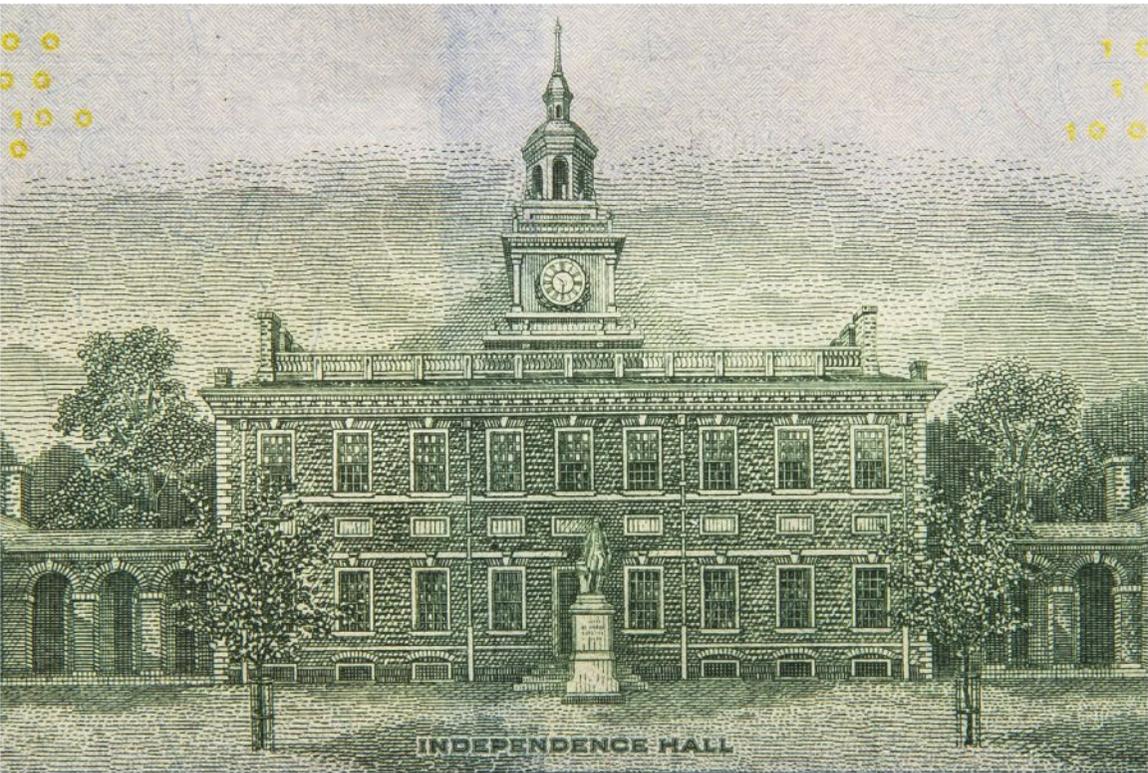


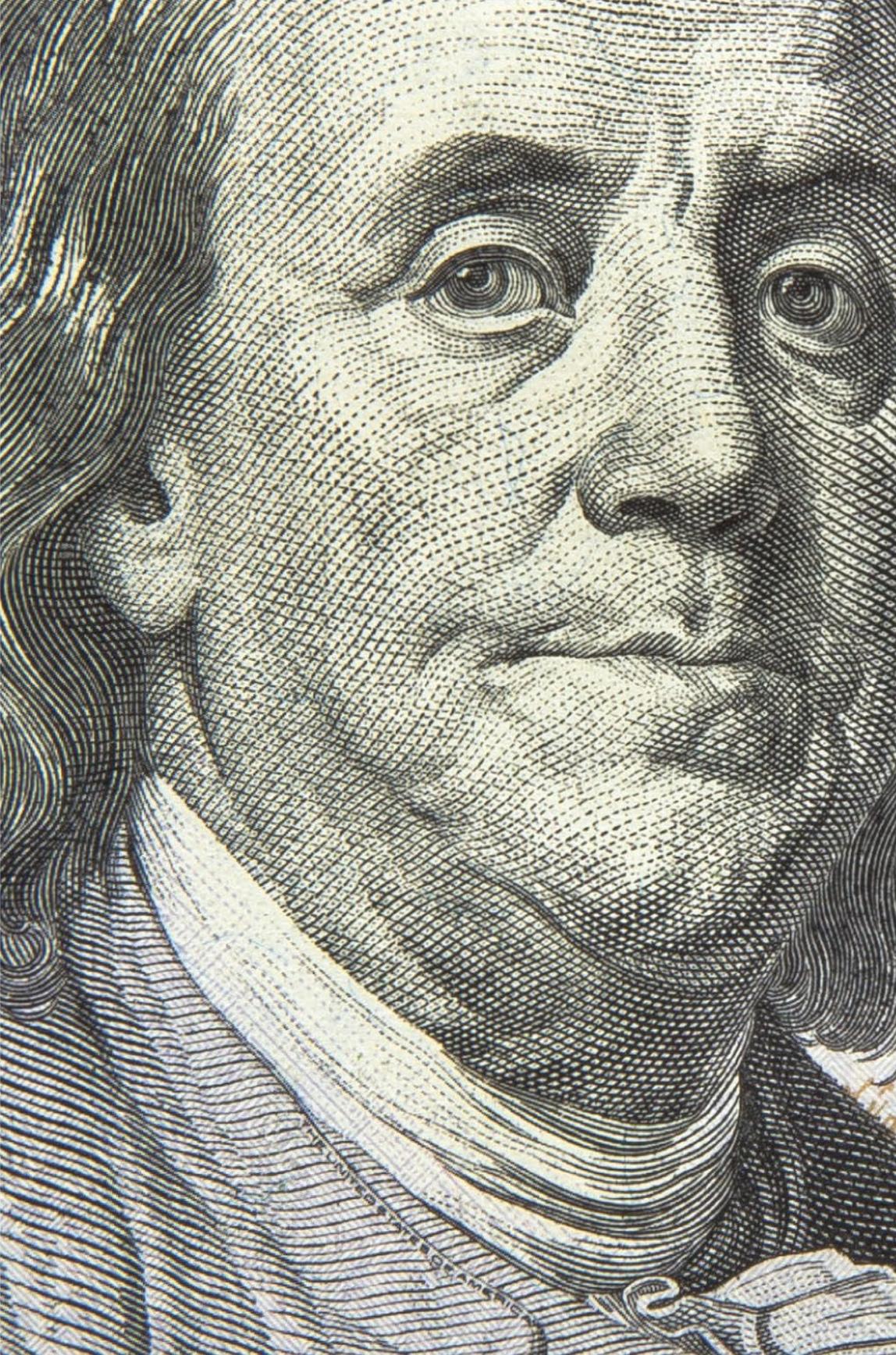


U.S. CURRENCY  
EDUCATION  
PROGRAM

# DECODING DOLLARS: THE \$100



[uscurrency.gov](http://uscurrency.gov)





THE \$100 NOTE IS THE LARGEST DENOMINATION OF U.S. CURRENCY CURRENTLY ISSUED BY THE FEDERAL RESERVE BOARD.

Understanding how to use the security features in the note will help you avoid accepting a counterfeit.

**The \$100 note has five key security features:**



3-D Security Ribbon



Bell in the Inkwell



Color-shifting numeral



Watermark



Security thread

It only takes a few simple steps to check the security features and know the note you are handling is genuine U.S. currency.

# Decoding the \$100: Feel, Tilt, Check

To check the security features in the \$100 note, feel the paper, tilt the note, and check with light.



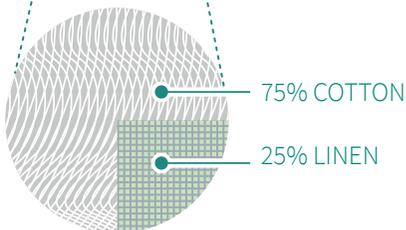
## FEEL THE PAPER

### **Raised printing**

Move your finger across the note. It should feel slightly rough to the touch because of the raised printing and the unique composition of the paper, which is a blend of 75 percent cotton and 25 percent linen.



**CURRENCY  
PAPER COMPOSITION**





## TILT THE NOTE

### Color-shifting numeral

Tilt the note to see the *100* in the lower right corner change color from copper to green.

### Bell in the Inkwell

Tilt the note to see the Bell in the Inkwell change color from copper to green.

### 3-D Security Ribbon

The 3-D Security Ribbon is blue and has images of bells and *100s*. When you tilt the note back and forth, the bells and *100s* move from side to side. When you tilt the note from side to side, the bells and *100s* move up and down. The 3-D Security Ribbon is woven into the paper, not printed on it.



## CHECK WITH LIGHT

### Security thread

Hold the note to light to see the security thread that reads *USA 100* to the left of Benjamin Franklin's portrait. The thread is visible from the front and back of the note and glows pink under ultraviolet light.

