

Security Features for Naira Bank Notes and Identification of Counterfeits

Definition of Terms

Counterfeit and Composed Notes

◇ Counterfeit Note

Fake or Counterfeit note or currency is an imitation of currency without legal authorization from the Central Bank and Federal government.

The CBN act (2007) as amended states that : “It shall be an offense punishable by a term of imprisonment of not less than 5 years for any person to falsify, make or counterfeit any bank note or coin issued by the Bank which is a legal tender.

The intent behind the circulation of the Counterfeit and Composed notes is to receive value, and this is not acceptable. Consequently, CBN has imposed a 400% penalty on any Counterfeit or Composed notes received and deposited by Banks. For instance, if one note of composed 1000 bill is received and deposited the bank will be charged 4x1000 as penalty.

◇ Composed Note

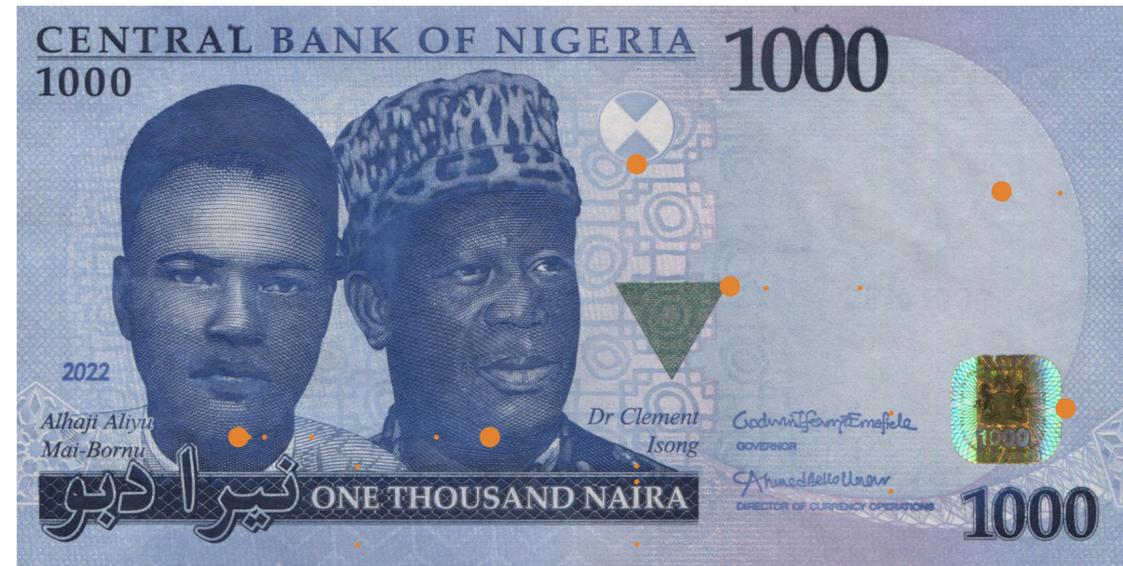
A Composed note is a bank note that comprises of several parts of different banknotes of the same denominations put together with the intention of receiving value.

Security Features for 1000 Redesigned Bills

WINDOWED METALLIC SECURITY THREAD SHIMMERS AND DEPICTS THE TEXT "CBN" (LOOK) (TILT)

SEE THROUGH WINDOW, DIFFERENT QUARTERS OF THE CIRCLE ARE COLOURED ON THE FRONT AND BACK OF THE BANKNOTE. (LOOK)

RAISED INTAGLIO PRINT. FEELS ROUGH TO TOUCH



PORTRAITS OF ALHAJI ALIYU MAI-BORNU & DR CLEMENT ISONG (LOOK)

OPTICALLY VARIABLE INK COOTINE FORESEE WITH CHANGE IN VIEWING ANGLE (TILT)

SEE-THROUGH WINDOW. DIFFERENT QUARTERS OF THE CIRCLE ARE COLOURED ON THE FRONT AND BACK OF THE BANKNOTE (LOOK)

