

SUMMER TIME WITH DOLLAR

Summer 2010



Ahhh, summer time. I'm enjoying the warm and sunny days by flying my kite and spending lots of time outside. I'll be at various parades and events this summer and hope to see you.



I just heard that the United States Bureau of Engraving and Printing recently unveiled the new \$100 bill. Have you had a chance to see the new \$100 note?

The U.S. government continues to improve the security of our currency to make it more difficult for people to create fake bills.

The new bill features new security features like the 3-D Security Ribbon and the Bell in the Inkwell as well as additional features used in other U.S. denominations like an enlarged portrait, color-changing ink, and a unique teal background color. A picture of a quill has been added to the front along with faint phrases of the Declaration of Independence.



The back of the bill which previously showed the main front entrance of Independence Hall now displays the rear of Independence Hall.



Did You Know?

- \$100 bills are commonly referred to as "Benjamins" because of Benjamin Franklin's portrait. They are also referred to as "C-Notes" based on the Roman numeral C which means 100.
- The \$1 and the \$2 notes will not be redesigned and will continue to circulate as designed.
- Although our currency is strong and durable, it wears out because of constant handling. The average life span of a \$100 bill is 5 years.

If you could design your own bill-- how would it look?

[Click here to Design Your Own Bill](#)

Features of the new \$100 note:

- The bells in the blue ribbon change to 100s when the bill is tilted back and forth
- The ribbon is woven into the paper, not printed on it
- The color shifting bell in the copper inkwell changes from copper to green when tilted
- When held up to the light a faint image of Benjamin Franklin appears in the blank space to the right of the portrait
- When held up to the light, an embedded thread displays an imprint with 'USA' and '100' which can be seen from both sides of the bill; it glows pink when placed under ultraviolet light
- The numeral 100 in the lower right corner of the front of the note shifts from copper to green when tilted
- Benjamin Franklin's shoulder is rough to the touch which is known as raised printing
- The large numeral 100 on the back of the note helps those who have trouble seeing determine the denomination, or amount of the bill
- Small printed words are on Benjamin Franklin's jacket collar, around the blank space containing the portrait watermark, along the quill and in the note borders

[Click here to see these features](#)

Keep your eyes peeled for the new note which will be issued to the public beginning February 10, 2011.

According to the government, we are the best line of defense against counterfeiting. If we become more familiar with our currency we can help guard against counterfeiting.



Here is how you can tell the difference between a real and fake bill:

Genuine (Real)	Counterfeit (Fake)
• Portrait appears lifelike and stands out distinctly from the background.	• Portrait is lifeless and flat with details merging into the background which is often too dark.
• The saw-tooth points of the Federal Reserve and Treasury seals are clear, distinct, and sharp.	• Federal Reserve and Treasury seals may have been uneven, blunt, or broken saw-tooth points.
• The fine lines in the border are clear and unbroken.	• The lines on the outer margin and scrollwork may be blurred and indistinct
• Serial numbers have a distinctive style and are evenly spaced and the numbers are printed in the same ink color as the Treasury Seal.	• Serial numbers may differ in color or shade of ink from the Treasury seal and they may not be evenly spaced or aligned.
• Currency paper has tiny red and blue fibers embedded throughout the bill.	• Fibers are printed on the surface, not embedded in the paper.

A counterfeit or fake bill is made to look like a real bill and used to deceive others.

Counterfeit money affects us all, it:

- Reduces the value of real money
- Increases prices due to more money being circulated in the economy although it is an illegal and false increase in the money supply
- Decreases the acceptance of money from businesses who may demand electronic transfers of real money instead of paper currency
- Forces companies to increase their prices because they are not reimbursed for counterfeit bills

Look at this bill. Do you notice anything odd?



Sometimes real currency is altered in an effort to make it worth more than it really is. One common method is to glue numerals from higher denominations to the corners of lower denominations. You will notice the denomination or amount on the end of this bill does not match the words below George Washington's portrait. This bill is an example of a raised note which is also considered counterfeit.

Benjamin Franklin's portrait first appeared on the \$100 note in 1914. Over 177 years earlier, Benjamin Franklin used nature printing to prevent counterfeiting. Nature printing is printing from leaf casts, by using a copper plate process, for transferring a sage leaf image onto the back of paper money. Since the patterns in the leaf were unique and complex, they were harder to reproduce.