

## TOP TIPS

- Know what to do when counterfeit money is detected
- Train your employees to check for fake banknotes
- Although not as common, check smaller denomination notes are not fake, as well as higher value notes
- Use technology to your advantage by installing counterfeit checking devices

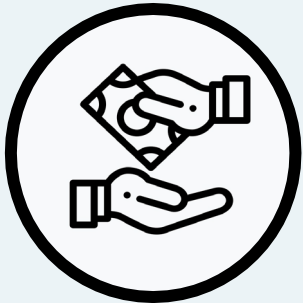


**All counterfeit notes are identified before they go back in to re-circulation, when retailers and the banking system are sorting them.**

**A smaller number are detected by the public or retailers who hand them directly to the police, or when the police carry out search warrants. Counterfeits are typically removed from circulation quickly, often after a single use.**

## What do I do if I get a counterfeit bank note?

Counterfeit bank notes are rare and also worthless. The Bank of England cannot reimburse you for counterfeit bank notes. If you suspect that you have a counterfeit bank note, please take it to your nearest police station. If you have information about someone making, selling or using counterfeit bank notes, please contact the police or phone Crimestoppers anonymously on 0800 555 111.



Counterfeiting directly funds organised crime, It hurts the UK economy by creating losses for businesses, which ultimately affects the cost of things that we buy.

It also affects the pocket of anyone who receives a counterfeit note, as they are worthless.

If you report counterfeiting to the police, you are helping with investigations and alerting them to a problem in a particular area. This means that they can act to protect your community. More information can be found at the Bank of England Website.

## How to spot a fake polymer England £20 bank note

**Hologram Image Change** - Tilt the note from side to side. Check the words change between 'Twenty' and 'Pounds'. (Lower foil silver section) On other notes, for example £50 the words change between 'Fifty' and 'Pounds'.



**Silver Foil Patch** - A silver foil patch contains a 3D image of the coronation crown. (Upper silver foil section)



**Tower & Building** – the lighthouse (Tower) should be in Gold Foil and the building (block) behind it in blue Foil. With ‘radiating rings’ from the tower as you tilt the note. The blue building is made up of rows of small £20s

**Purple Foil Patch** - A round, purple foil patch containing the letter ‘T’ is on the reverse of the note.

**The Queens Portrait** - A portrait of the Queen is printed on the window (Left) with ‘£20 Bank of England’ printed twice around the edge.

**Raised Print** - You can feel raised print on the words ‘Bank of England’

**Raised Dots** - There are three clusters of four raised dots in the top left corner to help blind and partially sighted people identify the value of the note.

**Ultra-Violet Number** - Under ultra-violet (UV) light, the number ‘20’ appears in bright red and green, against a duller background.

**Unique Numbering** – Each note has an individual serial number (no duplication) The numbers and letters in the vertical serial number are all the same height and colour. The horizontal number is multi-coloured and increases in height from left to right.

**Print Quality** - The printed lines and colours on the note are sharp, clear and free from smudges or blurred edges. The value of the note is written in tiny letters and numbers below the Queen’s portrait. This is visible with a magnifying glass.

**Size** - The higher the value of a note, the larger it is.

Details of all security features in Genuine Polymer Bank of England £20 notes can be found at the link below:

<https://www.bankofengland.co.uk/banknotes/polymer-20-pound-note>



## How to spot a fake Scottish (Bank of Scotland) polymer £50 note

**Clear Window** - There is a clear polymer window on the left of the note, which you can see through. There are also clear windows in the building.

**Colour changing ink (Spark)** - There is an area of shiny metallic ink (50), which changes colour as you move (tilt) the note around. It changes from Gold to Green)

**Holographic Foil** - The images move and their colours change when you tilt the notes.



**Raised Print** - The banknotes have the characteristic raised print in places across the note, which gives the notes a tactile quality. Name of the Bank

**Raised dots** - There are four arrangements of four raised dots in a square formation along the left edge of the note, enabling physical identification for the blind and partially sighted.

**Ultra-Violet** - When you look closely at the notes under ultra-violet (UV) light, you will see there are areas of the note that are two separate colours that glow. In normal light they appear as a single colour.

Further information about the security features in both Scottish & Northern Irish Bank notes can be found at the ACBI website by the following link:- [www.acbi.org.uk/banknotes.html](http://www.acbi.org.uk/banknotes.html)



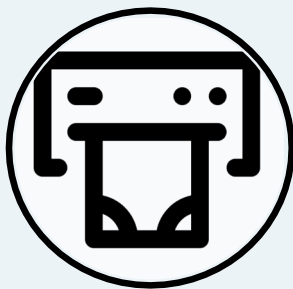
## How to spot a fake Scottish (Royal Bank of Scotland) polymer £50 note



**Clear Window** - There is a clear polymer window on the left of the note.

**Silver holographic foil strip** - If you tilt the note from side to side the images will move on the Royal Bank of Scotland note, the 50 moves from side to side and colours change in the images. The holographic foil is visible from the front and back of the note.

**Raised Print** – the note features areas of raised print. The name of the Bank is in raised print.



### Counterfeit Detection Devices

There are a range of products you can use to verify that a bank note is genuine, from counterfeit detector pens and simple UV lamps, to machines that you feed notes into to check legitimacy.

Counterfeit detection machines have a range of advanced counterfeit detection technologies to catch fake bills before they are accepted at point of sale.

### Always Report Crimes to the Police

Always report crime to police. This allows police to capture the data and understand the full scale of the crime, which in turn informs their resources and tactics to tackle it.

When a crime is taking place, dial 999 in an emergency. You can also report to the Police on 101 or alternatively, you can report online.

