

FORINT BANKNOTES

H U N G A R I A N L E G A L T E N D E R



FORINT BANKNOTES - FORINT COINS - SECURITY FEATURES

 Progress
and tradition

The forint was introduced in Hungary on 1 August 1946.

Between 2014 and 2019 the Magyar Nemzeti Bank redesigned its banknote series issued from 1997.

The front of the banknotes carries the portraits of outstanding persons of Hungarian history, with the back depicting related historical scenes. The portrait of Prince Ferenc Rákóczi II by Ádám Mányoki on the front of the 500 forint banknote is complete with the Castle in Sárospatak on the back. The front of the 1000 forint banknote bears the portrait of King Matthias Corvinus, with the Hercules Fountain, a detail of the Renaissance palace at Visegrád, depicted on the back. Prince Gábor Bethlen appears on the front of the 2000 forint banknote, and is portrayed among his scientists on the back. The portrait of Count István Széchenyi on the 5000 forint banknote is coupled with his mansion at Nagycenk depicted on the back. The 10 000 forint banknote features the portrait of King St. Stephen on the front and a view of Esztergom on the back. The 20 000 forint banknote commemorates Ferenc Deák, 'the Wise Man of the Nation', with the Old House of Commons depicted on the back.

Many of these celebrated statesmen also played an important role in the issuance of Hungarian currencies. Coinage in Hungary was launched by King Saint Stephen, and the later famous Madonna motif first appeared on Hungarian coins under the reign of King Matthias Corvinus. Prince Ferenc Rákóczi II had the famous brass coins, the *liberté*, minted. The reign of Gábor Bethlen is known as one of the most colourful chapters of the history of Hungarian currencies.

The year 2000 was a milestone in the contemporary history of forint banknotes with the issuance of a commemorative 2000 forint banknote by the Magyar Nemzeti Bank to celebrate the 1000th anniversary of the foundation of the Hungarian state. The front of the commemorative banknote shows the Holy Crown of Hungary, which has been a symbol of the sovereignty of the state, constitutionality and the rule of law for many centuries now. The back of the banknote bears an engraving, styled on Gyula Benczúr's famous painting, *The Baptism of Vajk*.

Progress and tradition

Initially, forint banknotes were designed for several decades of use, consistent with the technological development of the period. Nowadays, however, fast development in the area of printing devices based on information technology and the new period in cash transactions, reflected in

the proliferation of ATMs providing various services, banknote processing and checking machines, has set new, complex and constantly changing requirements against banknotes. The redesigned forint banknote series, issued from 2014, possesses all visible and invisible features which guarantee modernity and reliable performance for all participants of cash circulation, including households, cashiers, ATM operators, financial institutions and the Magyar Nemzeti Bank.

The appearance of the redesigned banknotes reflects both the development necessitated by user needs and the pursuit of values which are represented by the decades long graphic traditions of Hungarian banknotes, as well as by the high-standard portraits and pictures on the front and back, respectively.

Features of the banknote series

The banknote paper is made from cotton and its basic colour is white. The size of each denomination is the same (154 mm × 70 mm).

The banknote paper is manufactured by DIPA Diósgyőr Papermill Incorporated Company and printed by the Hungarian Banknote Printing Shareholding Company. The graphic design of the renewed forint banknote series was created by graphic designer György Pálkás.

Date of issue of denominations

denomination	date of issuance	in circulation since
500	4 July 2018	1 February 2019
1 000	24 August 2017	1 March 2018
2 000	15 November 2016	1 March 2017
5 000	15 November 2016	1 March 2017
10 000	2 September 2014	1 December 2014
20 000	25 September 2015	14 December 2015

Forint

COINS IN CIRCULATION

In 1993, the Magyar Nemzeti Bank issued a series of new 5, 10, 20, 50 and 100 forint coins for circulation. In 1996, the 100 forint coin was reissued as a bicolour coin, and in 2009 a new 200 forint bimetal coin was added to circulation coins. From 1 October 2019, the bicolour 100 forint coin has been minted from a copper alloy instead of steel with unchanged design.

