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No. S 393(Chapter 69)Denomination and Characteristics of the Currency NotesPursuant to section17(5) of the Currency Act, it is hereby notified for general information that the denomination and characteristics of the currency notes to be issued on 9th September 1999 by the Board of Commissioners of Currency, Singapore, are as shown in the Schedule 1BCC 03/05/019-01 Vol. 4 AG/LEG/SL/69/06/1 Vol. 11 The fascinating world of dimensions of notes reveals the intricate balance between security and practicality. From the largest banknote to the smallest banknote, each currency tells a unique story through its measurements. The dimensions of a nation's currency reflect not just its monetary value, but also its cultural identity and technological advancement. International Monetary Design Association When exploring the dimensions of world's major currencies, we find fascinating variations. Here's a comprehensive comparison of the World's Smallest NoteDimensions (mm)US Dollar\$1156 x 66.38100156 x 66.38Euro\$120 x 62500160 x 82British Pound\$125 x 6550146 x 77Japanese Yen1000150 x 76Swiss FrancCHF10123 x 70CHF1000131 x 70 Lets explore the world's top currencies. The United States dollar maintains consistent dimensions across all denominations. Each bill measures exactly 156 millimeters in length and 66.3 millimeters in width. This uniformity sets the US dollar apart from many other currencies. The thickness of each note reaches 0.11 millimeters, created through a unique blend of 75% cotton and 25% linen. This specific composition provides the distinct texture we associate with authentic American currency. Since 1929, these dimensions have remained largely unchanged. The Federal Reserve maintains strict control over these specifications, ensuring that every bill, from the \$1 to the \$100 note, meets exact measurements. See also 9 Things That Are About 200 Meters (m) Long The European Union took a different approach with the euro, introducing size variations for different denominations. This progressive sizing system helps visually impaired individuals identify notes by touch. The 5 note, the smallest, measures 120 millimeters by 62 millimeters. Each higher denomination increases in length: 10: 127 x 67 millimeters; 20: 133 x 72 millimeters; 50: 140 x 77 millimeters; 100: 147 x 82 millimeters. The Bank of England recently modernized its banknotes with polymer material, maintaining specific dimensions for each denomination. The 5 note measures 125 millimeters by 65 millimeters, while the 10 note extends to 132 millimeters by 69 millimeters. The larger denominations follow suit, with the 20 note measuring 139 millimeters by 73 millimeters. The 50 note, the largest, reaches 146 millimeters by 77 millimeters. Japan's currency, the yen, features some of Asia's most distinctive dimensions. The 1000 note measures 150 millimeters by 76 millimeters, while the 10000 note extends to 160 millimeters by 76 millimeters. These dimensions reflect Japanese attention to detail and precision manufacturing. Each note maintains a thickness of 0.12 millimeters, slightly thicker than US dollars. Australian banknotes pioneer innovative sizing. Their notes increase in length by 7 millimeters with each denomination, while maintaining a consistent height of 65 millimeters. The polymer-based notes range from 130 millimeters for the \$5 note to 158 millimeters for the \$100 note. This systematic increase helps users quickly identify different values. The Bank of Canada aligns its notes closely with modern international standards. All Canadian dollar denominations share identical dimensions of 152.4 millimeters by 69.85 millimeters. See also 11 Things That Are About 240 Feet (ft) Long or TallThese polymer notes maintain a thickness of 0.117 millimeters, combining durability with sophisticated security features. Their uniform size streamlines automated handling systems. Switzerland's reputation for precision extends to its currency dimensions. The Swiss franc notes range from 70 millimeters in height for all denominations, with lengths varying from 123 millimeters to 181 millimeters. The latest ninth series introduced even more precise measurements, supporting advanced security features. The Chinese yuan (renminbi) maintains consistent dimensions across its main denominations. Each note measures 155 millimeters by 77 millimeters, slightly larger than US dollars. These uniform dimensions facilitate easier handling in China's rapidly modernizing economy, while supporting advanced security features. Indian rupee notes feature varying dimensions based on denomination. The 10 note measures 123 millimeters by 63 millimeters, while the 2000 note extends to 166 millimeters by 73 millimeters. This dimensional variation helps users identify different values quickly, particularly important in India's diverse and populous economy. Modern banknote dimensions incorporate various security features. The precise measurements support: Intricate watermarks Security threats Microprinting