



SOUTH AUSTRALIA POLICE
KEEPING SA SAFE

PREVENTING
CRIME

COUNTERFEIT BANKNOTES

Fraud against businesses can occur in a variety of ways, including through credit cards or counterfeit banknotes. The following is a guide to assist businesses in identifying a genuine Australian banknote and minimising the risk to your business in receiving counterfeit money.

Look – Genuine banknotes contain:

- The clear window and the area around the window is usually smooth.
- The window contains printed images or patterns.
- Banknotes have fine line patterns on each side and are multi-coloured.
- If you hold the note to the light you can see the Australian Coat of Arms.

Feel - Genuine banknotes are:

- Printed on polymer (plastic) and have a distinctive feel.
- Have slightly raised printing (dark ink) called intaglio that is used for the main design such as the portraits.

Tear – Genuine banknote are:

- Difficult to tear.
- The majority of counterfeit notes are printed on paper and can be easily torn.

Check – All banknotes have a printed image on the clear window:

- \$5 note has the gum flower
- \$10 note has a windmill
- \$20 has a compass
- \$50 has the Southern Cross
- \$100 has the lyrebird.

What to do if you suspect that you have received a counterfeit note:

- Advise the person that you believe the note may not be genuine and that the police will be notified.
- Notify the police immediately on 131 444.
- Handle the banknote as little as possible, place it in an envelope or other protective covering (avoid using plastic as the banknote may sweat in warm conditions).
- Note the person's description and details if they leave the premises prior to police arrival.

For further business crime prevention information please visit www.police.sa.gov.au or contact your local police station.

South Australia Police (SAPOL) is committed to working in partnership with the community to prevent crime and reduce the fear of crime to ensure that South Australia is a safe place to live, visit and do business.

BUSINESS SECURITY

