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OUR
MONEY

QUICK GUIDE

to the security features of euro banknotes



EUROPEAN CENTRAL BANK

EUROSYSTEM



LIETUVOS BANKAS



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Introduction



OUR MONEY

This is a quick guide to the security features of all the euro banknotes. It describes the features of each note on a separate page. It includes both the first series and the new Europa Series €5 and €10. The new €5 started circulating alongside the old one in 2013 whereas the new €10 will be issued as of 23 September 2014.

Both banknote series will circulate alongside each other until further notice. The other notes of the first series will also be replaced in the coming years.

Generally speaking, the banknotes – ranging from €5 to €500 – have similar security features.

This guide also offers cashiers some tips on what to do if they receive a suspect banknote.

Further information on euro banknotes and coins can be obtained by visiting www.new-euro-banknotes.eu, from the European Central Bank or from your national central bank.



SECURITY FEATURES

Euro banknotes include a range of security features. Always check several features. If in doubt, compare the banknote with one you know to be genuine.

New €5

Classical architecture
120 mm x 62 mm, grey



EMERALD NUMBER

Tilt the banknote.
An effect of the light moves up and down the number. It also changes from emerald green to deep blue.

RAISED PRINT

There is a series of short raised lines on the left and right edges. The main image, the lettering and the large value numeral also feel thicker.



WATERMARK

The watermark in the new €5 includes a portrait of Europa, a mythological figure.

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.

Put the banknote on a dark surface and the watermark becomes darker. This effect is very easy to see in the value numeral.



HOLOGRAM

Tilt the banknote - A portrait of Europa, a window and the value appear in the silvery stripe.

FEEL OF THE BANKNOTE

The banknote paper is made of cotton and should feel crisp and firm.



SECURITY THREAD

The security thread is embedded in the banknote. Hold the banknote against the light – the thread will appear as a dark line. The € symbol and the value ("5") can be seen in tiny letters on the line.



MICROPRINT

Under a magnifying glass, these tiny letters are sharp, not blurred.



Front



Back



UNDER ULTRAVIOLET LIGHT

The paper itself does not glow. Also check if:

- A** On the front, the stars in the flag, the small circles, the large stars and several other areas glow yellow. Small fibres appear in the paper. Each fibre shows three colours.
- B** On the back, a quarter of a circle in the centre as well as several other areas glow green. The horizontal serial number and a stripe appear in red.

RAISED PRINT

Raised print can be felt in the main image, the lettering and the value numeral.



€5

Classical architecture
120 mm x 62 mm, grey



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.

Put the banknote on a dark surface and the watermark becomes darker. This effect is very easy to see in the value numeral.

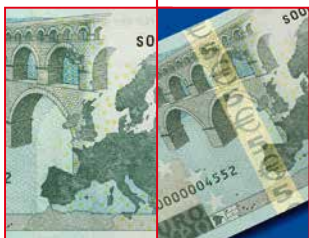
SECURITY THREAD

The security thread is embedded in the banknote. Hold the banknote against the light – the thread will appear as a dark line. The word “EURO” and the value (“5”) can be seen in tiny letters on the line.



FEEL OF THE BANKNOTE

The banknote is made of cotton and should feel crisp and firm.



HOLOGRAM

Tilt the banknote – the hologram image will change between the value and the € symbol on a rainbow-coloured background. At the edges, tiny letters show the value.

GLOSSY STRIPE

Tilt the banknote – a glossy stripe will appear on the back of the banknote. It shows the value and the € symbol.

UNDER ULTRAVIOLET LIGHT, CHECK IF

- The paper itself does not glow.
- Fibres embedded in the paper appear, coloured red, blue and green.
- On the front, the flag looks green and has orange stars. The signature of the ECB President turns green.
The large stars and the small circles in the centre glow orange.
- On the back, the map, bridge and value numeral appear in yellow.

SECURITY FEATURES

Euro banknotes include a range of security features. Always check several features. If in doubt, compare the banknote with one you know to be genuine.

New €10

Romanesque architecture
127 mm x 67 mm, red



EMERALD NUMBER

Tilt the banknote.
An effect of the light moves up and down the number. It also changes from emerald green to deep blue.

RAISED PRINT

There is a series of short raised lines on the left and right edges. The main image, the lettering and the large value numeral also feel thicker.