Holographic elements Color-shifting inks These features require specific dimensions to function effectively, influencing the size of notes worldwide. Understanding notes' dimensions requires precision in manufacturing. Contemporary security features demand exact measurements: Security FeatureDimensional Tolerance (mm)Impact on DesignWatermarks0.05Affects paper thicknessSecurity Thread0.02Dimensions note widthHolographic Strip0.03Determines strip placementMicro-printing0.01Affects text clarity These tolerances ensure that both large denomination notes and small denomination notes maintain security standards. See also How Far Is 450 Feet? 11 Things That Are 450 Feet Long The evolution of banknote sizes has significantly influenced various sectors: The largest note dimensions typically determine: Wallet manufacturing specifications ATM cassette designs Currency counting machine parameters Meanwhile, small banknotes influence: Vending machine acceptors Portable wallet designs Currency sorting equipment As paper currency continues evolving, we see trends in miniature notes and more standardized sizing. The balance between large banknote security features and practical tiny banknotes remains crucial. Understanding the dimensions of notes reveals the complexity behind modern currency design. From the smallest banknote to the largest note, each measurement serves specific purposes in security, usability, and functionality. As technology advances, the future of paper currency dimensions will continue evolving. Whether examining a large denomination note or handling small denomination notes, these precise measurements represent centuries of monetary innovation and security advancement. The careful balance between size, security, and practicality ensures that our banknotes remain both functional and secure. As we move forward, the dimensions of world's major currencies will continue adapting to meet new challenges while maintaining their essential role in global commerce. Henry Martin is a dedicated author at Dimensions Track, specializing in creating informative guides on the dimensions and measurements of various objects. With a passion for providing precise and reliable information, Henry helps readers make well-informed decisions about everyday products and spaces. His attention to detail ensures that each guide is thorough, easy to understand, and packed with useful insights for anyone seeking accurate measurements. This book describes with illustrations, the three currency notes and two circulation series issued since 1967. It includes details such as the security features in each currency note to act as a safeguard to minimize the risk of counterfeiting as well as for the public to be aware and be able to distinguish between the genuine and the fake currency notes. Information on the characteristics and features of a counterfeit coin is also included. Share copy and redistribute the material in any medium or format for any purpose, even commercially. Adapt, remix, transform, and build upon the material for any purpose, even commercially. The licensor cannot revoke these freedoms as long as you follow the license terms. Attribution You must give appropriate credit, provide a link to the license, and indicate if changes were made. You may do so in any reasonable manner, but not in any way that suggests the licensor endorses you or your use. ShareAlike If you remix, transform, or build upon the material, you must distribute your contributions under the same license as the original. No additional restrictions. You may not apply legal terms or technological measures that legally restrict others from doing anything the license permits. You do not have to comply with the license for elements of the material in the public domain or where your use is permitted by an applicable exception or limitation. No warranties are given. The license may not give you all of the permissions necessary for your intended use. For example, other rights such as publicity, privacy, or moral rights may limit how you use the material. #TriviaTuesday: Take a closer look at any dollar notes in your wallet and you'll notice that the line at the top of a note is a line of micro text. Micro text is commonly found on banknotes to fight against counterfeiting. To the unaided eye, this appears as a single line, but the details can be seen legibly using a magnifying glass. You should be able to see the words Board of Commissioners of Currency Singapore or Monetary Authority of Singapore spelled repeatedly above the four official languages of the word Singapore on the front of the note. Previous security features in the Ship Series were carried over to the Portrait Series, and new ones incorporated into our paper and polymer notes during the printing process. All our notes have the intaglio (raised) printing which gives the note an embossed feel. The two most prominent security features are the engraved portrait of our first president Yusof bin Ishak and the Kinegram, a printed security hologram. Paper versions