

The Back of the New \$20

Have you seen the "Series 2004 \$20 Notes"? The U.S. Treasury has rolled out yet another revamp of the U.S. twenty dollar bill in an effort to stop those pesky counterfeiters once and for all. It features high-tech fake-busting elements like a watermark, a security thread, and color-shifting ink. It also features crappy design.

I'm not going to concern myself here with a critique of the front of the bill (my friend Jeff says "it looks like something got spilled on it."). It's the *back* of the note that's driving me crazy.

Too Many 20s



In particular, it's all those little 20s haphazardly sprinkled in the white space. They are nails-on-a-chalkboard to my visual design senses.

Are they supposed to be another security feature? ("They'll *NEVER* be able to duplicate this \$20... look at those 20s... they're all *OVER* the place!") Did they let a summer intern at the Bureau of Engraving and Printing design it? ("Hey, let Jimmy try it!") Were they concerned the \$20 bill might be confused with a \$10? ("What this 20 needs is a LOT more 20s.")

Connect-the-Dots

There must be more to it. My theory: the new 20s contain subliminal connect-the-dots messages, like tiny constellations. So, perhaps the 20s connect to form a secret message designed to stimulate the economy ("SPEND MORE") or boost patriotism ("WE'RE NO.1").

I'm not sure I've successfully cracked the code, so I'm asking for your help. I encourage you all to get a new \$20 bill, connect the dots to find the message on the back (pencil is best), and mail it to me for review. Together, we can get to the bottom of this.

twenties.html X twenties.gif

twenties.html > html > head > style > h2

```
1 <!DOCTYPE html PUBLIC "-//W3C//DTD XHTML 1.0 Strict//EN"
2 | "http://www.w3.org/TR/xhtml1/DTD/xhtml1-strict.dtd">
3 <html xmlns="http://www.w3.org/1999/xhtml" lang="en" xml:lang="en">
```

```
4
5 <head>
6 <meta http-equiv="content-type" content="text/html; charset=utf-8" />
7 <title>The Back of the Twenty Dollar Bill</title>
```

```
8
9 <style type="text/css">
10 /* type the styles below this line */
11     h2{
12         color: red;
13     }
14
15 </style>
```

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16
17 </head>
```

```
18
19 <body>
```

```
20 <h1>The Back of the New $20</h1>
```

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21
22 <p>Have you seen the "Series 2004 $20 Notes"? The U.S. Treasury has rolled out yet another revamp of the U.S. twenty dollar bill in an effort to stop those pesky counterfeiters once and for all.
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26 <h2>Too Many 20s</h2>
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27
28 <p><p>
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29 <p>In particular, it's all those little 20s haphazardly sprinkled in the white space. They are nails-on-a-chalkboard to my visual design senses.</p>
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33 <h2 style="color: gray;">Connect-the-Dots</h2>
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