The New Fiver

Issued 13 September 2016

You can find information on the new polymer £5 note and its security features in this booklet. Polymer notes provide enhanced counterfeit resilience, and help increase the quality of notes in circulation.

Sir Winston Churchill (1874 -1965)
Sir Winston Churchill was a British statesman who was Prime Minister of the United Kingdom from 1940 to 1945 and from 1951 to 1955. Churchill was also a writer and an artist. He won the Nobel Prize for Literature in 1953.

Can I still use the paper £5 note?
You can continue to use the paper £5 note, featuring Elizabeth Fry, until it is withdrawn from circulation on the 5th of May 2017. Genuine Bank of England banknotes that have been withdrawn from circulation retain their face value for all time and can be exchanged with the Bank of England.

Visit
www.bankofengland.co.uk/banknotes/about/exchanges

For further information
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Email: enquiries@bankofengland.co.uk
www.thenewfiver.co.uk
Public Enquiries Group,
Bank of England, Threadneedle Street,
London EC2R 8AH
This leaflet is also available in Welsh.

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The new fiver is printed on polymer - a thin and flexible plastic material. It's around 15% smaller than the paper £5 note.

The paper £5 note will be withdrawn from circulation on the 5th of May 2017.

The new polymer £10 note, featuring Jane Austen, will be issued in summer 2017.

The new polymer £20 note, featuring JMW Turner, will be issued by 2020.

The Bank of England will make a decision on when to issue a new £50 note, and whether to print it on polymer, in due course.
Follow these simple steps to verify your new fiver’s security features. Remember do not rely on just one feature, check a few.

Check the see-through window
There is a large see-through window on the note. A clearly defined portrait of the Queen is printed on the window with the words '£5 Bank of England' printed twice around the edge.

Check the ultra-violet feature
If you look at the front of the note under a good quality ultra-violet light, the number 5 appears in bright red and green whilst the background remains dull in contrast.

Check the foil patches
On the front of the note, below the see-through window, is a silver foil patch. When the note is tilted the word 'Five' changes to 'Pounds' and a multi-coloured rainbow effect can be seen.

Check the foil patches
On the front of the note, above the see-through window, is a silver foil patch containing an image of the coronation crown which appears 3D. When the note is tilted a multi-coloured rainbow effect can be seen.

Check the polymer and the raised print
The note is printed on polymer which is a thin and flexible plastic material. By running your finger across the front of the note you can feel raised print in areas such as the words 'Bank of England' and in the bottom right corner, around the number 5.

Check the print quality
The printed lines and colours on the note are sharp, clear and free from smudges or blurred edges.

Check the microlettering
Using a magnifying glass, look closely at the lettering beneath the Queen’s portrait— you will see the value of the note written in small letters and numbers.