issued by BCCS features its logo and the face value, while those issued by the MAS features its logo with the Merlion and the face value. Polymer banknotes have the Kinegram replaced by an image of the Singapore lion symbol with the face value, showing the coat of arms of Singapore when tilted at varying degrees. The use of intaglio printing on the Singapore Coat of Arms, the engraved portrait, the word SINGAPORE and other areas also offers good overall tactility. Other security features include lithographic print, anti-copying line structures, perfect registration, microprinting, asymmetrical serial numbers and windowed security threads. Polymer versions also include two clear windows. Several features that are invisible to the naked eye appear when under UV lighting. If you try to feel your banknotes, you'll find dots at the top right corner. Each note has a Braille code that is printed in heavy intaglio ink, and different note denominations have a different Braille code to help visually impaired people to differentiate the notes. Money might be something that we handle often, but these are the things that we normally otherwise would notice unless we pay close attention. Visit ConnexionSG Facebook & Instagram for more content. Since 1967, Board of Commissioners of Currency, Singapore has issued four series of currency notes and two series of currency coins for general circulation. The currency notes of all four series, known as the "Orchid", "Bird", "Ship" and "Portrait" series, and both coin series are legal tender. The current series of notes and coins issued for circulation are the "Portrait" series notes and the "Flora" series coins. It is important that we know the currency notes and coins we receive and pay out every day. This book provides the information. 4th design of Singapore currency notesFront of the \$2, \$10 and \$50 Portrait Series notesThe Portrait Series of currency notes is the fourth and current set of notes to be issued for circulation in Singapore. It was first introduced on 9 September 1999 by the Board of Commissioners of Currency, Singapore (BCCS), whose role was since taken over by the Monetary Authority of Singapore (MAS) post-merger. This series features the portrait of Yusof bin Ishak, the first president of Singapore.[1] The design has been simplified and new security features were introduced. Polymer versions of this series were released for general circulation by MAS as of 4 May 2004. The Portrait Series was first released by the Board of Commissioners of Currency, Singapore (BCCS) on 9 September 1999 to welcome the new millennium,[1] designed by local artist Eng Siaik Loy.[2] The series has a total of seven denominations in general circulation: the denominations \$1 and \$500 were not carried forward from the previous Ship Series. The color for denominations up to \$50 have been retained, a tradition kept since the era of the Malayan and British Borneo dollar. A more standardized approach is adopted across all banknote denominations. Security features markedly different from all previous series. For example, the watermark is longer featuring the lion head symbol. Due to design considerations, the dollar sign was considered redundant and is no longer included in this series.[3] In addition, the note printing is no longer applied to any part of the portrait note. In October 2002, the BCCS merged with the Monetary Authority of Singapore (MAS), which took on the responsibility of the Singapore dollar. On 1 May 2004, the MAS started issuing polymer versions of the \$10, \$20 and \$50 notes for general circulation. Versions of the \$20 and \$50 notes were subsequently phased out. Higher denominations (\$500, \$100, \$50, \$1,000 & \$10,000) are still printed on paper. The paper version of the lower denomination banknotes remain in active circulation alongside the polymer version, though the number of \$2,000 and \$5,000 paper notes have dwindled significantly since the introduction of polymer notes.[3] On 2 July 2014, the Monetary Authority of Singapore announced that it would stop printing \$10,000 notes starting from 1 October 2014, to reduce the risk of money laundering.[5] MAS would also stop producing the \$50,000 banknote as well from 1 January 2021 onwards, which has the same reason of withdrawing \$10,000 notes and because the demand of these notes is low except for bank account maintenance (currently the notes are in high demand at \$650.00 and \$6,100.00 notes). The MAS has said that the higher denomination notes (beyond \$1,000) will continue to remain legal tender.[6] The previous security features in the Ship Series were carried over to the Portrait Series, with new ones incorporated into the banknote. The two most prominent security features are the engraved portrait of Yusof bin Ishak (which contains fine lines that are difficult for counterfeiters to mimic) and the Kinegram (a printed security hologram). MAS states that banknotes with missing or mutilated portrait or/and Kinegram command no value. Paper versions issued by BCCS features its logo and the face value, while those issued by the MAS features its logo with the Merlion (a mythical creature and national symbol) and the face value.