

= 50 euro note =

The fifty euro note (€ 50) is one of the middle value euro banknotes and has been used since the introduction of the euro (in its cash form) in 2002 . The note is used daily by some 332 million Europeans and in the 23 countries which have the euro as their sole currency (with 22 legally adopting it) .

It is the fourth smallest note , measuring 140 mm × 77 mm , and has an orange colour scheme . The note depicts bridges and arches / doorways in the Renaissance era (15th and 16th centuries) .

The € 50 note contains several complex security features such as watermarks , invisible ink , holograms and microprinting that document its authenticity . In January 2016 , there were about 8 @, @ 170 @, @ 123 @, @ 315 fifty euro banknotes in circulation in the eurozone . It is by far the most widely circulated denomination , comprising over 44 % of the total banknotes .

The full design of the Europa series € 50 banknote was revealed on 5 July 2016 ; it is due to be launched in April 2017 .

= = History = =

The euro was founded on 1 January 1999 , when it became the currency of over 300 million people in Europe . For the first three years of its existence it was an invisible currency , only used in accounting . Euro cash was not introduced until 1 January 2002 , when it replaced the national banknotes and coins of the 12 countries in the eurozone , such as the Dutch guilder and the Portuguese escudo . Today , the € 50 note is used daily by some 332 million Europeans and in the 22 countries which have it as their sole currency (with 20 legally adopting it) .

Slovenia joined the Eurozone in 2007 , Cyprus and Malta in 2008 , Slovakia in 2009 , Estonia in 2011 , Latvia in 2014 , and Lithuania in 2015 .

= = = The changeover period = = =

The changeover period during which the former currencies ' notes and coins were exchanged for those of the euro lasted about two months , from 1 January 2002 until 28 February 2002 . The official date on which the national currencies ceased to be legal tender varied from member state to member state . The earliest date was in Germany , where the mark officially ceased to be legal tender on 31 December 2001 , though the exchange period lasted for two months more . Even after the old currencies ceased to be legal tender , they continue to be accepted by national central banks for periods ranging from ten years to forever .

= = = Changes = = =

Notes printed before November 2003 bear the signature of the first president of the European Central Bank , Wim Duisenberg . He was succeeded on 1 November 2003 by Jean @-@ Claude Trichet , whose signature appears on issues from November 2003 to March 2012 . Notes issued after March 2012 bear the signature of the third president of the European Central Bank , incumbent Mario Draghi .

Until now there has been only one series of euro notes ; however a new series , similar to the current one , is planned to be released . The European Central Bank will announce when banknotes from the first series lose legal tender status .

As of June 2012 , current issues do not reflect the expansion of the European Union , as Cyprus is not depicted on current notes as the map does not extend far enough east , and Malta is also missing as it does not meet the current series ' minimum size for depiction . Since the European Central Bank plans to redesign the notes every seven or eight years after each issue , a second series of banknotes is already in preparation . New production and anti @-@ counterfeiting techniques will be employed on the new notes , but the design will be on the same theme (bridges

and arches) and will use colours identical to the previous series . However , they would still be recognisable as a new series .

= = Design = =

The fifty euro note is the fourth smallest note , measuring 140 millimetres (5 @. @ 5 in) × 77 millimetres (3 @. @ 0 in) , with an orange colour scheme . Each euro banknote depicts bridges and arches / doorways in a different historical European style ; the ? 50 note shows the Renaissance era (15th and 16th centuries) . Although Robert Kalina 's original designs were intended to show real monuments , for political reasons the bridge and the window are merely hypothetical examples of the architectural era .

Like all euro notes , the ? 50 note shows the denomination , the EU flag , the signature of the president of the ECB , the initials of the ECB in the different EU languages , a depiction of EU territories overseas , the stars from the EU flag and various security features .

= = = Security features (First series) = = =

The fifty euro note contains the following security features :

Colour changing ink used on the numeral located on the back of the note , that appears to change colour from purple to brown , when the note is tilted .

A see through number printed in the top corner of the note , on both sides , appear combine perfectly to form the value numeral when held against the light .

A hologram , used on the note which appears to see the hologram image change between the value and a window or doorway , but in the background , it appears to be rainbow @-@ coloured concentric circles of micro @-@ letters moving from the centre to the edges of the patch .

A EURion constellation ; the EURion constellation is a pattern of symbols found on a number of banknote designs worldwide since about 1996 . It is added to help software detect the presence of a banknote in a digital image .

Watermarks , which appear when held up to the light .

Raised printing in the main image , the lettering and the value numerals on the front of the banknotes will be raised .

Ultraviolet ink ; the paper itself does not glow , fibres embedded in the paper do appear , and be coloured red , blue and green , the EU flag is green and has orange stars , the ECB President 's , currently Mario Draghi 's , signature turns green , the large stars and small circles on the front glow and the European map , a bridge and the value numeral on the back appear in yellow .

Microprinting , on various areas of the banknotes there is microprinting , for example , inside the " ???? " (EURO in Greek characters) on the front . The micro @-@ text is sharp , but not blurred .

A security thread , embedded in the banknote paper . The thread will appear as a dark stripe when held up to the light . The word " EURO " and the value is embedded in tiny letters on the thread .

Perforations in the hologram which will form the euro symbol . There are also small numbers showing the value .

A matted surface ; the note paper is made out of pure cotton , which feels crisp and firm , but not limp or waxy .

Barcodes ,

A serial number .

= = = Security features (Europa series) = = =

Watermark : When the note is held under a normal light source , a portrait of Europa and an electrotpe denomination appear on either side .

Portrait Window : When the note is held against the light , the window in the hologram becomes transparent and reveals a portrait of Europa which is visible on both sides of the note .

Portrait Hologram : When the note is tilted , the hologram ? the silver @-@ colored stripe on the

right of the note ? reveals a portrait of Europa as well as the " ? " symbol , the main image and the value of the banknote .

Emerald Number : When the note is tilted , the number " 50 " on the bottom left corner of the note displays an effect of the light that moves up and down . The number " 50 " also changes color from emerald green to deep blue .

Security Thread : When the note is held to the light , the security thread appears as a dark line . The " ? " symbol and the value of the note can be seen in tiny white lettering in the stripe .

Microprinting : Some areas of the banknote feature a series of tiny letters . The microprinting can be read with a magnifying glass . The letters are sharp , not blurred .

= = Circulation = =

As of May 2013 , there are approximately 6 @, @ 383 @, @ 487 @, @ 700 ? 50 banknotes in circulation around the Eurozone . The 50 euro note is the most commonly used banknote . The total value of the notes in circulation is approximately ? 319 @, @ 173 @, @ 835 @, @ 100 (as of May 2013) . The European Central Bank monitors the circulation and stock of the euro coins and banknotes . The Eurosystem has been tasked with ensuring an efficient and smooth supply of euro notes .

= = Legal information = =

Legally , both the European Central Bank and the central banks of the eurozone countries have the right to issue the 7 different euro banknotes . In practice , only the national central banks of the zone physically issue and withdraw euro banknotes . The European Central Bank does not have a cash office and is not involved in any cash operations .

= = Tracking = =

There are several communities of people at European level , most of which is EuroBillTracker , that , as a hobby , it keeps track of the euro banknotes that pass through their hands , to keep track and know where they travel or have traveled . The aim is to record as many notes as possible in order to know details about its spread , like from where and to where they travel in general , follow it up , like where a ticket has been seen in particular , and generate statistics and rankings , for example , in which countries there are more tickets . EuroBillTracker has registered over 155 million notes as of May 2016 , worth more than ? 2 @. @ 897 billion .