

Basic rules for verifying banknote authenticity

- To determine whether a banknote is authentic apply the simple test:
 - feel,
 - look,
 - tilt.
- Always check several security features.
- Take extra care if the banknote is damaged or destroyed.
- If in doubt, compare it with another banknote that you are certain is authentic or go to the nearest bank in order to check the authenticity of the banknote.

Make sure not to put into circulation any counterfeit banknotes as it can be subject to criminal prosecution. If you suspect that a banknote is counterfeited, go to the nearest police station or bank to verify its authenticity. False banknotes are retained without the right to regain the equivalent of their value.



Banknotes in circulation before modernisation



Banknotes in circulation after modernisation



Banknote in circulation since 10 February 2017.



How to verify whether banknotes are authentic?



Polish general circulation banknotes have the most advanced security features.

You can verify them by using the feel, look, tilt test.

Feel the banknote

Selected elements of the banknote can be felt to the touch. On the front of each banknote, these are:



1. The portrait of the sovereign
2. The inscription "Narodowy Bank Polski"
3. The value numeral
4. The emblem of the Republic of Poland
5. Markings for the visually impaired
6. The inscription "WARSZAWA" with the date of issue and the signatures of the President and the General Treasurer of NBP

On the back of each banknote the following elements are felt to the touch:



1. The main element of the artwork
2. The inscription "Narodowy Bank Polski"
3. The value numeral in words
4. The value numeral
5. A legal notice
6. A stripe at the bottom of the banknote

Look at the banknote against the light

Each modernised banknote has a watermark with the sovereign's portrait on the front of the banknote, and a value numeral corresponding with the banknote denomination. The watermark field is free from print.



Each banknote has a security thread visible against the light with the value numeral and abbreviation "ZŁ".



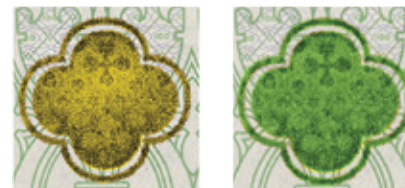
Tilt the banknote

By changing the angle of vision, the graphic element to the right of the portrait of the sovereign on the 50 zł, 100 zł, 200 zł and 500 zł banknotes smoothly changes colour.

The stylised letter "K" in a crown on the 50 zł banknote changes colour from green to blue.



The rosette on the 100 zł banknote changes colour from gold to green.



The shield on the 200 zł banknote changes colour from gold to green, and the chessboard pattern placed on the shield appears to move.

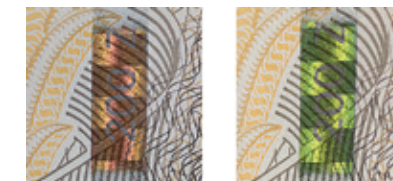


The lobster-tailed pot helmet on the 500 zł banknote changes colour from green to blue, and the pattern of a wavy line placed on it appears to move.



Fragments of the security thread can be seen on the front of the 200 zł and 500 zł banknotes. When tilting these banknotes the security thread smoothly changes its colour and pattern.

On the 200 zł banknote the colour changes smoothly from gold to green and the chessboard pattern moves smoothly.



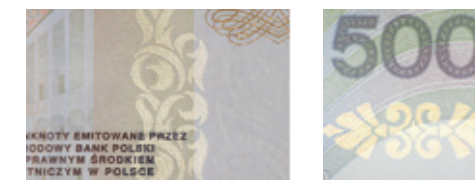
On the 500 zł banknote the colour changes smoothly from gold to green and two ribbons interweave smoothly.



On the back of the 10 zł and 20 zł banknotes there is an iridescent stripe with the value numeral and abbreviation "ZŁ".



On the back of the 200 zł and 500 zł banknotes there is an ornament printed with gold iridescent ink.



The security features described in this leaflet concern banknotes put into circulation starting from 2014.