

How to spot a counterfeit note – Series 6



Serial number
Each note has an individual serial number printed horizontally and vertically.

Raised ink
The banknotes have raised printing, which can be felt when you run your fingers over it.

Shadow image of the Queen
You should be able to see a shadow image of the Queen when you hold the note to the light.

Framed window with embossed number
There is an oval window that has the denomination of the note embossed in it. Make sure the window is present, properly embedded in the note and you can read the number clearly.

Matching fern
Look at the note when held up to a source of light. The fern above the window on the front matches with the fern on the back.

Fern window
There is a small window in the shape of a curved fern leaf. Make sure the window is there and properly embedded in the note.

Microtext
Tiny micro-printed letters “RBNZ” should be visible on the note with a magnifying glass.

What should I do if I find a counterfeit?

If you believe someone is trying to pass you a counterfeit note, do not accept it, and notify the Police. If you find you’ve already received a counterfeit note, put it in an envelope to avoid handling it further and take it to the Police.

Further information

Go to the Reserve Bank website: <https://rbnz.govt.nz/counterfeit>



The security features are the same for all denominations.