DECODING DOLLARS: THE $20
UNDERSTANDING HOW TO CHECK THE SECURITY FEATURES IN U.S. CURRENCY WILL HELP YOU AVOID ACCEPTING A COUNTERFEIT NOTE.

The $20 note has security features you will find in other denominations of U.S. currency, including a:

- Color-shifting numeral
- Watermark
- Security thread

It only takes a few seconds and a few simple steps to check these security features and know that the note you are handling is genuine U.S. currency.
Decoding the $20: Feel, Tilt, Check

To check the security features in the $20 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.
**TILT THE NOTE**

**Color-shifting numeral**
Tilt the note to see the 20 in the lower right corner change color from copper to green.

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**CHECK WITH LIGHT**

**Security thread**
Hold the note to light to see a security thread to the left of Andrew Jackson’s portrait. It reads *USA TWENTY* and includes a small flag. The thread is visible from the front and back of the note and glows green under ultraviolet light.

**Watermark**
Hold the note to light to see a faint image of Andrew Jackson to the right of the portrait. The watermark is visible from the front and back of the note.
COUNTERFEIT REPORTING

Think you have a counterfeit?
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.

www.uscurrency.gov
www.secretservice.gov
Interested in learning about other denominations? Visit uscurrency.gov.