

THE EURO BANKNOTES AND COINS





TECHNICAL SPECIFICATIONS OF THE EURO BANKNOTES



Security thread When held up to the light, a dark line becomes visible.

Foil stripe
When tilted, a hologram
shows the euro
symbol and the value
of the banknote.





Watermark
When held up
to the light, a
picture and the
value of the
banknote
become visible.





Iridescent stripe
This shines when tilted
under a bright light.



Colour-shifting ink

When tilted, the value numeral changes colour from purple to olive green or brown.



Watermark When held up to the light, a picture and the value of the banknote become visible.





Security thread When held up to the light, a dark line becomes visible.



Foil patch When tilted, a hologram shows a picture and the value of the banknote.



SECURITY FEATURES: €5, €10 AND €20

Various security features have been incorporated into the euro banknotes. They make it easy to check whether a banknote is genuine. The euro banknotes are printed on pure cotton paper, which gives them a unique feel. Several parts on the front are printed in relief and can be identified by touch. You can see other security features by holding the banknotes up to the light or tilting them.

SECURITY FEATURES: €50, €100, €200 AND €500

Some of the security features on the €50, €100, €200 and €500 banknotes are different from those on the lower-value banknotes, adding further to their security.

TECHNICAL SPECIFICATIONS OF THE EURO COINS

COMMON SIDES

€2



Diameter: 25.75 mm Height at edge: 2.20 mm Weight: 8.50 g

Shape: round

Colour: outer part: white; inner part: yellow Composition:

Outer part: copper-nickel Inner part: three layers: nickelbrass, nickel, nickel-brass

Fine milled with microlettering (different for each country)

€I



Diameter: 23.25 mm Height at edge: 2.33 mm

Weight: 7.50 g Shape: round

Colour: outer part: yellow; inner part: white

Composition:

Outer part: nickel-brass Inner part: three layers: copper-nickel, nickel, copper-nickel Edge:

Interrupted milled

50 CENT



Diameter: 24.25 mm Height at edge: 2.38 mm

Weight: 7.80 g Shape: round Colour: yellow Composition:

Nordic gold

Shaped edge with fine scallops

20 CENT



Diameter: 22.25 mm Height at edge: 2.14 mm

Weight: 5.74 g

Shape: Spanish flower shape

Colour: yellow

Composition: Nordic gold

Edge: Plain

10 CENT



Diameter: 19.75 mm Height at edge: 1.93 mm

Weight: 4.10 g Shape: round Colour: yellow Composition:

Nordic gold Shaped edge with fine scallops

5 CENT



Diameter: 21.25 mm

Height at edge: 1.67 mm Weight: 3.92 g Shape: round

Colour: red

Composition:

Copper-covered steel

Edge:

Smooth

2 CENT



Diameter: 18.75 mm Height at edge: 1.67 mm

Weight: 3.06 g Shape: round Colour: red

Composition:

Copper-covered steel

Edge:

Smooth with a groove

I CENT



Diameter: 16.25 mm

Height at edge: 1.67 mm

Weight: 2.30 g Shape: round Colour: red

Composition:

Copper-covered steel

Edge: Smooth

NATIONAL SIDES



BELGIUM

The Belgian coins show King Albert II and his monogram – a capital "A" underneath a crown – set among the 12 stars of the European Union.



GERMANY

The €I and €2 coins feature the federal eagle, a traditional symbol of German sovereignty, set amid the stars of the European Union. The Brandenburg Gate, which symbolises the division and subsequent unification of Germany, appears on the IO, 20 and 50 cent coins. An oak twig, reminiscent of the design on the old German pfennig coins, is depicted on the I, 2 and 5 cent coins.



GREECE

The €2 coin depicts a scene from a Spartan mosaic featuring Europa, the Greek mythical figure from whom our continent took its name. The €1 coin shows an owl motif taken from an ancient Athenian 4 drachma coin. The 10, 20 and 50 cent coins portray leading Greek figures from the 18th, 19th and early 20th centuries, while an Athenian trireme, a corvette and a seagoing tanker are featured on the 1, 2 and 5 cent coins respectively.