### Watermark

Hold the note to light to see a faint image of Benjamin Franklin to the right of the portrait. The watermark is visible from the front and back of the note.



# COUNTERFEIT REPORTING

## Do you know what to do with suspected counterfeits?

Become familiar with your organization's counterfeit-reporting procedures and learn what to do if you suspect you have a counterfeit note. This may include contacting local law enforcement or the local field office of the United States Secret Service.



THIS NOTE IS LEGAL TENDER  
FOR ALL DEBTS, PUBLIC AND PRIVATE

4, 1776.

of America



political bonds which had  
decent respect to the



men are created equal  
Governments are

LG 2

the People to alter  
to effect

SERIES  
2009  
A

divisions are everywhere with shewn, that  
ation

# DECODING THE \$100: Feel, Tilt, Check

It only takes a few seconds to check the security features of the \$100 note. To know it's real, just feel the paper, tilt the note, and check with light.



### CHECK WITH LIGHT

#### Security thread

The security thread is to the left of the portrait and reads *USA 100*.

It is visible from both sides of the note. It glows pink under ultraviolet light.



### FEEL THE PAPER

#### Raised printing

The paper should feel slightly rough to the touch because of the raised printing and unique composition of the paper.



### TILT THE NOTE

#### 3-D Security Ribbon

Tilt the note back and forth to see the bells and 100s move from side to side.

Tilt the note from side to side to see the bells and 100s move up and down.



### TILT THE NOTE

#### Bell in the Inkwell

The Bell in the Inkwell changes from copper to green.



### TILT THE NOTE

#### Color-shifting numeral

The 100 changes from copper to green.



### CHECK WITH LIGHT

#### Watermark

There is a faint image of Benjamin Franklin to the right of the portrait.

The watermark is visible from both sides of the note.



Interested in learning about other denominations?  
Visit [uscurrency.gov](http://uscurrency.gov)



[uscurrency.gov](https://uscurrency.gov)

Item #1206 · 2017