

# AUSTRALIA'S BANKNOTES

Australia's banknotes were the first full series to be printed on polymer, a type of plastic.

## \$5 Banknote

Reflects Australia's democratic system, with Queen Elizabeth II's portrait on one side and the Old and New Parliament Houses on the other side.

First issued in July 1992



All Australian banknotes have an image of the Coat of Arms that can be seen when the banknote is held up to the light.

## \$10 Banknote

Features Banjo Paterson, who wrote *Waltzing Matilda* and *The Man from Snowy River*. Dame Mary Gilmore, who campaigned for women's voting rights, pensions and Aboriginal rights, is on the other side.

First issued in November 1993



Microprinting – tiny, clearly defined text – is incorporated in all Australian banknotes. On the \$10 banknote it shows excerpts from Paterson's and Gilmore's poetry.

## \$20 Banknote

Features Mary Reibey, a pioneer business woman with interests in shipping and property. The founder of the Royal Flying Doctor Service, Reverend John Flynn, is on the other side.

First issued in October 1994

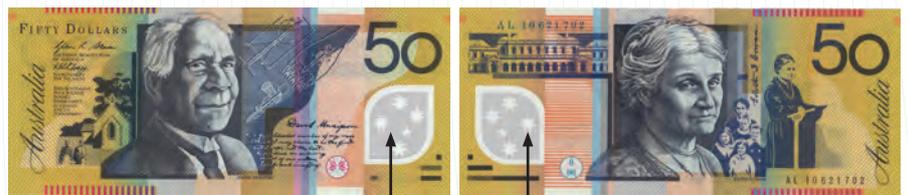


Diamond-shaped patterns are printed inside a circle on each side of all Australian banknotes. When the banknote is held up to the light, the patterns form a seven-pointed star.

## \$50 Banknote

Features David Unaipon, public speaker, inventor and the first published Aboriginal writer. Edith Cowan, a social worker, feminist and Australia's first female parliamentarian, is on the other side.

First issued in October 1995



All Australian banknotes have clear windows containing white images. The window on the \$50 banknote has an image of the Southern Cross and embossing of the number '50'.

## \$100 Banknote

Features world-renowned soprano Dame Nellie Melba on one side. Soldier, engineer and administrator Sir John Monash is on the other side.

First issued in May 1996



The serial numbers on all Australian banknotes glow under ultraviolet light.

## FOR MORE INFORMATION

Call: 1800 633 220

8.30 am – 5.00 pm, Monday to Friday

Email:

[banknotes@rba.gov.au](mailto:banknotes@rba.gov.au)

Website:

[banknotes.rba.gov.au](http://banknotes.rba.gov.au)

# AUSTRALIA'S BANKNOTES

## Is your banknote genuine?



- Always check a range of features.
- Compare a suspected counterfeit with a genuine banknote.

### 1. Feel the banknote

Australian banknotes are printed on plastic, they are difficult to tear and will spring back after being crunched.



### 2. Check the clear window

Make sure the window hasn't been added on and the printed image can't be easily rubbed off. Also look for embossing on \$10, \$20, \$50 and \$100 banknotes.



### 3. Look for the star

Diamond-shaped patterns are printed inside a circle on both sides of the banknote. When held up to the light, they form a seven-pointed star.



### 4. Check the shadow image

The Australian Coat of Arms should appear on the banknote when it is held up to the light.



### 5. Look for the microprinting

Under a magnifying glass, tiny words can be seen in the top left corner of the \$5 banknote and near the portraits on other banknotes.

### Other security features that you can check if you suspect a banknote might be counterfeit:

#### Feel the dark printing

It is produced with a special raised ink that can be felt with your finger or fingernail.

#### Check the print quality

Background printing should be clearly defined. Check for irregularities, thicker or thinner lines, or colour differences.

#### Examine under UV light

Serial numbers will fluoresce. A patch on the \$5 will also glow, as well as patches on the \$20, \$50 and \$100 that show the banknote's value.



## Dealing with suspect banknotes

It is an offence to knowingly possess counterfeits. Suspect banknotes should be given to Federal or State police.

If you have concerns about a banknote, you are within your rights to refuse to accept it.

If you suspect a banknote is counterfeit:

- Handle it as little as possible.
- Note relevant information, such as how it came into your possession.
- Report the matter immediately to the police.

Under no circumstances should you take actions that may jeopardise your safety.

If the suspect banknotes are found to be genuine, you will receive full value for them.

## FOR MORE INFORMATION

Call: 1800 633 220

8.30 am – 5.00 pm, Monday to Friday

Email:

[banknotes@rba.gov.au](mailto:banknotes@rba.gov.au)

Website:

[banknotes.rba.gov.au](http://banknotes.rba.gov.au)