The obverse of every coin in the series bears the name of our country (between 1993 and 2011, „Magyar Köztársaság” and, from 2012, „Magyarország”) as well as the coat of arms of the Republic of Hungary and symbols specific to Hungary (the image of a protected Hungarian plant or animal, and the image of the Chain Bridge voted for by citizens). The reverse of the coins features the denomination. The obverse and reverse sides of the smaller denominations were designed by István Kósa and István Bartos, respectively. The only exceptions are the bicolour 100 and bimetal 200 forint coins, the obverse and reverse of which were designed by István Kósa.

The forint coins issued with the inscriptions „Magyar Köztársaság” and „Magyarország” are legal tender. In addition to the copper alloy bicolour 100 forint coins, the steel bicolour coins also remain in circulation.

Forint coins in circulation are minted by the Hungarian Mint cPlc.

THE 5 FORINT COIN



Material: copper alloy (Cu75Ni4Zn21)
Colour: golden yellow
Edge: smooth
Image: Great Egret (*Egretta alba*)
Diameter: 21.2 mm
Weight: 4.2 g

THE 10 FORINT COIN



Material: copper alloy (Cu75Ni25)
Colour: silver
Edge: milled (70) with smooth sections
Image: Coat of Arms of Hungary
Diameter: 24.8 mm
Weight: 6.1 g

THE 20 FORINT COIN



Material: copper alloy (Cu75Ni4Zn21)
Colour: golden yellow
Edge: milled (130)
Image: Hungarian Iris (*Iris aphylla hungarica*)
Diameter: 26.3 mm
Weight: 6.9 g

THE 50 FORINT COIN



Material: copper alloy (Cu75Ni25)
 Colour: silver
 Edge: smooth
 Image: Saker Falcon (Falco cherrug)
 Diameter: 27.4 mm
 Weight: 7.7 g

THE 100 FORINT COIN



Material: coated steel (the ring is coated with nickel, the core is coated with copper-zinc alloy)
 Colour: the ring is silver, the core is golden yellow (bicolour)
 Edge: milled (170)
 Image: Coat of Arms of Hungary
 Diameter: 23.8 mm
 Weight: 8 g

THE 100 FORINT COIN (SINCE 2019)



Material: two different copper alloy, ring Cu65Ni15Zn20, core Cu75Ni4Zn21 (bimetal)
 Colour: the ring is silver, the core is golden yellow (bicolour)
 Edge: milled (170)
 Image: Coat of Arms of Hungary
 Diameter: 23.8 mm
 Weight: 8.6 g

THE 200 FORINT COIN



Material: two different copper alloy, ring Cu75Ni4Zn21, core Cu75Ni25 (bimetal)
 Colour: the ring is golden yellow, the core is silver
 Edge: milled (72) with smooth sections
 Image: Chain Bridge
 Diameter: 28.3 mm
 Weight: 9 g

500 FORINT BANKNOTE

HOLOGRAPHIC FOIL



On the front left side of the banknote you can see an articulated holographic foil stripe. On its surface, the mirror image of the portrait of Prince Ferenc Rákóczi II and the horizontal number „500” below the portrait.



(OVI) OPTICALLY VARIABLE INK



Visible on the front side of the banknote. When tilted the central motif changes from purple to green.



TACTILITY



HIDDEN IMAGE



If the banknote is held near eye level and rotated in plane, the inscription „H” appears in the ornamental motif.



On the major printed elements of the banknotes, there is a tactile ink layer, which has a rough surface and can be checked by touching at the following points: portrait of Prince Ferenc Rákóczi II, denomination both in figures and letters, the coat of arms of Hungary, the inscription „MAGYAR NEMZETI BANK”, one horizontal line on the bottom of the holographic foil, historical scene on the back.

MICRO LETTERING



Under a magnifying glass the back of the banknote features the number corresponding to the denomination of the banknote („500 FORINT”) and the inscription „MNB” spread over the surface.