[7] Polymer versions of the banknote have the Kinegram replaced by an image of the Singapore lion symbol with the face value, showing the coat of arms of Singapore when tilted at varying degrees. Other security features include lithographic print (the resulting background hinders camera counterfeiting), anti-copying line structures, perfect registration, microprinting, asymmetrical serial numbers and windowed security threads (thin ribbons woven into the paper).[7] Polymer versions of the banknote include two clear windows and windowed security threads. The banknote's obverse features the portrait of the first president of Singapore, Yusof bin Ishak, and the reverse contains secondary themes that are linked to his life.[9] The background on the obverse of the Portrait Series feature a different cowrie (sea snail whose shell was often used as currency for each denomination).[10] The banknotes are signed by the BCCS chairman and later by the MAS chairman, and the signatures include former Finance Minister Richard Hu, Senior Minister (and former Finance Minister) Lee Hsien Loong, former Senior Minister Goh Chok Tong, and President (former Deputy Prime Minister and Finance Minister) Tharman Shanmugaratnam. The money cowrie is featured on the obverse background of the \$2 banknote. Its reverse carries the theme of education and features three buildings, the Victoria Bridge School (now known as Victoria School), Old Raffles Institution Building at Bras Basah Road, and College of Medicine Building.[11][12] Yusof received his primary education in 1923 at Victoria Bridge School, and his secondary education in Raffles Institution. His father, Ishak bin Ahmad insisted that his children be English-educated. He was also the Chancellor of the National University of Singapore between 1965 and 1970.[11] The gold-ringed cowrie is featured on the obverse background of the \$5 banknote. Its reverse carries the theme of Garden City and features the 200-year-old tembusu tree at Singapore Botanic Gardens, as well as Singapore's national flower Vanda Miss Joaquim.[13] Yusof was a keen-gardener who once made a living growing Orchids in Gombak, Kuala Lumpur before his appointment as president.[14] The wandering cowrie is featured on the obverse background of the \$10 banknote, the most commonly found cowrie in Singapore. Its reverse carries the theme of sports and features sportsmen playing badminton, soccer, sailing, jogging and swimming. Yusof was an active sportsman in his secondary school days, and won the national boxing title and the lightweight weightlifting championship.[15][16] The \$10 banknote was the first denomination in the series printed in polymer. 10 million bills were first released to the general public as a trial, and were the first in Singapore to be successfully dispensed from Automated teller machines (ATMs) and be used in payment involving machines.[17] With the successful trial, MAS decided to release polymer versions of the \$2, \$5 and \$10 for circulation. The cylindrical cowrie is featured on the obverse background of the \$20 banknote. Its reverse carries the theme of Arts and features two paintings and four musical instruments. The pipa, kompang, veena and violin represent the musical instruments for different cultures in Singapore.[18][19] The Cheong Soo Pieng (creator of Drying Salted Fish) and Chen Wen Hsi (creator of Gibbons Fetching the Moon from the Water) are two artists who created a new type of fine arts in Singapore that influenced other local artists, in which their two paintings are featured.[18][19] The swallow cowrie is featured on the obverse background of the \$100 banknote. Its reverse carries the theme of youth and features a National Service officer with his ceremonial sword standing against the tower of the SAFTI Military Institute, uniformed youths representing Singapore Red Cross, St John's Ambulance Brigade, Singapore Scout Association and the National Police Cadet Corps.[20][21] The beautiful cowrie is featured on the obverse background of the \$1,000 banknote. Its reverse carries the theme of government featuring the buildings of the three branches of government: The Parliament House, Old Supreme Court Building and Istana, representing the Legislative, Judicial and Executive powers respectively. The Istana is the president's official residence, built in 1869 which first housed the colonial governor.[22][23] The entire national anthem's lyrics are included as microprint, which is a unique feature to the \$1,000 banknote.[24] The onyx cowrie is featured on the obverse background of the \$10,000 banknote. Its reverse carries the theme of economy featuring Singapore as a knowledge-based economy biotechnology, R&D and silicon wafer.[24] It was one of the highest-value banknote in the world in terms of absolute value (worth approximately US\$7,250 as of July 2022) that was in public circulation.