

TIPS FOR VERIFYING THE \$100 BILL



The \$100 is now the only bill that has not been revised since its 1996 introduction. You will notice when looking at the \$100 bill the security thread does not glow as clearly as others. This is normal and does not indicate a problem with your Fraud Fighter. Rather, it is an issue with the quality of the security thread that the Bureau of Engraving and Printing (BEP) put into the \$100 bill. All the smaller bills have been revised and their security thread colors were enhanced making it much easier to see under the UV light. We expect this to be the case with a new design \$100 bill scheduled for 2009.

The current \$100 bill can be verified by checking the paper upon which the bill is printed. Genuine US banknotes are printed on “UV-dead” paper, which does not reflect UV light. Counterfeit notes will usually reflect the UV light, thus, counterfeit money will “glow” blue as it reflects the UV light back to your eyes. One way to verify that is to take a known good bill – we recommend a \$5 bill – and hold it next to the suspect \$100. If you see the \$100 having a blue glow to it that is the first sign it is probably counterfeit.

The UV security thread (pink) in the \$100 bill can generally be seen by holding the bill up close to the bulbs and looking closely. The feature will appear “pale” and “pinkish” in color. When checking for the security thread or strip you want to make sure you do not see a blue strip since this will indicate the bill is a washed \$5 bill and not a genuine \$100. Besides the UV features, below are some Non UV features that should also be present.

NON UV features on US \$100 bill

1. **Security Thread.** The thread, which is positioned to the left of the portrait on the note, will show the words “USA 100”. The thread can be seen from both sides of the note when held up to a bright light or under UV light.
2. **Fine Line Printing Patterns.** The fine lines printed behind Franklin's portrait and the Independence Hall are difficult to replicate.
3. **Micro printing.** On the front of the note, "USA 100" is repeated within the number 100 in the lower left corner. "The United States of America" appears as a line in the left lapel of Franklin's coat.
4. **Color-Shifting Ink.** The number in the lower right corner on the front of the note looks green when viewed straight on, but black when viewed at an angle.