KINEGRAM (TILT) GOLD PATCH THAT SHIMMERS AND DEPICTS EMBEDDED IMAGE OF "N1000" AND NIGERIA'S COAT OF ARMS

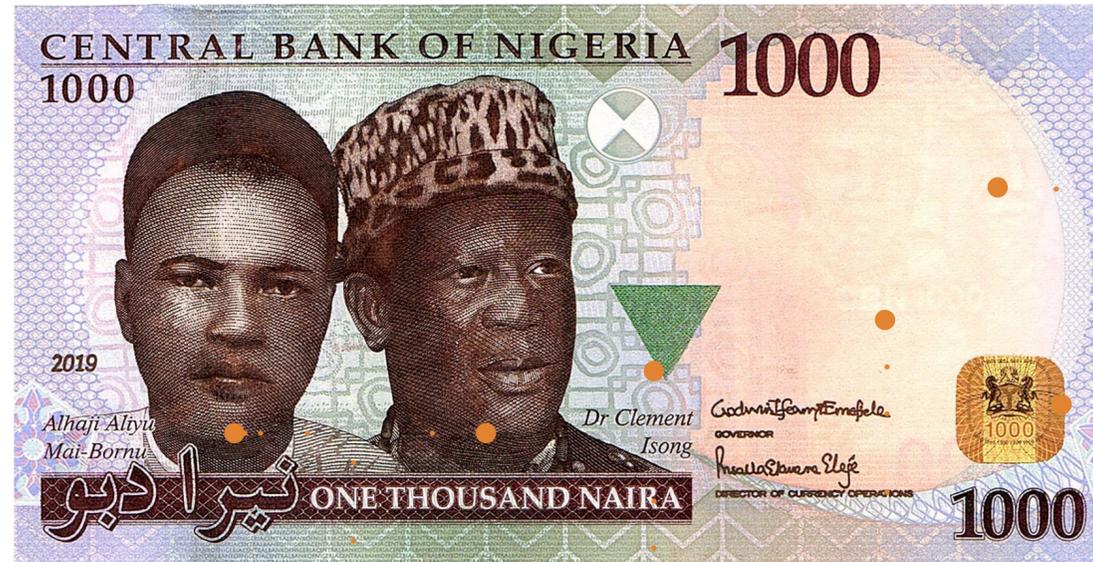
SERIAL NUMBER. NO TWO BANKNOTES CAN HAVE THE SAME SERIAL NUMBER (LOOK)

ELECTROTYPE WATERMARK FEATURE SHOWS OUTLINE IMAGES OF ALHAJI ALIYU MAI-BORNU & DR. CLEMENT ISONG AND THE TEXT "CBN1000" WHEN HELD UP TO LIGHT (TILT)

SERIAL NUMBER. NO TWO BANKNOTES CAN HAVE THE SAME SERIAL NUMBER (LOOK)

IRIDESCENT BAND BECOMES VISIBLE WHEN VIEWING ANGLE IS CHANGED. THE TEXT *1000 NAIRA" IS VISIBLE IN THE BAND. (LOOK) (TILT)

