

# The Coins and Banknotes of Denmark





*Danmarks Nationalbank's building in Copenhagen was designed by the internationally renowned Danish architect Arne Jacobsen and built between 1965-1978*



**The Coins and Banknotes of Denmark, 2nd edition, August 2005**

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This edition closed for contributions in July 2005.  
Print: Fr. G. Knudtzon's Bogtrykkeri A/S

ISBN 87-87251-55-8  
(Online) ISBN 87-87251-56-6



# Old and new traditions

As the central bank of Denmark, Danmarks Nationalbank has the sole right to produce and issue Danish banknotes and coins. Subject to the approval of the Minister for Economic and Business Affairs, Danmarks Nationalbank determines the appearance of Danish banknotes and coins and their denominations.

This brochure provides a brief description – in text and pictures – of the process from the artist's first sketch until the banknotes and coins are put into circulation.

There are many traditions linked to the appearance of banknotes and coins, but the designs are also subject to ongoing renewal and development. For instance, the Danish banknote series has been upgraded with new security features – holograms and fluorescent colours. The coin series has been supplemented with a tower series and a fairy tale series, the latter also in silver and gold editions. As a consequence of these changes, the time has come to update this publication.

## The tasks of Danmarks Nationalbank

Danmarks Nationalbank

- produces and distributes Danish banknotes and coins
- conducts monetary and foreign-exchange policies to ensure the stability of the krone vis-à-vis the euro
- manages the foreign-exchange reserve
- is banker to the banks and mortgage-credit institutes and to the central government
- handles overall tasks in relation to payment systems
- analyses financial stability
- collects, collates and publishes financial statistics
- represents Denmark internationally in a number of areas.

# The coins of Denmark

The present coin series comprises seven denominations: 25 and 50 øre, and 1, 2, 5, 10 and 20 kroner. The series was introduced over a period of four years – from 1989 to 1993. The number of coins relates to tradition, but is also supported by surveys of the most appropriate number of coins in a well-functioning coin series.

## The design of the coin series

The design of the coin series is intended to ensure that the coins are easy to distinguish from each other, and consequently they vary in size and colour. The series is divided into three sequences. Within each sequence the diameter and weight of the coins increases with their value. Each sequence also has its own metal colour. This division into colours has its roots in history. In earlier times, gold was used for the coins of the highest denominations, silver for the next-highest and copper for the lowest coin denominations. The 25- and 50-øre coins are therefore copper-coloured, the 1-, 2- and 5-krone coins silver-coloured and the 10- and 20-krone coins gold-coloured. Besides the visible differences, there are differences that can be felt, e.g. in the design of the coins' rims. The 25- and 50-øre coins, as well as the 10-krone coin, have a smooth rim, while the 1- and 5-krone coins have a milled rim. The 2- and 20-krone coins have an interrupted milled rim. Unlike the rest of the series, the 1-, 2- and 5-krone coins have a hole in the centre. Another



*Photo of the crown of Christian V,  
courtesy of Rosenborg Palace*

distinguishing characteristic is the thickness of the different coins. Use of these various characteristics makes it easy for the blind and sight-impaired to tell the coins apart.

## The motifs on the coins

Traditionally, the obverse of a coin is embossed with a national feature, i.e. an image or symbol depicting the country of issue. The present coin series uses three different national characteristics: the 25- and 50-øre coins bear the crown, the 1-, 2- and 5-krone coins bear the Queen's monogram, and the 10- and



20-krone coins bear the portrait of the Queen. There is a tradition of using the small coat of arms, as is the case with

the reverse of the 10- and 20-krone coins.

A recurring theme on all the coins is the heart. Use of the heart is a tradition established over many



centuries. Originally, it showed that the Royal Mint in Copenhagen had minted the coin. In 1975 the Royal Mint was transferred from the central government to Danmarks Nationalbank and today is part of Danmarks Nationalbank.

Previously, the initials of the mint master and the medallist were also shown on the coins. This served as a guarantee of the authenticity of the coins. Today the Royal Mint guarantees the quality of the coins, and since 2002 coins have been minted without initials.

