

The New Color of Money: Safer. Smarter. More Secure.

USA TODAY Snapshots® The New Color of Money

The U.S. government has unveiled a newly designed and more colorful \$20 bill that will be tougher to counterfeit. The currency, which will begin circulating this fall, has a background of green, peach and blue, a large portrait of Andrew Jackson, our seventh

president, and other hard-to-copy changes. New designs for the \$50 note will be unveiled in 2004 and for the \$100 note in 2005. New designs for the \$5 and \$10 notes are still under consideration, but the \$2 and \$1 notes will not be redesigned.

The diagram illustrates the security features and new symbols on the \$20 bill. It shows the front and back of the bill with callouts pointing to specific features:

- Security features:**
 - Security thread:** A vertical strip on the left edge containing the words "USA TWENTY" and a small flag.
 - Symbols of Freedom:** Two American eagles, one large in the background and one smaller in the foreground.
- New symbols:**
 - Jackson portrait:** The portrait of Andrew Jackson, with oval borders removed.
 - Color changes:** Subtle background colors (green and peach) and the words "Twenty USA" printed in blue.
 - Small 20s:** Small numerical "20"s printed in the background on the back of the note.
 - Watermark:** A faint watermark of the White House building.
 - Color-shifting ink:** The number "20" in the lower right corner changes color from copper to green when tilted.

Source: Bureau of Engraving and Printing; USA TODAY research

By Frank Pompa, USA TODAY

COMPLIMENTARY EDUCATIONAL RESOURCES

In late 2003, the United States government will be 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 and www.usatoday.com/educate/newmoney/index.htm. For more information, email: education@usatoday.com or contact Katie Mee at 202-530-4518.