WATERMARK

The watermark in the new €10 includes a portrait of Europa, a mythological figure.

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.

Put the banknote on a dark surface and the watermark becomes darker. This effect is very easy to see in the value numeral.



HOLOGRAM

Tilt the banknote - A portrait of Europa, a window and the value appear in the silver stripe.

FEEL OF THE BANKNOTE

The banknote paper is made of cotton and should feel crisp and firm.



as of 23.09.2014



SECURITY THREAD

The security thread is embedded in the banknote. Hold the banknote against the light – the thread will appear as a dark line. The € symbol and the value ("10") can be seen in tiny letters on the line.



MICROPRINT

Under a magnifying glass, these tiny letters are sharp, not blurred.

Front



Back



UNDER ULTRAVIOLET LIGHT

The paper itself does not glow. Also check if:

- A** On the front, the stars in the flag, the small circles, the large stars and several other areas glow yellow. Small fibres appear in the paper. Each fibre shows three colours.
- B** On the back, a quarter of a circle in the centre as well as several other areas glow green. The horizontal serial number and a stripe appear in red.

RAISED PRINT

Raised print can be felt in the main image, the lettering and the value numeral.

EZB EKT EKP 2002



€10

Romanesque architecture
127 mm x 67 mm, red



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.

Put the banknote on a dark surface and the watermark becomes darker. This effect is very easy to see in the value numeral.

SECURITY THREAD

The security thread is embedded in the banknote. Hold the banknote against the light – the thread will appear as a dark line. The word “EURO” and the value (“10”) can be seen in tiny letters on the line.



FEEL OF THE BANKNOTE

The banknote is made of cotton and should feel crisp and firm.



HOLOGRAM

Tilt the banknote – the hologram image will change between the value and the € symbol on a rainbow-coloured background. At the edges, tiny letters show the value.



GLOSSY STRIPE

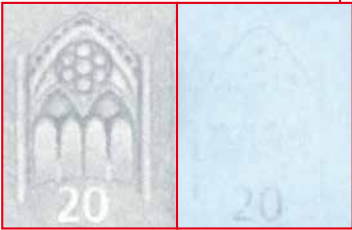
Tilt the banknote – a glossy stripe will appear on the back of the banknote. It shows the value and the € symbol.

UNDER ULTRAVIOLET LIGHT, CHECK IF

- The paper itself does not glow.
- Fibres embedded in the paper appear, coloured red, blue and green.
- On the front, the flag looks green and has orange stars. The signature of the ECB President turns green.
The large stars and the small circles in the centre glow orange.
- On the back, the map, bridge and value numeral appear in yellow.

RAISED PRINT

Raised print can be felt in the main image, the lettering and the value numeral.



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.

Put the banknote on a dark surface and the watermark becomes darker. This effect is very easy to see in the value numeral.



SECURITY THREAD

The security thread is embedded in the banknote. Hold the banknote against the light – the thread will appear as a dark line. The word “EURO” and the value (“20”) can be seen in tiny letters on the line.



FEEL OF THE BANKNOTE

The banknote is made of cotton and should feel crisp and firm.



HOLOGRAM

Tilt the banknote – the hologram image will change between the value and the € symbol on a rainbow-coloured background. At the edges, tiny letters show the value.



GLOSSY STRIPE

Tilt the banknote – a glossy stripe will appear on the back of the banknote. It shows the value and the € symbol.

UNDER ULTRAVIOLET LIGHT, CHECK IF

- The paper itself does not glow.
- Fibres embedded in the paper appear, coloured red, blue and green.
- On the front, the flag looks green and has orange stars. The signature of the ECB President turns green.
The large stars and the small circles in the centre glow orange.
- On the back, the map, bridge and value numeral appear in yellow.

RAISED PRINT

Raised print can be felt in the main image, the lettering and the value numeral.

EZB EKT EKP 2002



€50

Renaissance architecture
140 mm x 77 mm, orange



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.

Put the banknote on a dark surface and the watermark becomes darker. This effect is very easy to see in the value numeral.

SECURITY THREAD

The security thread is embedded in the banknote. Hold the banknote against the light – the thread will appear as a dark line. The word “EURO” and the value (“50”) can be seen in tiny letters on the line.



FEEL OF THE BANKNOTE

The banknote is made of cotton and should feel crisp and firm.



