



Memorandum

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DEPARTMENT: Cash and Payment Systems Department

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REG. NO. [Diarienummer]

■ Guidance on the reproduction of the new banknote and coin series

Under the law, it is prohibited to counterfeit banknotes and coins, to use counterfeit banknotes and coins and to distribute anything that could be mistaken for banknotes and coins. The motifs on banknotes and coins may also be protected by copyright.

There are no rules specifying exactly how a banknote or coin may be reproduced without breaking the law. What may or may not be permitted is a matter for the public prosecutor and the courts to decide. Consequently, the Riksbank is unable to take a stance on whether a reproduction may be considered a counterfeit or an infringement of copyright. The text below is intended to act as a guide.

Counterfeit protection

In the Riksbank's opinion, a banknote can be reproduced without risk of being considered a counterfeit if certain restrictions are observed:

- Only one side of the banknote is reproduced and the image is at least 125 per cent or at most 75 per cent of the banknote's actual length and breadth.
- Both sides of the banknote are reproduced and the image is at least 200 per cent or at most 50 per cent of the banknote's actual length and breadth.
- Only part of the obverse or reverse is reproduced and this part is less than one-third of the banknote's actual size.
- The reproduction is made from material that is entirely unlike paper and that looks entirely different from the material used for banknotes.
- The banknote is reproduced in electronic form with an image resolution not exceeding 72 dpi and with the word "SPECIMEN" written diagonally across the banknote. The length of the word "SPECIMEN" must be at least 75 per cent of the banknote's length and the height of the word must be at least 15 per cent of the banknote's breadth. The text must also be written in an opaque colour that clearly contrasts with the colour of the banknote.

The Riksbank advises against manufacturing objects that are similar to coins in appearance, size and other characteristics.

■ Copyright

The motifs on the banknotes consist of portraits, environmental images, symbols and texts. In many cases, these are based on works of art, such as photographs, that are protected by copyright. This means that they may not be reproduced and distributed without the consent of the copyright holder. The Riksbank has received permission to use copyright-protected works in the production and distribution of banknotes and for banknote information purposes. Reproducing banknotes for other purposes may contravene copyright. The coins do not feature motifs based on protected works of art.

If consent is obtained from the holders of the copyright to the artistic works, the Riksbank has no objections to the reproduction of banknotes and coins as long as such reproduction does not affect confidence in banknotes and coins as a means of payment. However, the guidelines for protection against counterfeiting given above must always be observed when a banknote or coin is reproduced.

Originators of artistic works always have a moral right. This means that their works may not be changed or spread in such a way that the originator's reputation or character is damaged.