

# Know Your Isle of Man Government Notes

Most people use banknotes every day without a second thought and may not examine them carefully. Could you really identify the genuine article? Counterfeit notes are rare but it pays to be careful.



There are several features on the Isle of Man Government notes that can be used to quickly check whether a note is genuine.



Look at the illustrations of Manx notes here then turn over to learn how to protect yourself from being passed counterfeits.



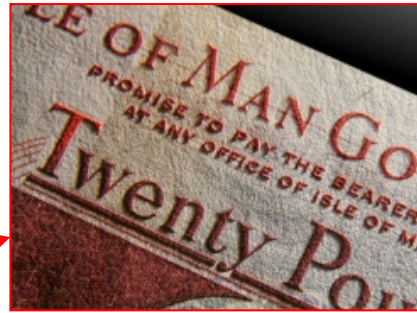
**Isle of Man  
Government**  
Keilley Eilea Yennin

If you are being passed a suspect note, **try to compare it with one you know to be genuine**. Is the printing as sharp and clear? Is it exactly the same size?

**Does the texture of the note feel right?**

Banknotes are printed on special security paper and should feel fairly strong.

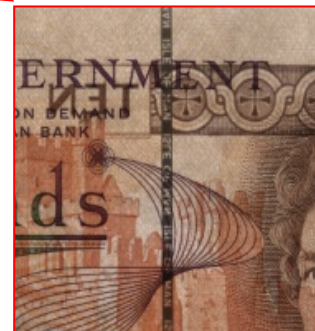
**Raised printing** is used for some of the features. When you run your finger over the Isle of Man Government title and the denominational value, the ink should feel rough to the touch.



**Tactile Symbols.** In the lower left hand corner of the front of the note there is a feature to aid the blind and partially sighted. The number of shapes present increases with the value of the note. The exception to this is the £50.



**Metallic thread.** All genuine notes have a metallic thread embedded in the paper which will be clearly visible when either side of the note is held up to the light. If examined closely, micro lettering can be seen in the thread of £10 and £20 notes. The illustration to the right shows the note being held up to the light. The dark line will seem to fade if the note is then placed down on a flat surface.



**Check the watermark.** Hold the banknote up to the light and check from both sides for the presence of the Three Legs symbol watermark. It should appear as shades of light and dark. When laid against a table, the watermark image will be only partly visible.



**See-through artwork.**

There is also a see-through feature which takes the form of some ornamental artwork to the bottom left of the front of the £5, £10 and £20 notes. It appears as outline only when laid flat, but fills in with colour from the back of the note when held up to the light. On a genuine note, the colour shading should align perfectly with the pattern. This feature does not appear on the £1 or £50 notes and becomes less distinct on old or worn notes.

Look for this area on the front of a £20 note – see how the colours change when you hold it up to the light.



This is the £10 note feature which will seem to change colour as it is held up to the light.

Counterfeit notes are worthless. **It is a criminal offence to hold on to or pass on counterfeit notes.** If you suspect a note is counterfeit, take it to the police as soon as possible. They will give you a receipt and send the note for testing. If the note is genuine you will be reimbursed.



## **Cur Enney er Noataghyn Reiltys Ellan Vannin**

The Isle of Man Bank Limited is the appointed handling agent for Isle of Man Government Notes. The Isle of Man Bank's Cash Centre is based at 2 Athol Street, Douglas, Isle of Man IM99 3ED. The Cash Centre's e-mail address for queries is:

[cashcentreIOM@rbsint.com](mailto:cashcentreIOM@rbsint.com)

If you have a damaged Manx note or if you want to check the validity of a note in your possession, take it to any branch of the Isle of Man Bank.

This leaflet is issued by the Isle of Man Government Treasury. Further copies can be downloaded from the Government's website at:

[http://www.gov.im/media/339648/know\\_your\\_notes.pdf](http://www.gov.im/media/339648/know_your_notes.pdf)

Should you require it, this leaflet is available in large print on request.



**Do you have information relating to the production, distribution or passing of counterfeit notes?**

If you have relevant information, please contact the Police or Crimestoppers.

### **Crimestoppers**

Crimestoppers are an independent charity whose objective is fighting crime.

If you have any information, their advisors are available 24 hours per day, 365 days per year on 0800 555111. Calls from Isle of Man landlines are free and do not show on call logs.

Callers to Crimestoppers always remain anonymous. No personal details are taken, calls are not recorded and cannot be traced.

Therefore, once the information is provided, the caller's responsibility is complete so no follow up calls, no formal statements and no involvement in any Court action.

 **CRIMESTOPPERS**  
**0800 555 111**

Contact us anonymously with information about crime