Security Features for 1000 Old Bills

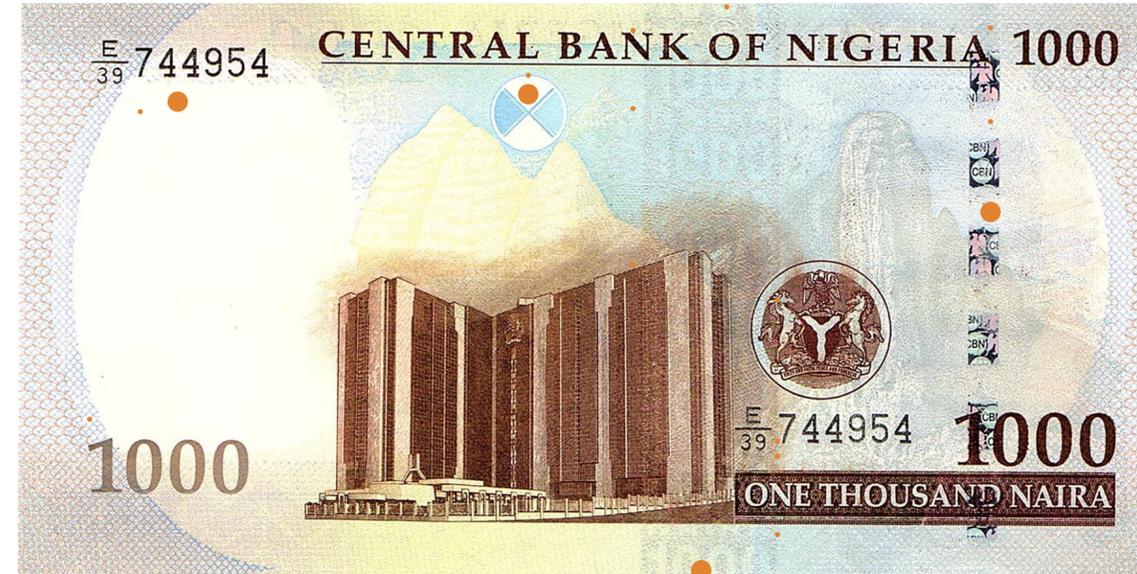


INTAGLIO RAISED PRINT ON THE PORTRAIT (FEEL)

OPTICAL VARIABLE INK (OVI) (Tilt)

OPTICAL VARIABLE INK (OVI) (Tilt)

KINEGRAM (TILT)



SERIAL NUMBER (LOOK)

ELECTROTYPE WATER MARK (Tilt)

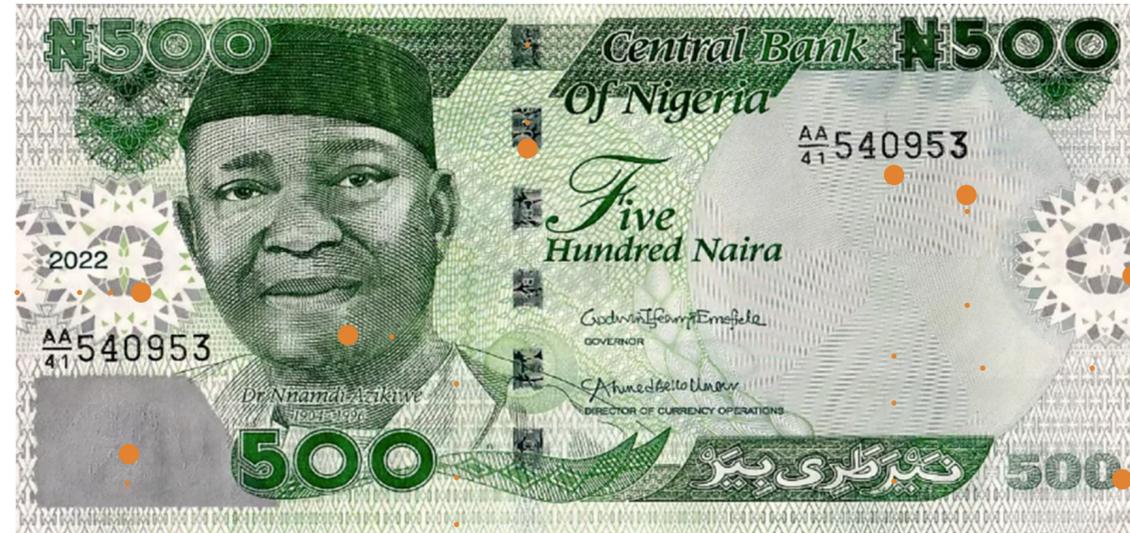
METALLIC THREAD (Look)

SEE THROUGH WINDOW (Look)

IRIDESCENT BAND (LOOK)

Security Features for 500 Redesigned Bills

WINDOW METALLIC SECURITY THREAD SHIMMERS AND DEPICTS THE TEXT "CBN" AND AN IMAGE OF NIGERIA'S COAT OF ARMS (LOOK) (TILT)



