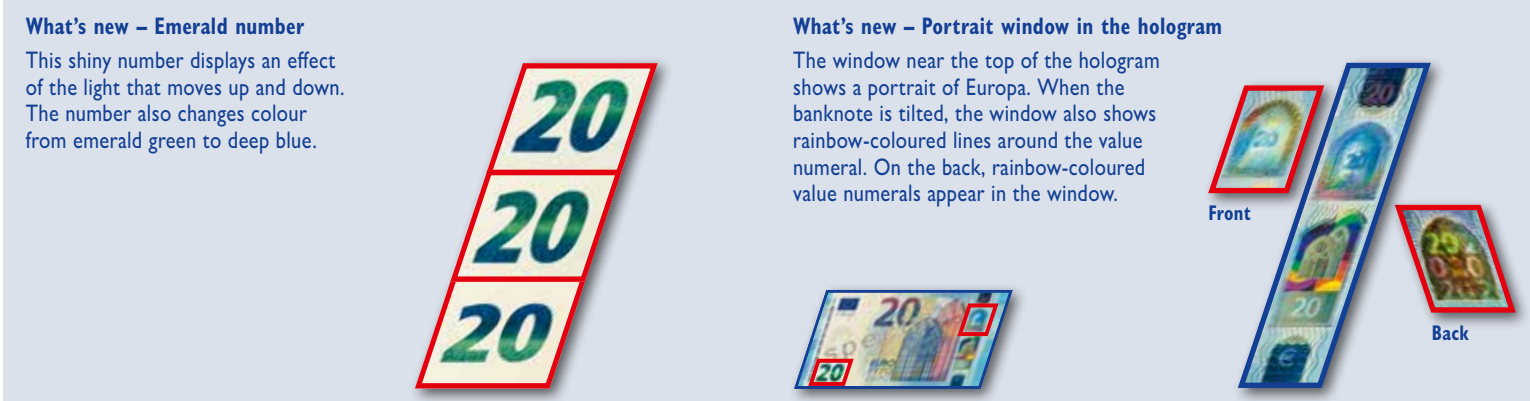
2 LOOK

Watermark – Look at the banknote against the light. A faint image showing the value of the banknote and the main image become visible.

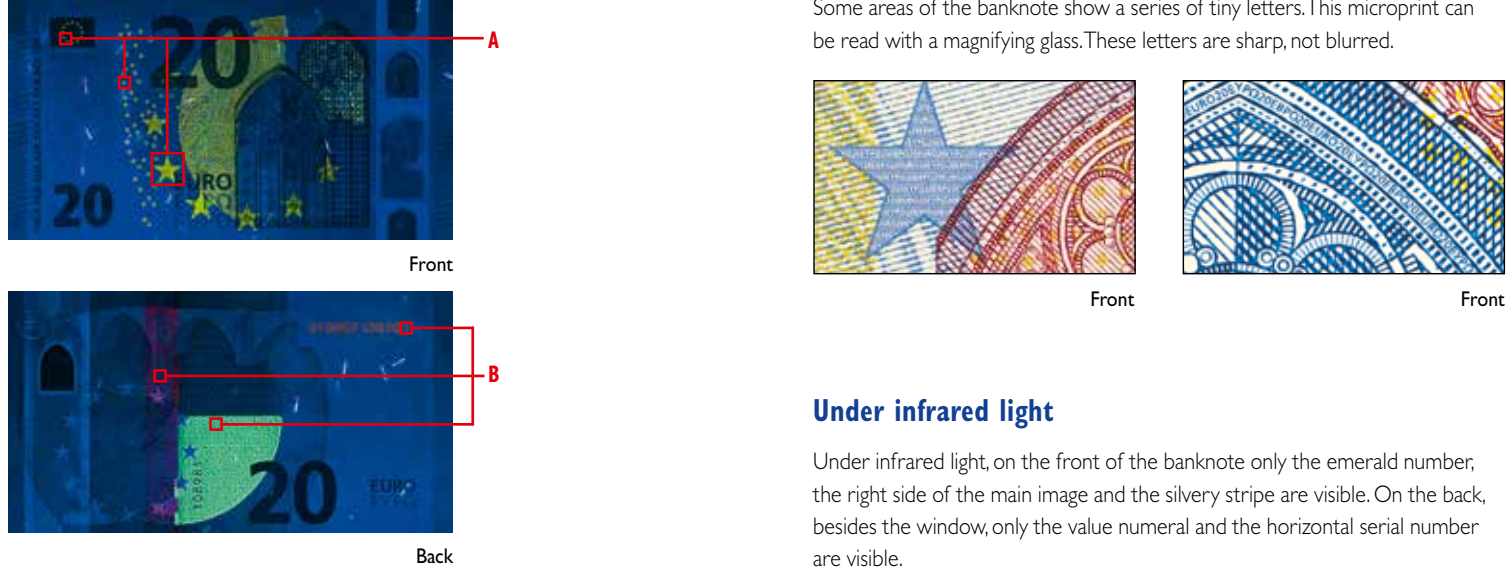


3 TILT

Hologram – Tilt the banknote. The silvery stripe on the right reveals the value of the banknote and the € symbol.



The new €20 under UV light



The paper itself does not glow.

A On the front, small fibres embedded in the paper appear. Each fibre shows three different colours. The stars in the EU flag, the small circles and some of the large stars glow yellow. Several other areas also glow yellow.

B On the back, a quarter of a circle in the centre glows green. The horizontal serial number and a stripe appear in red.

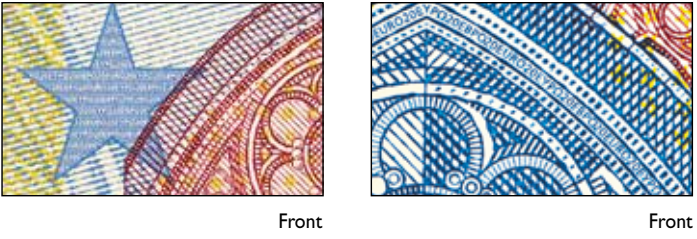
Under special ultraviolet light (UV-C)



C On the front, the stars in the EU flag and the small circles glow yellow. The large stars and other areas glow orange or yellow. A large € symbol in the centre also becomes visible.

Microprint on the new €20

Some areas of the banknote show a series of tiny letters. This microprint can be read with a magnifying glass. These letters are sharp, not blurred.



Under infrared light

Under infrared light, on the front of the banknote only the emerald number, the right side of the main image and the silvery stripe are visible. On the back, besides the window, only the value numeral and the horizontal serial number are visible.