[26] In celebration of the Millennium 2000, five million \$2 bills were printed with the Millennium 2000 logo replacing the prefix of the serial number normally found in other notes under general circulation.[3] Three commemorative limited issues have been made for the Portrait Series (including the \$2 issue below). 10,000 sets of the \$10 polymer was issued with the overprint "Commemorative First Issue by MAS" with the prefix MAS. 5,000 sets of \$50 banknotes signed by PM Lee Hsien Loong have been stamped with overprint commemorating the merger of the BCCS and MAS.[19] On 27 June 2007, the governments of Singapore and Brunei celebrated the 40th anniversary of the Currency Interchangeability Agreement (an agreement allowing citizens of both countries to use currency from either nation interchangeably) by issuing commemorative \$20 notes.[27] That are yellow, 149.72mm in size, and made of polymer. The obverse of the Singaporean version is similar to the current Portrait Series, whereas the obverse of the Brunei version is similar to the \$50 and \$100 of the 2004 series. The reverses are almost identical except that the Brunei version has their state title in Jawi script, while the Singaporean version has the state title of Brunei in Latin script.[28] A limited edition set was offered for sale, which consisted of both versions in a folder, with matching serial numbers. The notes have "40th Anniversary Currency Interchangeability Agreement" overprinted on the obverse side. In addition, the Singaporean version has two countries' state crests above the commemorative text. Only 12,000 sets were available, 10,000 from the Monetary Authority of Singapore, and 2,000 from the Brunei Currency and Monetary Board.[28] The circulation version was made available from 16 July 2007.[29] Five \$10 and one \$50 polymer commemorative banknotes were made available from 20 August 2015.[30] They are part of Singapore's Golden Jubilee (SG50) celebrations. 20 million pieces were printed for the \$50 Commemorative SG50 banknote, while 15 million pieces of each \$10 commemorative SG50 design banknotes were printed.[31] There was an oversupply of these SG50 banknotes; by February 2016 only about less than half of them were actually issued.[32] 4th Series Portrait Series (1999present)ValueDimensionsMain ColourDescriptionDate of issueStatusMainObserveReverse\$2126 63mmPurplePresident Yusof bin Ishak, Money CowrieEducation9 September 1999Richard Hu (September 1999) and Lee Hsien Loong (January 2000)[33]Paper12 January 2006Goh Chok Tong (January 2006) and Tharman Shanmugaratnam (2014)[33]Polymer\$5133 66mmGreenPresident Yusof bin Ishak, Gold-Ringed CowrieGarden City9 September 1999Richard Hu (September 1999) and Lee Hsien Loong (August 2004)[34]Paper18 May 2007Goh Chok Tong (May 2007) and Tharman Shanmugaratnam (2014)[34]Polymer\$10141 69mmRedPresident Yusof bin Ishak, Wandering CowrieSports9 September 1999Richard Hu (September 1999) and Lee Hsien Loong (May 2004)[35]Paper4 May 2004Lee Hsien Loong (May 2005), Goh Chok Tong (January 2008) and Tharman Shanmugaratnam (2015)[35]Polymer\$50156 74mmBluePresident Yusof bin Ishak, Cylindrical CowrieArts9 September 1999Richard Hu (September 1999), Lee Hsien Loong (March 2002), Goh Chok Tong (November 2009) and Tharman Shanmugaratnam (July 2012)[36]Paper100162 77mmOrangePresident Yusof bin Ishak, Swallow Cowrie Youth Richard Hu (September 1999), Goh Chok Tong (November 2009) and Tharman Shanmugaratnam (March 2013)[37]Paper1\$1,000170 83mmPinkPresident Yusof bin Ishak, Beautiful CowrieGovernmentRichard Hu (September 1999) and Goh Chok Tong (November 2009). No longer issued from October 2014 due to low demand.[38]Paper\$10,000180 90mmGoldPresident Yusof bin Ishak, Onyx CowrieEconomicsRichard Hu (September 1999)[39]No longer issued from October 2014 due to low demand.[35]Paper^ a B Stella Koh (for BCCS) (1999). The Presidential Notes Field Book: President Yusof bin Ishak and the Portrait Notes. SNP Publishing, p.5. ISBN9789814032520. ^ a b c Know Your Money, Monetary Authority of Singapore. Archived from the original on 29 February 2012. ^ a b c Frequently Asked Questions, Monetary Authority of Singapore. Archived from the original on 29 February 2012. ^ a b c Currency board's merged with MAS takes effect today". The Straits Times. 1 October 2002. p.19. Retrieved 14 June 2025 via NewspaperSG. ^ a b "Singapore to stop issuing \$S10,000 banknote to prevent money laundering". Reuters. 2 July 2014. Retrieved 6 November 2014. ^ a b Singapore to stop issuing \$S1,000 note to reduce money laundering". CNA. 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Retrieved 19 February 2008. ^ a b c "Portrait Series \$1,000 Archived 1 January 2007 at the Wayback Machine. Monetary Authority of Singapore. Retrieved 19 February 2008. ^ a b c "Portrait Series \$10,000 Archived 1 January 2007 at the Wayback Machine. Monetary Authority of Singapore. Retrieved 19 February 2008. ^ a b c "Portrait Series \$50 Archived 1 January 2007 at the Wayback Machine. Monetary Authority of Singapore