Minecraft Banknote Design Briefing

By the Designer and Implementer (Nelson, LAN Ming Shun)

I. Idea Conversion and Intention

Conversion from

Project management has a concept called estimation, which is easy to understand but hard to master. A tool called planning poker is a consensus-based estimating technique **[1](Dalton, Jeff, 2019)** that provides a fun way to forecast how a task or milestone will go to use up what scale of resources.

The project manager will describe a user/task/features by case, and estimators will cast a card that has a number written on it, usually a number in the Fibonacci sequence (1, 2, 3, 5, 8, 13 and so on) **(OEIS, 2015) [2].**

[Figure 1 – Original items in my Minecraft Server]▶

Intention

In my Minecraft server, several sets of "banknotes" are denoted by different values. Players can interact with servers and other players via trading, purchasing items from NPC shops, or saving them in their bank accounts.

The banknotes are just simple paper items (Minecraft: paper) in-game, with some special formatting text to describe what value they have, like the following example**[3] (Nelson, LAN, 2016)**. They lack visual appeal.

Backstory

One day, some players asked me to make sbookmark designs for summer homework at the secondary school level, the topic is "time". "Time is money" in the Chinese proverb means "Catch up your time, and time flies."

I would like to make a graphic layout for a banknote, also known as money, as the visual concept, but the content would use the above setting. Also, there are some sentences with positive meanings for virtues to encourage students to stay virtuous. For example, the "five-dollar" (∮ 5) note with a topic *"Thou shalt alway be Humble"*.

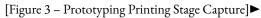[Figure 2 –∮5 note in visual design rework] ▲

Denominations of cards

The denomination of cards would follow my Minecraft server banknote, but not the Fibonacci. The values were ∮0.1, **∮0.125, ∮0.25**, ∮0.5, ∮1, ∮2, ∮5, ∮10, ∮20, ∮50. The **bolded value does NOT exist in my server**, as in project management experience, quarter hours (0.25, 15 minutes) is a commonly used fractional value, and **∮0.125 (⅛, ~7.5 minutes) is a visually fractional value greater than ∮0.1 (6 minutes)** if the unit is in hours. Thus, I add these two cards between ∮0.1 and ∮0.5.

II.   Utilised Softwares

Pictures at the background were taken from my Minecraft server. It utilised Canva as the design and layout software (platform). After that, Adobe Photoshop is used for die-cutting each card. This project will have a showreel video, like the following referenced video **[4](HKMA, 2018)**.

III.   Prototyping Printing

The early version of the prototype is made, arranging those notes printed three by 3-ly on A4 paper, and a lamination work is also done. The result is satisfactory in words and colours, although some pictures need to be tuned brighter. Die-cutting is manually done here.

[Figure 3 – Prototyping Printing Stage Capture]▶

IV.   Dimensions, Cost and Other Concerns

The actual printing product is forecast to be on poker size, machine-cut into uniform sizing. The material is considered a PET plastic card to ensure durability; however, the cost could rise with this measure. When printing on plastic material, the colouring of the card is affected by ink, and the plastic interaction protection is also a higher-end option for collective edition treatment, as it further extends durability for a long-lasting product.

Referencing Material

[1] Dalton, Jeff. author (2019) Planning Poker. [Online / **ISBN: 9781484242056**]. Berkeley, CA : Apress :

[2] anno (2015) A000045 | Oeis.org. 2015 [online]. Available from: https://oeis.org/A000045 [Accessed 25 August 2025].

[3] Nelson. LAN (2016), 'Past Project Setting / Planning / Development Documents - Google Drive' (2024) *Google Drive*. 2024 [online]. Available from: https://drive.google.com/drive/folders/1x5gO8Dmfox_wXYIrENMOVmvkefmgbh1B [Accessed 25 August 2025].

[4] Hong Kong Monetary Authority (2018) 新鈔票系列的設計主題 *Thematic Design of New Series | Youtube* [online]. Available from: https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=c4P2p2yWpFA [Accessed 25 August 2025].