IRIDESCENT PRINTING



On the back of the banknote, there is a golden stripe on the right side of the banknote, in which the number „500” and the inscription „MNB” appears when the banknote is tilted.

HOW TO CHECK THE SECURITY FEATURES OF THE BANKNOTE

WATERMARK



When the banknote is held up to the light, you can see the mirror image of a multi-toned watermark of the portrait of Prince Ferenc Rákóczi II on the left and the horizontal number „500” appears. (visible from both sides)



SEE-THROUGH REGISTER



The marks printed on the top-right corner on the front and the top-left corner on the back of the banknote combine to form the letter „H” when held against the light. (visible from both sides)

SECURITY THREAD



Embedded in the paper, it can be checked when the banknote is held up to the light. Under a magnifying glass, the inscription „MNB” and the number „500” appear repeatedly. (visible from both sides)



FIBRES



The fibres embedded in the banknote paper fluoresce under UV-light in blue and green, and randomly spread red dots are also visible. (visible from both sides)

UV-MOTIF



If you look at the watermark area under UV-A and UV-C light on the front, the image of a mounted Kuruc soldier in an oval frame and the number „500” appear. The soldier and the outer part of the frame fluoresce in green under UV-A light and red under UV-C light. The number and the inner part of the frame fluoresce orange and brown colour under UV-A and UV-C light, respectively. To the left of the portrait the background of the horizontal number „500” appears in green, surrounded by orange and green ornamental motif.

The non-metallic parts of the holographic foil fluoresce yellow where the number „500” appears repeatedly.



SERIAL NUMBERS

The horizontal serial number on the left and the vertical serial number on the right fluoresce in green.

1000 FORINT BANKNOTE

HOLOGRAPHIC FOIL



On the front left side of the banknote you can see an articulated holographic foil strip. On its surface, the mirror image of the portrait of King Matthias Corvinus, a raven holding a ring and two horizontal number „1000” around the portrait.



(OVI) OPTICALLY VARIABLE INK



When tilted the central raven motif of the front side of the banknote changes from purple to green.



TACTILITY



HIDDEN IMAGE



If the banknote is held near eye level and rotated in plane, the inscription „MNB” appears in the microtext print.



On the major printed elements of the banknotes, there is a tactile ink layer, which has a rough surface and can be checked by touching at the following points: the portrait, the value in letters and numbers, the coat of arms, the inscription „MAGYAR NEMZETI BANK”, two horizontal lines on the bottom of the holographic foil and the image on the back.

MICRO LETTERING



Under a magnifying glass the front of the banknote features the number „1000”, the back of the banknote features the number corresponding to the denomination of the banknote („1000 FORINT”) and the inscription „MNB” spread over the surface.



IRIDESCENT PRINTING



On the back of the banknote, there is a golden stripe on the right side of the banknote, in which the number „1000” and the raven motif appears when the banknote is tilted.

WATERMARK



When the banknote is held up to the light, you can see the mirror image of a multi-toned watermark of the portrait of King Matthias Corvinus on the left and the horizontal number „1000” appears. (visible from both sides)



SECURITY THREAD



Under a magnifying glass, the inscription „MNB” and the number „1000” appear repeatedly. (visible from both sides)



UV-MOTIF



If you look at the watermark area under UV-A and UV-C light on the front, the image of a raven holding a ring in a frame and the number „1000” appear. The raven and the outer part of the frame fluoresce in green under UV-A light and red under UV-C light. The number and the inner part of the frame glow orange and brown colour under UV-A and UV-C light, respectively. Under UV-A light, to the left of the portrait the number „1000” appears in green background, surrounded by an orange and green ornamental motif.

Certain elements of the hologram fluoresce under UV-A light. The non-metallic parts of the holographic foil fluoresce yellow where the number „1000” appears vertically in two wavy lines and on the bottom part of the foil a raven can be seen.



