

Abagnale Fraud Tips

The \$10 Bill

Note: Issue Date Summer 2000

Current Security Features: To prevent counterfeiting, the government has included a number of security features in U. S. currency.

Security Thread

A vertically embedded thread to the right of the portrait indicates the \$10 denomination. The words "USA TEN" and a flag can be seen from both sides against a light. The number "10" appears in the star field of the flag. The thread glows white under an ultraviolet light.

Federal Reserve Indicators

A new seal represents the entire Federal Reserve System. The letter and number under the left serial number identify the issuing Federal Reserve Bank.

Microprinting

"The United States of America" is repeated just above Hamilton's name. On the front of the note, "TEN" is repeated within the number in the lower left corner.

Fine-Line Printing Patterns

The fine lines printed behind the portrait are difficult to replicate.

Color-Shifting Ink

The number in the lower right corner on the front of the note looks green when viewed straight on, but black at an angle.

Portrait

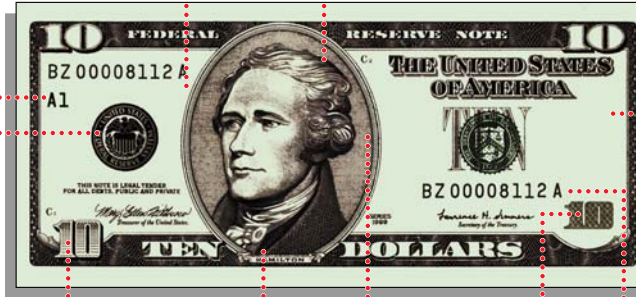
A larger, off-center portrait allows room for a watermark.

Watermark

A watermark portrait is visible from both sides when held up to a light.

Serial Numbers

An additional letter is added to the serial number.



The New \$5 Bill

Note: Issue Date Spring 2008

Current Security Features: To prevent counterfeiting, the government has included a number of security features in U. S. currency.

It is important to remember that all new notes and the older design notes will continue to be legal currency at full face value.

Federal Reserve Indicators

A universal seal to the left of the portrait represents the entire Federal Reserve System. A letter and number beneath the left serial number identifies the issuing Federal Reserve Bank.

Microprinting

The redesigned \$5 bill features microprinting on the front of the bill in three areas: the words "FIVE DOLLARS" can be found repeated inside the left and right borders of the bill; the words "E PLURIBUS UNUM" appear at the top of the shield within The Great Seal; and the word "USA" is repeated between the columns of the shield. On the back of the bill the words "USA FIVE" appear along one edge of the large purple "5" low-vision feature.

Color

The most noticeable difference in the newly designed bill is the addition of light purple in the center of the bill, which blends into gray near the edges. Small yellow "05"s are printed to the left of the portrait on the front of the bill and to the right of the Lincoln Memorial vignette on the back.

Low-Vision Feature

The large, easy-to-read number "5" in the lower right corner on the back of the bill, which helps those with visual impairments to distinguish the denomination, has been enlarged in the new \$5 bill design, and is printed in high-contrast purple ink.



Symbol of Freedom

A new American symbol of freedom has been added to the background of the redesigned \$5 bill—The Great Seal of the United States, featuring an eagle and shield, is printed in purple to the right of the portrait of President Lincoln. An arc of purple stars surrounds the portrait and The Great Seal. The symbols of freedom differ for each denomination.

Watermark

Hold the bill up to the light and look for the large number "5" watermark located to the right of the portrait. It replaces the watermark portrait of President Lincoln found on older design \$5 bills. Its location is highlighted by a blank window incorporated into the background design.

Watermark

A second watermark has been added to the redesigned \$5 bill. Hold the bill up to the light and look for a column of three smaller "5"s positioned to the left of the portrait. The watermark is part of the paper itself and can be seen from both sides of the bill.

Security Thread

Hold the bill up to the light and look for the security thread, or plastic strip, that is embedded in the paper and runs vertically to the right of the portrait. The letters "USA" followed by the number "5" in an alternating pattern are visible along the thread from both sides of the bill. The thread glows blue when held under ultraviolet light. In older design \$5 bills, the security thread was located to the left of the portrait.

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