SPAIN

The effigy of King Juan Carlos I de Borbón y Borbón is reproduced on the €I and €2 coins. Miguel de Cervantes, the father of Spanish literature, is shown on the I0, 20 and 50 cent coins, reflecting the universality of the man and his work. The Cathedral of Santiago de Compostela, one of the most famous pilgrimage destinations in the world, is depicted on the I, 2 and 5 cent coins.



FRANCE

A tree, symbolising life, continuity and growth, appears on the €1 and €2 coins. It is surrounded by the Republican motto "liberté, égalité, fraternité". The classical theme of the sower is illustrated on the 10, 20 and 50 cent coins, while a young and feminine Marianne, a symbol of the French Republic, adorns the 1, 2 and 5 cent coins.

NATIONAL SIDES



IRELAND

All the Irish coins have the same national side showing a Celtic harp, a traditional symbol of Ireland. The word "Ireland" is shown in Irish (Éire).



ITALY

The €2 coin features a portrait of Dante Alighieri by Raphael. The €1 coin shows Leonardo da Vinci's drawing illustrating the ideal proportions of the human body. The 10, 20 and 50 cent coins depict "The Birth of Venus" by Botticelli, a sculpture by Umberto Boccioni and the statue of Emperor Marcus Aurelius Antoninus respectively. The other coins feature the Castel del Monte (1 cent), the Mole Antonelliana (2 cent) and the Colosseum (5 cent).



LUXEMBOURG

The coins show the effigy of His Royal Highness the Grand Duke Henri. The word "Luxembourg" is written in Luxembourgish (Lëtzebuerg).



THE NETHERLANDS

Two different designs – both of Queen Beatrix in profile – are used. On the €1 and €2 coins, the words "Beatrix, Queen of the Netherlands" in Dutch appear to the right of the profile. On the 1, 2, 5, 10, 20 and 50 cent coins, the same wording encircles the profile. The 12 stars of the European Union also feature in both designs.



AUSTRIA

The €2 coin shows a portrait of the radical pacifist Bertha von Suttner. Wolfgang Amadeus Mozart, the famous Austrian composer, is depicted on the €1 coin. Some of Vienna's most famous buildings adorn the 10 cent (St. Stephen's Cathedral), 20 cent (Belvedere Palace) and 50 cent (Secession Building) coins. The 1, 2 and 5 cent coins show a gentian flower, an edelweiss and an Alpine primrose respectively.

NATIONAL SIDES



PORTUGAL

The €I and €2 coins feature some of the country's castles and coats of arms, set amid the I2 stars of the European Union. The royal seal of II44 is shown in the centre. The seal depicted on the I0, 20 and 50 cent coins dates back to II42. The central area of the I, 2 and 5 cent coins contains Portugal's first royal seal of II34 and the name of the country.



FINLAND

Cloudberries and cloudberry flowers appear on the €2 coin, while the motif of two flying swans features on the €1 coin. The heraldic lion is depicted on the 1, 2, 5, 10, 20 and 50 cent coins.



MONACO

The €2 coin depicts HSH Prince Rainier III, surrounded by the 12 stars of the European Union. The €1 coin shows a double portrait of HSH Prince Rainier III and HSH Hereditary Prince Albert in profile, also encircled by the 12 stars. The 10, 20 and 50 cent coins depict the Prince's seal. The 1, 2 and 5 cent coins show the coat of arms of the Sovereign Princes of Monaco.



SAN MARINO

The Government building (Palazzo Pubblico) is depicted on the €2 coin, while the €1 coin shows the Republic's official coat of arms. The three towers, Guaita, Cesta and Montale, appear on the 50 cent coin. The 20 cent coin features the Saint Marino, based on a canvas of the Guercino school, while the 10 cent coin depicts the Basilica of San Marino. The 1, 2 and 5 cent coins show the third tower, the Statue of Liberty and the first tower respectively.



VATICAN CITY

All coins show the effigy of His Holiness Pope John Paul II, Sovereign of the State of Vatican City, in profile facing to the left. The words "CITTÀ DEL VATICANO" also feature, together with the 12 stars of the European Union and the initials of the designer and engraver (GV and UP respectively).