The personality on your banknote

Remember this man’s picture.

The portrait on the front side of the 10 franc banknote shows Charles Édouard Jeanneret, better known as Le Corbusier (1887–1965), one of the outstanding masters of modern design. Le Corbusier was an architect, town planner, urbanist, painter and theoretician whose creative energies focused on the human being. This orientation is expressed, above all, in his pioneering concepts of residential design and urban planning. Le Corbusier used skeleton construction and prefabrication techniques in an innovative industrial approach to building – for example in the government complex in Chandigarh, India. Moreover, he influenced modern design and gained international recognition as a designer of furniture and as an architect of sacred buildings, for example the famous pilgrim church of Notre-Dame-du-Haut in Ronchamp.

The design elements on your banknote

Get to know the architectural side of your banknote.

The Palace of Justice at Chandigarh

The tower of the Palace of Justice is based on three design principles: three-dimensional design, a predilection for ramps to connect the floors, and the dynamic relationship between the interior and the exterior.

The facade of the Secretariat

The central element shows the facade of the Secretariat. Here, Le Corbusier’s architectural thinking is visible: the use of his “Modulor” scale of measure, the weaving of spatial cells across the entire facade, and the use of the bronze to make a three-dimensional statement.

The “Modulor”

The “Modulor”, which is based on the golden section and the proportions of the human figure, was Le Corbusier’s own universal measuring system. It puts man, as the measure of all things, in the centre of architectural design.

The Secretariat building at Chandigarh

The Secretariat is the last post building designed by Le Corbusier – employs the key elements of the new architecture: the use of unfinished concrete as the universal building material to achieve specific design effects, a freely structured facade, bisseuilts and the roof terrace.

For the wave of Le Corbusier and Schiavello with ProLithos, 8033 Zürich.

The new banknote.
Easy to check.
A message from the Swiss National Bank

Why issue new banknotes?

In 1995 the Swiss National Bank began to emit a new series of banknotes. The 50 franc banknote and the 20 franc banknote have already been put into circulation. The new series is dedicated to six famous Swiss whose contributions to cultural life have brought them international recognition. Among them is the visionary architect, town planner and painter Le Corbusier, whose portrait appears on the 10 franc banknote. We are pleased to introduce the new 10 franc banknote and to explain its five special security features. These will enable you to check the authenticity of the banknote. The Swiss National Bank provides its banknotes with these special security features to prevent counterfeiting. Counterfeiters have been around ever since money was first used. The rapid development of printing and copying technologies, however, makes it necessary to update the security features used on the banknotes from time to time. That is why the Swiss National Bank is issuing its new series, to be completed in 1998. Old banknotes currently in circulation remain valid and will gradually be replaced by the new banknotes.

Swiss National Bank

The most important security features of your banknote

Discover your banknote in five different ways.

1. The magic number
   - The number 10 is printed on the front of the banknote and is located on the denomination, the number 10. The features are positioned vertically one under the other. The most striking feature, the moving number, is situated in the middle of the banknote. Follow the letters A, B, C, D, E and F on the left-hand side of the banknote and you will quickly find the other four features.

2. The coloured number
   - The number 10 is clearly visible and its print is rough to the feel. If you rub the coloured number on a sheet of paper, it will leave distinct traces.

3. The moving number
   - The number 10 appears on the banknote like an enigma. Colour depending on the banknote, the numbers jump up and down and disappear. To check the banknote, move it from you towards the light until you can see the number.

4. The chameleon number
   - The number 10 is printed with a special ink and changes colour depending on how the light falls on the banknote. The number 10 appears diagonal up and down the Kingsgram®

5. The glittering number
   - The number 10 is a metal-coated and partially covered with ink. Hold the banknote like a sheet of paper you want to read. While you move the banknote, the number has a silverly glitter.

Test your banknote to find out whether it is genuine

Check the "10":
- it's all in there.