SEE-THROUGH REGISTER



The marks printed on the top-right corner on the front and the top-left corner on the back of the banknote combine to form the letter „H” when held against the light. (visible from both sides)



FIBRES



The fibres embedded in the banknote paper fluoresce under UV-light in blue and green, and randomly spread red dots are also visible. (visible from both sides)



SERIAL NUMBERS

The horizontal serial number on the left and the vertical serial number on the right fluoresce in green.

2000 FORINT BANKNOTE

HOLOGRAPHIC FOIL



On the front of the banknote you can see an articulated holographic foil stripe to the left banknote. On its surface, the mirror image of the portrait of Gábor Bethlen, the coat of arms of Hungary and horizontally there is a number „2000”.



(OVI) OPTICALLY VARIABLE INK



When tilted the central motif of the front side of the banknote changes from gold to green.



TACTILITY



HIDDEN IMAGE



If the banknote is held near eye level and rotated in plane, the inscription „H” appears in the ornamental motif.



On the major printed elements of the banknotes, there is a tactile ink layer, which has a rough surface and can be checked by touching at the following points: portrait of Gábor Bethlen, denomination both in figures and letters, the coat of arms of Hungary, the inscription „MAGYAR NEMZETI BANK”, three horizontal lines on the bottom of the holographic foil, historical scene on the back.

MICRO LETTERING



Under a magnifying glass the back of the banknote features the number corresponding to the denomination of the banknote („2000 FORINT”) and the inscription „MNB” spread over the surface.



IRIDESCENT PRINTING

On the back of the banknote, there is a golden stripe on the right side of the banknote, in which the number „2000” appears when the banknote is tilted.



WATERMARK



When the banknote is held up to the light, you can see the mirror image of a multi-toned watermark of the portrait of Gábor Bethlen on the left and the horizontal number „2000“ appears. (visible from both sides)



SECURITY THREAD



Under a magnifying glass, the inscription „MNB“ and the number „2000“ appear repeatedly. (visible from both sides)



UV-MOTIF



If you look at the watermark area under UV-A and UV-C light on the front, the image of an armored arm holding a sword and the number „2000“ appear in an oval frame. The arm and the oval frame fluoresce in green under UV-A and red under UV-C. The sword and numeral value glow orange under UV-A and brown under UV-C.

To the left of the portrait the horizontal number „2000“ appears in green, surrounded by an orange ornamental motif in UV-A light.

Certain parts of the holographic foil and the upper and lower part of the foil with repeating number „2000“ on top of each other fluoresce yellow under UV-A.



SEE-THROUGH REGISTER



The marks printed on the top-right corner on the front and the top-left corner on the back of the banknote combine to form the letter „H“ when held against the light. (visible from both sides)

FIBRES



The fibres embedded in the banknote paper fluoresce under UV-light in blue and green, randomly spread red dots are also visible. (visible from both sides)

SERIAL NUMBERS



Under UV-A light, the horizontal serial number on the left and the vertical serial number on the right fluoresce in green.

5000 FORINT BANKNOTE

HOLOGRAPHIC FOIL



On the front of the banknote, on the right of the watermark you can see an articulated holographic foil stripe. On its surface, vertically there is a large number „5000” and the coat of arms of Hungary appears.



(OVI) OPTICALLY VARIABLE INK



The pillar of the Chain Bridge motif changes from purple to green when tilted.



TACTILITY



HIDDEN IMAGE



If the banknote is held near eye level and rotated in plane, the inscription „H” appears in the ornamental motif.



On the major printed elements of the banknotes, there is a tactile ink layer, which has a rough surface and can be checked by touching at the following points: portrait of Count István Széchenyi, denomination both in figures and letters, the coat of arms of Hungary, the inscription „MAGYAR NEMZETI BANK” the outer lines of the motif above the watermark, historical scene on the back. The series of short raised lines on the top and bottom sides of the banknotes are embossed.

MICRO LETTERING



Under a magnifying glass the back of the banknote features the number corresponding to the denomination of the banknote („5000 FORINT”) and the inscription „MNB” spread over the surface.



