

BANKNOTES – UPGRADED SECURITY AND DESIGN FEATURES

EXISTING SECURITY FEATURES THAT REMAIN UNCHANGED IN THE UPGRADED BANKNOTES

Visible to the naked eye:

- Substrate** – banknotes are made from special paper that has a distinctive feel and makes a crackling sound when snapped between the fingers
- Intaglio printing** (raised printing) – on the front of the banknotes 'South African Reserve Bank', the main and secondary motifs and the diamond shapes for the blind are in intaglio - which stands up from the paper and feels rough. Raised printing is used on the back of the R100 and R200 above the economic sector theme

Visible with hand held device (e.g. UV light):

- UV dull paper** – does not shine under ultra-violet light and enables checking of the two UV features, fluorescent fibres and fluorescent inks
- Fluorescent fibres** – little red and green threads distributed randomly across the banknotes
- Fluorescent inks** – the following are printed in fluorescent inks - serial numbers, interpolated band; and in the R100 and R200 banknotes: the denomination numeral in the watermark area

MODIFIED SECURITY FEATURES

Visible to the naked eye:

- Watermark** – when held up to light, a shadow picture of the main motif and the denomination numeral becomes visible. It is smaller than the old watermark and now includes the denomination numeral
- Security thread** – it is woven into the paper and appears as a silvery stripe with 'windows' in between on the front of notes. When held up to light, it is a continuous dark line. On the upgraded R10 and R20, it is 2mm wide, and contains 'SARB' and the denomination numeral. On the upgraded R50, R100 and R200, it is 4mm wide, and contains 'SARB', 'RAND' and the denomination numeral. When tilted a holographic Coat of Arms appears
- Perfect registration** (see-through security feature) – in the pattern on the front and back of banknotes, a perfect denomination numeral forms when held up to light
- Diamond shapes** – 1 diamond = R10, 2 diamonds = R20, 3 diamonds = R50, 4 diamonds = R100, 5 diamonds = R200 – printed in raised printing, is a feature for the blind
- Unique numbering** – each banknote has a unique number - a vertical number is on the left hand side, and a horizontal number on the right hand side of the banknote. The horizontal number grows in height from left to right (conical)

Visible with hand held device:

- Microlettering** – 'South African Reserve Bank' in microlettering on the front of the notes, to the right of the animal's ear. The microlettering is printed in positive and negative text

NEW SECURITY FEATURES

Visible to the naked eye:

- Iridescent band** – a shimmering gold band – when tilted, the Coat of Arms and the denomination numeral appear in the band
- Geometric shapes** – different shapes on the front – R10 diamond, R20 square, R50 circle, R100 hexagon, R200 hexagon - aides for the partially sighted
- Latent (hidden) image in the geometric shapes** – holding the note at an almost horizontal angle to the eyes, an image of the denomination numeral appears
- Optically variable ink** (colour changing ink) – on the R50, R100 and R200 the denomination indicator is printed in colour changing ink. Tilt the R50 or R100 in light and it changes in colour from green to gold. On the R200 the ink changes colour from magenta to green

DESIGN FEATURES

- Dominant colours** – the dominant colours remain the same - R10 – green, R20 – brown, R50 – red, R100 – blue, R200 – orange
- Motif** – the Big 5 animal theme remains: one main animal with a group of the same animal to the left of it
- Economic sector theme** – the themes of Agriculture, Mining, Manufacturing, Tourism, Transport and Communications
- Banknote size** – each denomination has an exact size: R10 = 70 x 128 mm, R20 = 70 x 134 mm, R50 = 70 x 140 mm, R100 = 70 x 146 mm, R200 = 70 x 152 mm
- Coat of Arms** – appears on the front of the note in intaglio print, in the iridescent band on the back, and in the security thread of the R50, R100 and R200
- Denomination numerals** – the denomination numerals are more distinctive
- Languages** – 'South African Reserve Bank' in English on the front, and in two other official languages on the back - the combinations give equal exposure to the 11 languages



South African Reserve Bank

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