

As seen in



Money

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# Redesigned \$20 bill hits the streets



## Might take several weeks to show up everywhere

From staff and wire reports

A new pastel-shaded \$20 bill made its debut across the country Thursday, part of the U.S. government's campaign to thwart counterfeiters.

The new bill sports a subtle green, peach and blue background, the first modern U.S. currency to deviate from the traditional black-and-green color scheme.

The colors add complexity to the bill, making it harder to replicate, Treasury officials said.

The Federal Reserve shipped the new bills to banks across the country Thursday, but it may take several weeks for the bills to show up in all communities.

The old \$20 bills will be gradually withdrawn from circulation. The government has launched a \$30 million campaign to inform

businesses and consumers about the change and assure them the old bills are still legitimate currency.

The government began working with vending machine operators and transit systems a year ago to ensure the machines will accept the new bills, Treasury said.

The new bills are the same size as the old bills and feature the same images, with some modifications. The image of Andrew Jackson on the front of the bill appears slightly larger because the border around his portrait has been removed. A pale blue eagle appears on Jackson's left, and a metallic green eagle and shield are shown on his right.

The back of the bill continues to feature the White House. The border has been removed, and a small number of 20s are printed in yellow on the background.

The new bills retain some of the anti-

counterfeiting features introduced in 1998, such as watermarks and plastic security threads that are visible when the bill is held up to light.

Treasury expects to introduce new designs for \$50 and \$100 bills in 2004 and 2005, using different colors for different denominations. The government is considering redesigning the \$5 and \$10 bills but will not change the \$1 and \$2 bills.

The new color palette will make it easier for individuals to tell bills apart, particularly if they're visually impaired, Treasury says.

The \$20 is the most popular bill with domestic counterfeiters. While counterfeiting remains rare, digital equipment has made it easier and cheaper — and harder for the government to detect.

# As seen in Experience TODAY



## Redesigned \$20 bill hits the streets, 10B

**APPLICATIONS:** *government, civics, symbolism, history, language arts*  
**DISCUSSION:** Why did the government introduce a redesigned \$20 bill? Describe the changes.

**ACTIVITY:** Search the Internet for six different pictures of foreign currency. If possible print each. Also, locate a picture of the new U.S. \$20 bill. Make a chart listing the name of each currency on one side and the following headlines across the top: Artistic merit, Piques curiosity, Educational value and Historical value. Then, evaluate each currency on a scale of 1 to 5 (five is the best rating). Ask yourself: What values or ideals are represented on each nation's currency? Does the bill show great artistry? Does it make me want to visit the country? What can I see that makes the bill hard to copy and counterfeit? What colors are in the notes? Finally, identify the best feature of each note and include them in your design for a new global currency.

### NATIONAL STANDARDS

#### NA-VA.5-8.5 REFLECTING UPON AND ASSESSING THE CHARACTERISTICS AND MERITS OF THEIR WORK AND THE WORK OF OTHERS

Students compare multiple purposes for creating works of art; students analyze contemporary and historic meanings in specific artworks through cultural and aesthetic inquiry; students describe and compare a variety of individual responses to their own artworks and to artworks from various eras and cultures. (Consortium of National Arts Education Association)

#### NL-ENG.K-12.12 APPLYING LANGUAGE SKILLS

Students use spoken, written, and visual language to accomplish their own purposes (e.g., for learning, enjoyment, persuasion, and the exchange of information). (NCTE)

## The New Color of Money Challenge

The USA TODAY Charitable Foundation supports the Federal Reserve System and Department of Treasury's campaign to raise awareness of the newly redesigned \$20 note and U.S. currency among students, teachers and parents.



Q: What should you do if you think you might have received a counterfeit bill?

For more information about The New Color of Money and available materials and resources:

■ [www.moneyfactory.com/newmoney](http://www.moneyfactory.com/newmoney) ■ [www.FederalReserveEducation.org](http://www.FederalReserveEducation.org) ■ [www.usatodayfoundation.org](http://www.usatodayfoundation.org)

A: Turn it over to local law enforcement.

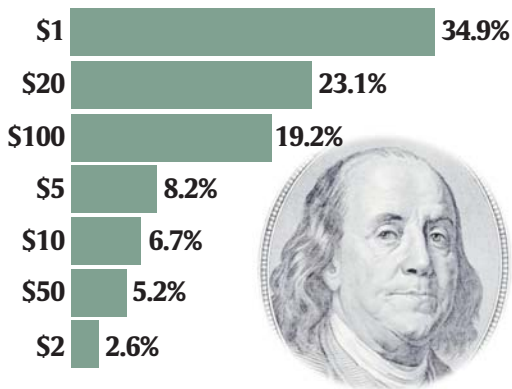
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## Money Matters

### USA TODAY Snapshots®

#### USA money in circulation

About 22 billion bills were circulating as of Dec. 31, 2001. Percentage of bills:



Source: Federal Reserve

By Sarah Renner and Quin Tian, USA TODAY

**APPLICATIONS:** *logical-mathematical intelligence, government, civics*

Use the information in the graph to calculate the approximate value of currency circulating as of Dec. 31, 2001. Does this total reflect the value of *all* money in circulation? Explain.

The \$20 bill is the second most widely used note. Why do you think it is more popular than the \$5 or \$10 bill? What would you guess is the most commonly used

denomination among middle and high school students? Explain.

The U.S. released a newly redesigned \$20 bill on October 9th. It will be the first note with background color since the \$20 Gold Certificate, Series 1905. To learn more about the “New Color of Money,” visit:

[www.moneyfactory.com/newmoney](http://www.moneyfactory.com/newmoney) and [www.usatodayfoundation.org](http://www.usatodayfoundation.org).

## COMPLIMENTARY EDUCATIONAL RESOURCES

On October 9, 2003, the United States government began issuing currency with new designs and security features beginning with the \$20 note. The new \$20 design retains three of the most important, easy-to-check security features that were first introduced in the 1990s: a watermark, security thread and color-shifting ink.

As part of a national campaign to raise awareness about the newly redesigned currency, the U.S. government is making educational materials available to teachers. These materials, correlated to national educational standards, aim to teach students about our nation’s currency. The program, part of a broader initiative supported by education, civic and volunteer organizations, includes a range of interactive educational activities:

► **Interactive CD-ROM** – Educational activities related to the history, security features and production process of the newly redesigned currency.

► **USA TODAY Educational Lessons** – Daily and weekly activities challenging students on current events related to financial literacy and the newly redesigned currency.

► **Classroom Activity Poster** – Information on the newly redesigned currency and activities that drive students to the web and interactive CD-ROM.

► **Currency Puzzle Challenge** – Students are to find pieces in three issues of USA TODAY, assemble them, and complete the related activities.

All of these educational materials are available free to teachers online at [www.moneyfactory.com/newmoney](http://www.moneyfactory.com/newmoney) and [www.usatodayfoundation.org](http://www.usatodayfoundation.org). For more information, email: [education@usatoday.com](mailto:education@usatoday.com) or contact Katie Mee at 202-530-4518.