

Box 1

The new series of banknotes

Over the course of 2016, the Bank of Israel continued to prepare for the entry into circulation of the last denominations in Series C of the New Shekel—the NIS 20 denomination, which will bear the portrait of Rachel the Poetess, and the NIS 100 denomination, which will bear the portrait of Leah Goldberg.

The Bank of Israel is working to ensure that the responsible entities will prepare the vending machines and cash withdrawal devices ahead of the launch of the final two denominations. In parallel, it continues working to exchange the old banknotes (from Series B) of the NIS 50 and NIS 200 denominations with new banknotes (of Series C). The Bank of Israel urges people still holding banknotes of the old series to replace them, at no cost, at the tellers of commercial banks, the Postal Company, or at the cashiers at the Bank of Israel in Jerusalem. Alternatively, they may be deposited into a bank account or used.

During the replacement period, counterfeiters and criminal elements attempt to garner illegal profits—they take advantage of the public still not fully recognizing the new banknotes and their security features, and issue reproductions of banknotes. Therefore, the Bank of Israel urges the public to utilize the Bank of Israel website to become familiar with the Series C banknotes and the security features incorporated into them. All the banknotes incorporate identical security features, and they are very easy to recognize.

The new NIS 200 banknote—security features



Look

- 1. The transparent portrait**—A watermark image of the portrait, identical to the portrait shown on the banknote obverse, with the denomination next to it. Hold the banknote against the light and verify that the portrait and denomination are visible. The feature can be viewed from either side of the banknote.
- 2. The perforated numerals**—The banknote is perforated at the top part with tiny holes forming the banknote’s denomination. Hold the banknote against the light and verify that you can discern them. The feature can be viewed from either side of the banknote.
- 3. Window thread**—A blue-purple security thread is embedded in the banknote and is revealed in three “windows” on the back of the banknote. Hold the banknote against the light and verify that the portrait and denomination are clearly visible in the windows. When the banknote is tilted, the thread will change its shade from blue to purple.

Feel

- 4. Raised ink**—The portrait, the Governor’s signature, the Hebrew and Gregorian year, texts in three languages, and the designated features for the blind on the banknote’s margins are printed in intaglio. Pass your finger over these elements, which are printed on both sides of the banknote, and you can discern the raised ink.

Tilt

- 5. The glittering stripe**—A transparent and glittering stripe is incorporated into the banknote vertically, next to the portrait. Tilt the banknote in various directions and verify that the Menorah symbol and the denomination appear and disappear intermittently along the stripe.
- 6. The golden book**—An artistic reflective foil element in the shape of an “open golden book”. Tilt the banknote backward and forward and verify that the “book” changes its color from gold to green. Simultaneously you can see a horizontal bar moving up and down the “book”.

Features for the blind and vision impaired

- 7. Lines in the margins**—Pairs of lines are printed in raised ink on each banknote, and their number increases as the denomination of the banknote grows. The pairs of lines are located at the lower margins on both the right and left sides, and can be felt with the fingers.

Different length for each banknote—The banknotes in the new series have different lengths. There is a 7 mm difference between denominations.

Denominational numerals—Large and dark digits are printed in raised ink on a light background, and light digits are printed on a dark background.

Banknote color—Each banknote has a dominant color.