HOLOGRAM

Tilt the banknote – the hologram image will change between the value and a window or doorway. In the background, you can see rainbow-coloured concentric circles of tiny letters moving outwards.



COLOUR-CHANGING NUMBER

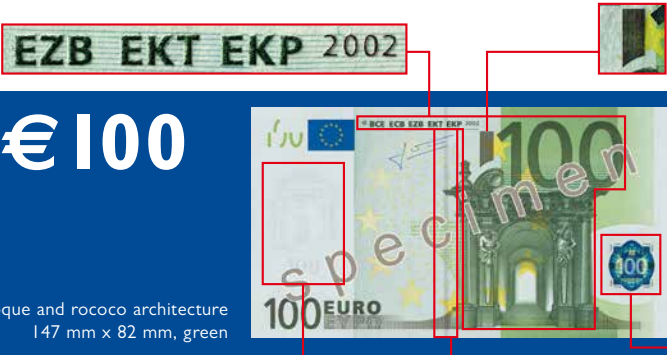
Tilt the banknote. On the back, the value numeral will change colour from purple to olive green or brown.

UNDER ULTRAVIOLET LIGHT, CHECK IF

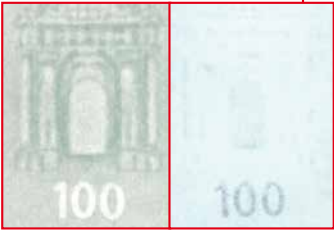
- The paper itself does not glow.
- Fibres embedded in the paper appear, coloured red, blue and green.
- On the front, the flag looks green and has orange stars. The signature of the ECB President turns green.
The large stars and the small circles in the centre glow orange.
- On the back, the map, bridge and value numeral appear in yellow.

RAISED PRINT

Raised print can be felt in the main image, the lettering and the value numeral.



Baroque and rococo architecture
147 mm x 82 mm, green



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.

Put the banknote on a dark surface and the watermark becomes darker. This effect is very easy to see in the value numeral.



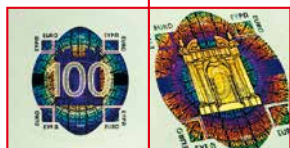
**SECURITY
THREAD**

The security thread is embedded in the banknote. Hold the banknote against the light – the thread will appear as a dark line. The word “EURO” and the value (“100”) can be seen in tiny letters on the line.



FEEL OF THE BANKNOTE

The banknote is made of cotton and should feel crisp and firm.



HOLOGRAM

Tilt the banknote – the hologram image will change between the value and a window or doorway. In the background, you can see rainbow-coloured concentric circles of tiny letters moving outwards.



COLOUR-CHANGING NUMBER

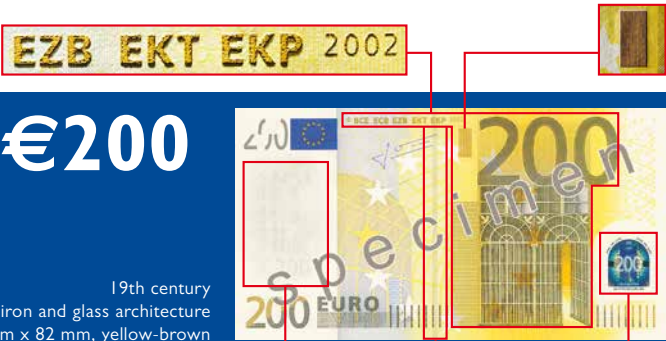
Tilt the banknote. On the back, the value numeral will change colour from purple to olive green or brown.

UNDER ULTRAVIOLET LIGHT, CHECK IF

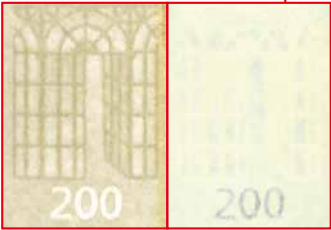
- The paper itself does not glow.
- Fibres embedded in the paper appear, coloured red, blue and green.
- On the front, the flag looks green and has orange stars. The signature of the ECB President turns green.
The large stars and the small circles in the centre glow orange.
- On the back, the map, bridge and value numeral appear in yellow.

RAISED PRINT

Raised print can be felt in the main image, the lettering and the value numeral.



19th century
iron and glass architecture
153 mm x 82 mm, yellow-brown



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.

Put the banknote on a dark surface and the watermark becomes darker. This effect is very easy to see in the value numeral.