SEE THROUGH WINDOW. DIFFERENT SEGMENTS OF THE PATTERN ARE COLOURED ON THE FRONT AND BACK OF THE BANKNOTE (LOOK)



SEE THROUGH WINDOW. DIFFERENT SEGMENTS OF THE PATTERN ARE COLOURED ON THE FRONT AND BACK OF THE BANKNOTE (LOOK)

SILVER PATCH (ANI-SCAN) WITH EMBOSSED IMAGE OF NIGERIA'S COAT OF ARMS (LOOK)

HAND ENGRAVED PORTRAIT OF DR. NNAMDI AZIKIWE (LOOK)

SERIAL NUMBER NO TWO BANKNOTES CAN HAVE THE SAME SERIAL NUMBER (LOOK)

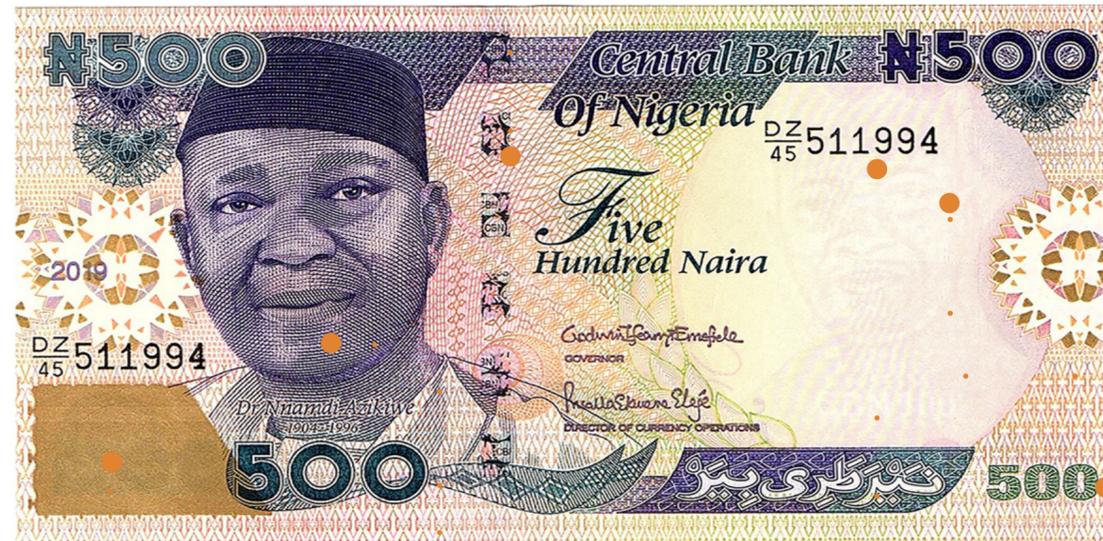
OPTICALLY VARIABLE INK (OVI) TRIANGLE CHANGES FROM BLUE TO GREEN WITH CHANGLEANGE IN VIEWING (TILT)

ELECTROTYPE WATERMARK FEATURE SHOWS OUTLINE IMAGE OF DR. NNAMDI AZIKIWE AND THE TEXT "CBN500" WHEN HELD UP TO LIGHT (TILT)

IRIDESCENT BAND BECOMES VISIBLE WHEN VIEWING ANGLE IS CHANGED. THE TEXT "1000 NAIRA" IS VISIBLE IN THE BAND. (LOOK) (TILT)

Security Features for 500 Old Bills

HOLOGRAPHIC SECURITY
THREAD (LOOK)



