In your equipment ready for the new €50?

If you are a retailer or if you regularly use cash-handling machines and automation devices you should ensure your equipment is adapted for the new €50 banknote before it enters into circulation in April 2017.

To check whether your equipment can be upgraded to recognise the new note, please ask your supplier. You can also consult a list of tested types of machine and devices on the ECB's website at www.ecb.europa.eu/euro/cashprof/cashhand/devices/html/results.en.html.

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Why new banknotes?

Banknote security features need to be improved from time to time to make the notes even less easy to counterfeit. All euro-area central banks have issued the Europa series, which includes a portrait window visible on both sides as well as other enhanced security features. As a result, it is more expensive and more difficult to counterfeit.

A gradual introduction of the new series

The Europa series of banknotes was introduced gradually over several years. The €5, €10, €20 and €50 notes have been introduced in the €50 banknote circulating since April 2017. This gradual introduction is to avoid confusion and to ensure that the public can get used to the new banknotes.

The new €100 and €200 are planned to be introduced around the end of 2017. The new €50 banknote will be gradually introduced in one country at a time in case of concerns that the new banknotes could facilitate illicit activities.

The new €50 banknote

The new €50 banknote is distinguishable from the €20 and €50 banknotes by the €50 window visible on both sides as well as other enhanced security features. As a result, it is more expensive and more difficult to counterfeit.

Suspect banknotes

As a cash handler you may occasionally come across a suspect banknote.

You should:

- do not accept it.
- ask for another note and check it carefully.

If you have accepted a note which you now believe to be suspect, do not pass it on to anyone else, as that would be a criminal offence. Please give the note to the local police, your bank or national central bank. It is given you will get your money back.

For more information, go to www.new-euro-banknotes.eu/Euro-Banknotes/Questions-and-Answers. You can also contact your national central bank or visit its website. Further details are available in this leaflet.
**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. This also makes them easy to distinguish from the first series. Reinhold Gerstetter, an independent banknote designer based in Berlin, was selected to refresh the design of the notes. They 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 the Cyrillic alphabet in addition to the Latin and Greek alphabets, and the initials of the ECB appear in ten – instead of five – linguistic variants.

**The Europa Series: Checking with Tools**

- **Microprint on the new €50**
  - The paper itself does not glow.
  - 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.
  - On the back, a quarter of a circle in the centre glows green. The horizontal serial number and some area appear in red.

- **Under special ultraviolet light (UV-C)**
  - On the front, the stars in the EU flag and the small circles glow yellow. The large stars and other area glow orange or yellow. A bright € symbol in the centre also becomes visible.

**The €50 Banknote: THE EUROPA SERIES €50**

**What’s New**

- Portrait watermark: a portrait of Europa is visible.
- Portrait window in the hologram: against the light, the window near the top of the hologram becomes transparent and reveals a portrait of Europa on both sides of the note.

**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.

**Watermark**

- Look at the banknote against the light. A faint image showing the value of the banknote and the main image becomes visible.

**Hologram**

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

**What’s New – Portrait watermark**

- A portrait of Europa is also visible.

- Against the light, the window near the top of the hologram becomes transparent and reveals a portrait of Europa on both sides of the note.

**What’s New – Portrait window in the hologram**

- Against the light, the window near the top of the hologram becomes transparent and reveals a portrait of Europa on both sides of the note.

**What’s New – Emerald number**

- This shiny number displays an effect of the light that moves up and down. The number also changes its colour from emerald green to deep blue.

**What’s New – General number**

- The new number displays no effect when the banknote is held normally.
- The number also changes when the banknote is held in the light. The number also changes when the banknote is held in the light.

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