**SECURITY
THREAD**

The security thread is embedded in the banknote. Hold the banknote against the light – the thread will appear as a dark line. The word “EURO” and the value (“200”) can be seen in tiny letters on the line.



FEEL OF THE BANKNOTE

The banknote is made of cotton and should feel crisp and firm.



HOLOGRAM

Tilt the banknote – the hologram image will change between the value and a window or doorway. In the background, you can see rainbow-coloured concentric circles of tiny letters moving outwards.



COLOUR-CHANGING NUMBER

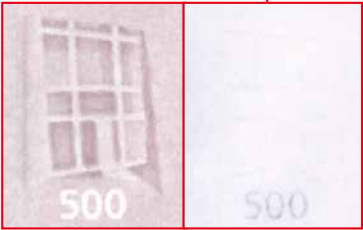
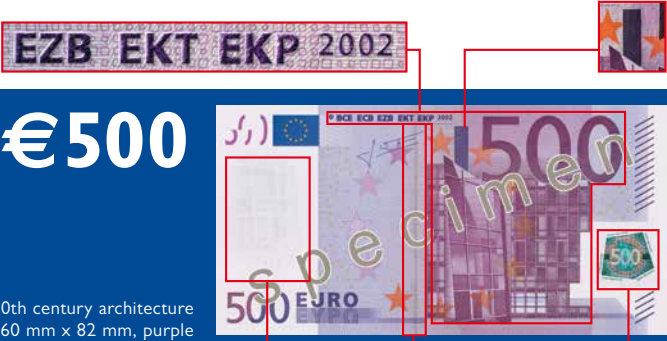
Tilt the banknote. On the back, the value numeral will change colour from purple to olive green or brown.

UNDER ULTRAVIOLET LIGHT, CHECK IF

- The paper itself does not glow.
- Fibres embedded in the paper appear, coloured red, blue and green.
- On the front, the flag looks green and has orange stars. The signature of the ECB President turns green.
The large stars and the small circles in the centre glow orange.
- On the back, the map, bridge and value numeral appear in yellow.

RAISED PRINT

Raised print can be felt in the main image, the lettering and the value numeral.



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.

Put the banknote on a dark surface and the watermark becomes darker. This effect is very easy to see in the value numeral.



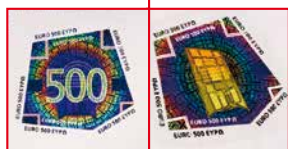
**SECURITY
THREAD**

The security thread is embedded in the banknote. Hold the banknote against the light – the thread will appear as a dark line. The word “EURO” and the value (“500”) can be seen in tiny letters on the line.



FEEL OF THE BANKNOTE

The banknote is made of cotton and should feel crisp and firm.



HOLOGRAM

Tilt the banknote – the hologram image will change between the value and a window or doorway. In the background, you can see rainbow-coloured concentric circles of tiny letters moving outwards.



COLOUR-CHANGING NUMBER

Tilt the banknote. On the back, the value numeral will change colour from purple to olive green or brown.

UNDER ULTRAVIOLET LIGHT, CHECK IF

- The paper itself does not glow.
- Fibres embedded in the paper appear, coloured red, blue and green.
- On the front, the flag looks green and has orange stars. The signature of the ECB President turns green.
The large stars and the small circles in the centre glow orange.
- On the back, the map, bridge and value numeral appear in yellow.



Information for cashiers

If you handle large quantities of money every day, you could come across a suspect banknote. Ideally, your employer should have drawn up a plan for such an eventuality. Here are some tips if you are uncertain about a note.

DO

- tell the customer that you need to speak briefly to your supervisor or a security officer, but ensure that the customer can always see the banknote
- make a mental note of the customer's appearance
- hand over the suspect banknote without delay to your supervisor or security officer to notify the police
- make a note of his/her number plate and the car make and model (assuming he/she leaves by car)
- make sure you are safe at all times

DON'T

- get into argument with the customer
- prevent the customer from leaving even if he/she has been asked to wait for the police
- return the banknote to the customer if at all possible

It is a criminal offence to pass on a banknote which you believe or know is a counterfeit. Since fake banknotes are completely worthless, be vigilant. You will receive no compensation for accepting a fake.

For more information on what to do please refer to the Bank of Lithuania or the European Central Bank.