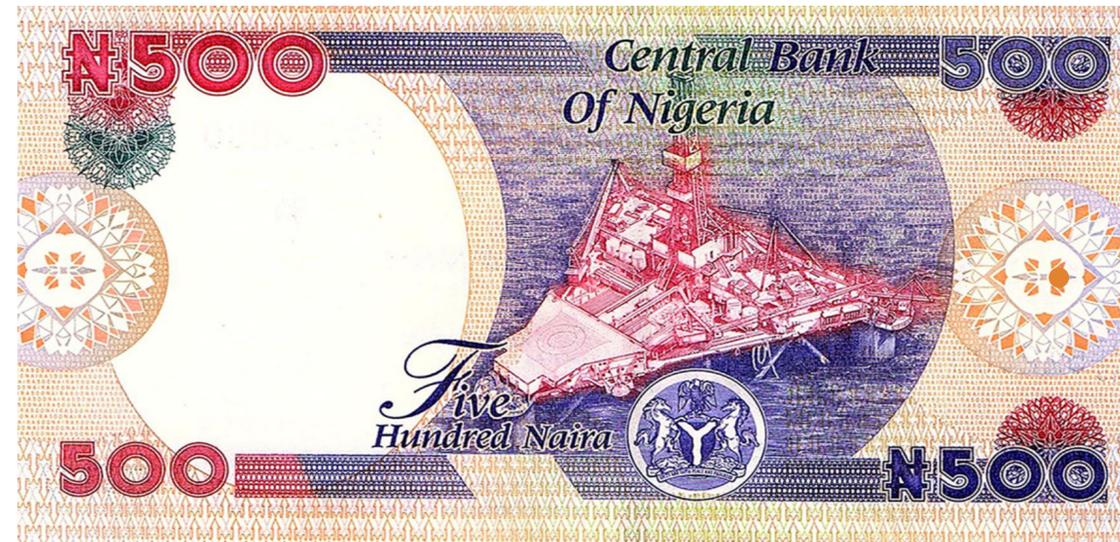
LIFT TWIN (TILT)

INTAGLIO RAISED PRINT
(FEEL)

SERIAL NUMBER
(LOOK)

OPTICALLY VARIABLE INK
(OVI) (TILT)

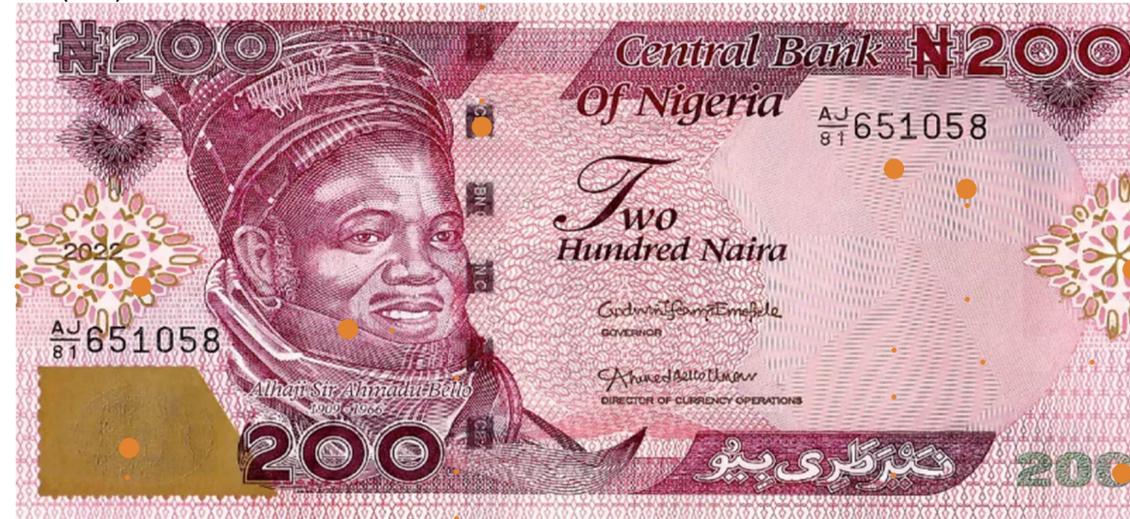
CONTINUITY DESIGN
(LOOK)



ELECTROTYPE WATERMARK
(TILT)

Security Features for 200 Redesigned Bills

WINDOW METALLIC SECURITY
THREAD SHIMMERS AND DEPICTS
THE TEXT "CBN" AND AN IMAGE OF
NIGERIA'S COAT OF ARMS (LOOK)
(TILT)