IRIDESCENT PRINTING

On the back of the banknote, there is a golden stripe to the left of the watermark area, in which the number „5000” and pillar of the Chain Bridge appear repeatedly when the banknote is tilted.



WATERMARK



When the banknote is held up to the light, you can see the mirror image of a multi-toned watermark of the portrait of Count István Széchenyi on the left and the vertical number „5000” appears. (visible from both sides)



SECURITY THREAD



Under a magnifying glass, the inscription „MNB” and the number „5000” appear repeatedly. (visible from both sides)



UV-MOTIF



If you look at the watermark area under UV-A and UV-C light on the front, the image of a pillar of the Chain Bridge and the number „5000” appear in an oval rosette frame. The middle of the pillar, the central element of the oval rosette and the two numbers fluoresce in green under UV-A and red under UV-C. The top and bottom of the pillar and the inner and outer elements of the oval rosette glow orange under UV-A and brown under UV-C.

You can see a large vertical number „5000” to the left of the portrait that fluoresce in green under UV-A, surrounded by cogwheel motifs that glow green and orange under UV-A and red and brown under UV-C.

In the middle of the holographic stripe the vertical number „5000” fluoresce green under UV-A.



SEE-THROUGH REGISTER



The marks printed on the top-right corner on the front and the top-left corner on the back of the banknote combine to form the letter „H” when held against the light. (visible from both sides)

FIBRES



The fibres embedded in the banknote paper fluoresce under UV-light in blue and green, randomly spread red dots are also visible. (visible from both sides)

SERIAL NUMBERS



Under UV-A light, the horizontal serial number on the left and the vertical serial number on the right fluoresce in green.

10000 FORINT BANKNOTE

HOLOGRAPHIC FOIL



An articulated metal foil on the right of the watermark is on the front of the banknote. On its surface, the elements appearing repeatedly are the coat of arms of Hungary, the inscription „MNB” and the value numeral „10000”. There is a large size value numeral „10000” between the individual elements.



(OVI) OPTICALLY VARIABLE INK



When tilted, the central motif of the front side of the banknote changes from gold to green.



TACTILITY



HIDDEN IMAGE



If the banknote is held near eye level and rotated in plane, the inscription „H” appears in the ornamental motif.



MICRO LETTERING



Under a magnifying glass the front and back of the banknote feature the value numeral corresponding to the denomination of the banknote („10000 FORINT”, „TÍZEZER FORINT”) and the inscription „MAGYAR NEMZETI BANK” spread over the surface.



IRIDESCENT PRINTING

On the back of the banknote, there is a gold stripe on the left of the watermark area, in which the value numeral „10000” and the inscription „MNB” are visible when the banknote is tilted.



WATERMARK



When the banknote is held against the light, the mirror image of a shaded watermark of the printed portrait of King St. Stephen and the vertical value numeral „10000” appears. (visible from both sides)



SECURITY THREAD



Embedded in the paper, it can be checked when the banknote is held against the light. Under a magnifying glass, the inscription „MNB” and the value numeral „10000” appear repeatedly. (visible from both sides)



UV-MOTIF



If you look at the watermark area under UV-A and UV-C light on the front, the image of the dome of the Basilica of Esztergom in a frame and the value numeral „10000” appear. The dome, the frame and the lower value numeral fluoresce in green under UV-A light and red under UV-C light. The upper number and the building glow orange and brown colour under UV-A and UV-C light, respectively. Certain metallic parts of the holographic foil fluoresce in green under UV-A light, the number „10000” and „MNB” appear in each these motifs.



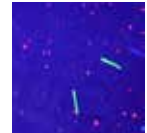
SEE-THROUGH REGISTER



The marks printed on the top-right corner on the front and the top-left corner on the back of the banknote combine to form the letter „H” when held against the light. (visible from both sides)



FIBRES



The fibres embedded in the banknote paper fluoresce under UV-light in blue and green, randomly spread red dots are also visible. (visible from both sides)



SERIAL NUMBERS

Under UV-A the black serial number on the left does not fluoresce, while the vertical numbers on the right fluoresce in green under UV-A light.

