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Be Cash Aware this Holiday Shopping Season

Your first time handling Canada's new \$100 polymer note may bring a little holiday cheer despite the hustle and bustle of the busy shopping season.

Or maybe you'll only get to admire it from afar. Maybe you'll be in a busy check-out line and someone ahead of you will hand the clerk a new \$100 note. The clerk may remark on handling it for the first time and everyone within ear shot will momentarily pause and crane their necks to see it. Or maybe you'll be at your bank and see a teller counting out several new notes. It could happen anywhere.

But don't overlook all those cotton-paper notes you're already used to handling. Don't let the crowded stores and the loud jingle bells get the better of you. Remember to check all of your notes before jamming them in your wallet and moving on to the next store and item on your shopping list.

Counterfeiters see frantic shoppers and busy retailers as an opportunity to pass counterfeit notes. Don't let them. It only takes a second, so check your notes—paper or polymer—and make sure they're the real thing.

Similarly, if a cash handler examines your money, don't take offence. Routine note checking may just prevent a counterfeit from ending up in your change. It's a good habit we should all take up.

New Note—Show It Off

If in the coming weeks you get your hands on the new polymer note, show it off before you rush off and spend it! Spread the word and let others see and feel it for themselves.

The lifespan of a bank note varies by denomination. Higher denominations like the \$100 are handled less frequently and circulate for much longer as compared to the lower denominations used in day-to-day transactions. So do your part to keep these new polymer \$100s looking fit. They're going to be around for a long time.

(see over)

Be a Smart Shopper

Visit www.bankofcanada.ca/banknotes and learn more about the security features on the polymer \$100 note as well as the features of our current paper notes.

The security features on the new \$100 note are quick and easy to use. So whether you come across one by chance, or you've sought it out to give someone a really nice gift this holiday season, take a minute and get to know its features.

Feel, Look and Flip

Feel, Look and Flip is a phrase that reminds you how to check key security features on the polymer notes.

Feel

- Feel the smooth, unique texture of the note. It's made from a single piece of polymer with some transparent areas.

Look

- Look for transparency through the large window and the outline of the frosted maple leaf window.
- Look at the details in the metallic portrait and building in the large window.

Flip

- Flip the note to see the metallic portrait and building repeated in the same colours and detail on the other side of the large window.

For more information and free training tools:
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For story ideas or to get more information on Canadian bank notes, please contact media relations at 613 782-8782 or email communications@bankofcanada.ca