SEE THROUGH WINDOW.
DIFFERENT SEGMENTS OF THE
PATTERN ARE COLOURED ON
THE FRONT AND BACK OF THE
BANKNOTE (LOOK)



SEE THROUGH WINDOW.
DIFFERENT SEGMENTS OF THE
PATTERN ARE COLOURED ON
THE FRONT AND BACK OF THE
BANKNOTE (LOOK)

SILVER PATCH (ANI-SCAN)
WITH EMBOSSED IMAGE
OF NIGERIA'S COAT OF
ARMS (LOOK)

HAND ENGRAVED
PORTRAIT OF ALHAJI SIR
AHAMADU BELLO (LOOK)

SERIAL NUMBER NO TWO
BANKNOTES CAN HAVE THE
SAME SERIAL NUMBER
(LOOK)

OPTICALLY VARIABLE INK
(OVI) TRIANGLE CHANGES
FROM BLUE TO GREEN
WITH CHANGLEANGE IN
VIEWING (TILT)

ELECTROTYPE WATERMARK
FEATURE SHOWS OUTLINE
IMAGE OF DR. NNAMDI
AZIKIWE AND THE TEXT
"CBN500" WHEN HELD UP
TO LIGHT (TILT)

RAISED INTAGLIO
PRINT, FEELS ROUGH
TO TOUCH (FEEL)

Security Features for 200 Old Bills

HOLOGRAPHIC SECURITY
THREAD (LOOK)



LIFT TWIN (TILT)

INTAGLIO RAISED PRINT
(FEEL)

SERIAL NUMBER
(LOOK)

OPTICALLY VARIABLE INK
(OVI) (TILT)

CONTINUITY DESIGN
(LOOK)



ELECTROTYPE WATERMARK
(TILT)

How To Identify Counterfeit Naira Notes

Simple Tips

The following are needed to identify counterfeit notes:

- ◇ Source of UV Light (Mercury Bulb)
- ◇ A good vision (Use of eyes)
- ◇ A good sense of feel (Use of hands)

All genuine notes have distinguishing features which can be recognized by touch and visibility i.e the raised prints, the security thread and the watermark. The raised prints provide the tactility (texture and feel), while the security thread, which ordinarily, looks broken but is not when raised against light, has “CBN” in small lettering printed on both side of the note.

Simple Tips

◇ Check the Texture

If the texture of the note is soft and the image in it appears dull, you have the right to be concerned. Subject it to further examination with UV light.

◇ GOLD Foil Test

The 1000 note has a gold foil on the right side, near the CBN Governor's signature. If you scratch the gold foil of a fake note it will peel off instantly but that on the genuine note will not. Within the gold foil is Nigeria's coat of arms and 1000 written underneath. You can observe these additional features by tilting the note.

◇ Examine the Ribbon Thread

A thread-like ribbon appear on all Naira notes (except the polymer notes that have special features), running from the top to the bottom. In real notes the thread can be felt with a touch. In fake or counterfeit note there is something that looks like a thread, but it is not. It appears rather like a straight-line painting. If you scratch the painting it will peel off.

◇ Unique Serial Number

All genuine notes have unique serial numbers, therefore if you have two notes displaying the same serial numbers, at least one of them is a counterfeit. The serial numbers must be same on either sides of each note.

Identification of Counterfeit Naira Notes with UV Light

Some security features of the paper notes cannot be seen with the naked eye. These can only be found in the genuine notes with the aid of Mercury Bulb that provide the source of Ultraviolet (UV) light.

◇ If you shine the light on a genuine note, the security thread will glow. Not so with fake or counterfeit notes.

◇ Under the light you will see a shiny “1000” or “500” or “200” printed across the note that would normally be invisible to the naked eye. Fake or counterfeit notes do not have this attribute.

◇ The serial number on each note is black to the naked eye but turns green under UV light. This can only be found on genuine Naira notes

Thank You