20000 FORINT BANKNOTE

HOLOGRAPHIC FOIL



On the front of the banknote you can see an articulated holographic foil stripe to the right of the watermark area. On its surface, the repeating elements are the coat of arms of Hungary and the inscription „MNB”, vertically there is a large size number „20 000”.

(OVI) OPTICALLY VARIABLE INK



When tilted, the central motif of the front side of the banknote changes from gold to green.

TACTILITY



On the major printed elements of the banknotes, there is a tactile ink layer, which has a rough surface and can be checked by touching at the following points: portrait of Ferenc Deák, denomination both in figures and letters, the coat of arms of Hungary, the inscription „MAGYAR NEMZETI BANK”; historical scenes and the value numeral „20 000” on the back. The series of short raised lines on the left and right sides of the banknotes are embossed.

HIDDEN IMAGE



If the banknote is held near eye level and rotated in plane, the inscription „H” appears in the ornamental motif.



MICRO LETTERING



Under a magnifying glass the back of the banknote features the number corresponding to the denomination of the banknote („20 000 FORINT”) and the inscription „MAGYAR NEMZETI BANK” spread over the surface.

IRIDESCENT PRINTING

On the back of the banknote, there is a golden stripe to the left of the watermark area, in which the number „20 000” and the inscription „MNB” appear when the banknote is tilted.



WATERMARK



When the banknote is held up to the light, you can see the mirror image of a multi-toned watermark of the portrait of Ferenc Deák on the left and the vertical number „20 000” appears. (visible from both sides)



SECURITY THREAD



Under a magnifying glass, the inscription „MNB” and the number „20 000” appear repeatedly. (visible from both sides)

UV-MOTIF



If you look at the watermark area under UV-A and UV-C light on the front, the image of a man and a woman walking in historic clothing and the number „20000” appear. The clothing of the walking couple glow orange and brown colour under UV-A and UV-C light, respectively. To the left of the portrait, the vertical number „20000” appears in green under UV-A, surrounded by an orange ornamental motif. Certain elements surrounding the metallic part of the hologram fluoresce in green under UV-A light.



SEE-THROUGH REGISTER



The marks printed on the top-right corner on the front and the top-left corner on the back of the banknote combine to form the letter „H” when held against the light. (visible from both sides)

FIBRES



The fibres embedded in the banknote paper fluoresce under UV-light in blue and green, randomly spread red dots are also visible. (visible from both sides)

SERIAL NUMBERS



Under UV-A light the horizontal serial number on the left and the vertical serial number on the right fluoresce in green.

2000 FORINT COMMEMORATIVE BANKNOTE

Front side: the Holy Crown of Hungary



Back side: engraving, styled on Gyula Benczúr's painting: The Baptism of Vajk



2000 forint commemorative banknote issued to celebrate the 1000th anniversary of the foundation of the Hungarian State. Date of issuance: 20 August 2000

INFORMATION ABOUT WITHDRAWN BANKNOTES

Banknotes withdrawn will retain their face value, as credit institutions and the post office will exchange them into legal tender of the same denomination for 3 years and the MNB for 20 years following their date of withdrawal free of charge and without any restriction.

Withdrawn banknote	Date of withdrawal	Date of exchange Post and credit institutions	Date of exchange MNB
Old 500 forint 	31 October 2019	31 October 2022	31 October 2039
Old 1000 forint 	31 October 2018	31 October 2021	31 October 2038
Old 2000 forint 	31 July 2017	31 July 2020	31 July 2037
Old 5000 forint 	31 July 2017	31 July 2020	31 July 2037
Old 10 000 forint 	31 December 2019	31 December 2022	31 December 2039
Old 20 000 forint 	31 December 2017	31 December 2020	31 December 2037

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