
Instruction sheet on exchanging worn coins and coins withdrawn from circulation

The provisions in this instruction sheet apply from 1 February 2024.

The content of this instruction sheet refers to the SNB's Provisions on coin deliveries.

1. Coins eligible for exchange

The Swiss National Bank will replace the coins listed below.

1.1. Worn coins

Worn coins are defined as being those coins that show signs of wear as a result of normal use in payment transactions over the course of time. They must be identifiable as individual coins, but no longer suitable for further use in payment transactions due to their condition. Examples of such wear include discolouration, scratch marks, soiling, bends and dents, or detail on obverse/reverse having been worn away through use.

1.2. Coins withdrawn from circulation

Regular issue coins withdrawn from circulation can be exchanged at the SNB for their nominal value for 20 years after the withdrawal date. There is no deadline for exchanging coins that have been withdrawn from circulation but which have the same size and face as the coins still in circulation, e.g. silver-coloured 5-centime coins and silver coins of 50 centimes to 5 francs.

1.2.1. 1-centime coins

The 1-centime coins were withdrawn from circulation on 1 January 2007. They will be exchanged at their nominal value by the SNB until 31 December 2026.

1.2.2. 5-centime coins

The 5-centime coins minted in pure nickel in the years 1932–1939 and 1941 and those minted in copper-nickel in 1879–1931, 1940 and 1942–1980 were legal tender until 31 December 1983; they were withdrawn from circulation on 1 January 1984. Since they have the same size and face as the coins still in circulation, they will be exchanged by the SNB at their nominal value for an unlimited period of time.

1.2.3. Silver coins

The following silver coins were withdrawn from circulation on 1 April 1971. Since they have the same size and face as the coins still in circulation, they will be exchanged by the SNB at their nominal value for an unlimited period of time.

- 5-franc coins (including commemorative coins) minted between 1931 and 1967 and in 1969
- 2-franc coins minted between 1874 and 1967
- 1-franc coins minted between 1875 and 1967
- 1/2-franc coins minted between 1875 and 1967

1.3. Commemorative coins

Commemorative coins issued by the Swiss Confederation can be exchanged at their nominal value at the SNB's cashier's offices or agencies.

2. Worthless coins

2.1. 2-centime coins

The 2-centime coins minted between 1948 and 1974 were withdrawn from circulation on 1 January 1978. They were exchanged by the Swiss Federal Cash Office (Eidgenössische Staatskasse) at their nominal value until 30 June 1979.

Although worthless, the 2-centime coins may still have collector's value. Unlike numismatists, antique shops or banks, the SNB does not deal in worthless coins.

3. Duty of due diligence

In its efforts to safeguard the standing of the Swiss financial centre and to fulfil its duty of due diligence, the SNB may make the exchange of coins dependent on further clarifications.

These may include identification of the submitting party as well as establishment of the beneficial owner's identity and additional clarifications.

4. Restrictions on quantity and countervalue

4.1. Cash exchange

Coins eligible for exchange can be presented loose and exchanged for cash up to a total of 500 coins, provided the countervalue is less than CHF 1,000.

Repeated exchange transactions, irrespective of the quantity or countervalue, will be accepted for encashment or require an exceptional ruling from the SNB.

4.2. Encashment

In the case of larger quantities of coins, or if the countervalue is CHF 1,000 or higher, the coins eligible for exchange will not be reimbursed as part of a cash exchange and must instead be submitted for encashment. The '[Request for the replacement of damaged coins](#)' form must be submitted together with these coins. Once the coins have passed examination, the nominal value will be transferred to your bank or postal account. The following details must be provided for the transfer to be made:

- **Switzerland:**
Address (full name, first name, address of domicile including country);
IBAN of the account in your name;
Name and full address of the bank where the account is held.
- **Europe:**
Address (full name, first name, address of domicile including country);
IBAN of the account in your name;
SWIFT BIC, name and full address of the bank where the account is held.
- **Other countries:**
Address (full name, first name, address of domicile including country);
Account number (if possible IBAN) of the account in your name;
SWIFT BIC, name and full address of the bank where the account is held.

IBAN = International Bank Account Number
BIC = Bank Identifier Code (SWIFT)

If you have questions concerning the required details, please contact the bank where your account is held.

5. Exchange at SNB counters

Coins that are eligible for exchange may be presented at one of the counters listed below.

Larger quantities of coins that are worn / withdrawn from circulation (over 25 kg) may only be submitted in Berne, following prior notification and subject to further conditions being met (packaging, delivery). The prior notification should be sent by email to bargeld@snb.ch.

Cashier's offices

BERNE Swiss National Bank Bundesplatz 1 CH-3003 Berne	ZURICH (deliveries up to max. 25 kg) Swiss National Bank Börsenstrasse 15 CH-8001 Zurich
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Agencies (deliveries up to max. 25 kg)

APPENZELL Appenzeller Kantonalbank Bankgasse 2 CH-9050 Appenzell +41 71 788 88 88	CHUR Graubündner Kantonalbank Postplatz CH-7001 Chur +41 81 256 96 01	FRIBOURG Banque Cantonale de Fribourg Bd de Pérolles 1 CH-1700 Fribourg +41 848 223 223
GENEVA Banque Cantonale de Genève Quai de l'Île 17 CH-1204 Geneva +41 58 211 21 00	GLARUS Glarner Kantonalbank Hauptstrasse 21 CH-8750 Glarus +41 844 773 773	LIESTAL Basellandschaftliche Kantonalbank Rheinstrasse 7 CH-4410 Liestal +41 61 925 94 94
LUCERNE Luzerner Kantonalbank Pilatusstrasse 12 CH-6002 Lucerne +41 844 822 811	SARNEN Obwaldner Kantonalbank Im Feld 2 CH-6060 Sarnen +41 41 666 22 11	SCHAFFHAUSEN Schaffhauser Kantonalbank Vorstadt 53 CH-8200 Schaffhausen +41 52 635 22 22
SCHWYZ Schwyzer Kantonalbank Bahnhofstrasse 3 CH-6430 Schwyz +41 58 800 20 20	SION Banque Cantonale du Valais Rue des Cèdres 8 CH-1950 Sion +41 848 765 765	STANS Nidwaldner Kantonalbank Stansstadterstrasse 54 CH-6370 Stans +41 41 619 22 22
ZUG Zuger Kantonalbank Bahnhofstrasse 1 CH-6300 Zug +41 41 709 11 11		

If you have any questions, please contact Cashier's Office West (+41 58 631 07 57 or bargeld@snb.ch).