### **Commemorative coins**

There is a tradition in Denmark to issue commemorative coins to mark special events in the Royal Family, such as the Queen's 60th birthday in 2000 and the wedding of Crown Prince Frederik and Crown Princess Mary in 2004. However, in 1995 the 1,000th anniversary of the minting of the first Danish coin was also celebrated with the issue of a commemorative coin. Commemorative coins are issued in two denominations: an ordinary 20-krone coin and a silver 200-krone coin.



### **Thematic coins**

Since 2002, Danmarks Nationalbank has issued a series of thematic coins with towers as their common motif. In 2005 this series was supplemented with a fairy-tale coin series.

The purpose of issuing series of thematic coins is e.g. to stimulate interest in coins among the general public. New motifs also make it possible to introduce new artists to the work of designing coins, so that Denmark will have more artists that master this special art.

### **Tower coins**

In 2002, Danmarks Nationalbank issued the first coin in its series of 20-krone coins with towers or sections of towers as the common theme. The last of the 10 tower coins is expected to be issued in 2007. Towers have been chosen as the theme since they often represent national or historical symbols. The towers have been chosen not only for their beauty; importance has also been attached to depicting towers with different functions and at different geographical locations in Denmark. The tower coins are of the same size and alloy as the ordinary 20-krone coin in circulation. The tower coins are issued in an edition of around 1 million.

### **Fairy tale coins**

In 2005, Danmarks Nationalbank issued the first in a series of coins with motifs from Hans Christian

Andersen's fairy tales. A total of five fairy tale coins are to be issued. The motifs have been chosen to illustrate different aspects of Hans Christian Andersen's fairy tales. The first coin in the series was a 10-krone coin issued in three editions – a gold coin, a fine silver coin and an ordinary 10-krone coin. This was the first gold coin issued in Denmark since 1931.



*The motif is taken from Hans Christian Andersen's fairy tale "The Ugly Duckling" and was designed by the sculptor Hans Pauli Olsen. Issued on 31 March 2005 to mark the bicentenary of the birth of Hans Christian Andersen.*



The motif is Aarhus City Hall Tower, depicted by the sculptor Lis Nogel. The well-known Danish architect Arne Jacobsen designed both Aarhus City Hall and the Danmarks Nationalbank building. Issued on 2 December 2002 to mark the centenary of the birth of Arne Jacobsen.



The motif is the spire of the old Copenhagen Stock Exchange, Børsen, with four intertwined dragon tails, depicted by the sculptor Karin Lorentzen. Børsen was built in 1618-1624 by King Christian IV. The dragon tails were said to protect Børsen against fire and foe. Issued on 1 May 2003.



The motif is Christiansborg Palace Tower, depicted by the sculptor Hans Pauli Olsen. Christiansborg Palace houses the Danish Parliament. Issued on 20 November 2003.



The motif is the Goose Tower, depicted by the sculptor Tina Maria Nielsen. The tower was part of a Medieval fortress in the town of Vordingborg. Issued on 31 March 2004.



The motif is Svaneke Water Tower, depicted by the sculptor, Professor Morten Stræde. The tower itself was designed by the famous Danish architect Jørn Utzon. Issued on 2 August 2004.



The motif is Landet Church on the island of Tåsinge, depicted by the sculptor Øivind Nygaard. Among the chestnut leaves surrounding the tower, two hearts and a pistol are seen – symbolising the tragic love story of Elvira Madigan and Sixten Sparre, whose grave can be found in the churchyard. Issued on 28 January 2005.



**25 øre:**

*Put into circulation on 29 January 1991*



**50 øre:**

*Put into circulation on 3 July 1989*

Low coin denominations in the series are copper-coloured with a crown as the central decorative element on the obverse. The sovereign's crown is the most important Royal and State symbol and represents national sovereignty. Since 1671 the crown of Christian V, which is kept at Rosenborg Palace, has been the Royal Danish crown. The crown is easy to recognise by its five arms and the royal orb with the clover-leaf cross. The year of minting is seen above the crown. The coin's denomination is placed in the centre on the reverse of the coin. Above, the heart of the Royal Mint is embossed.

FROM SKETCH TO MINTED COIN · FROM SKETCH TO MINTED COIN · FROM SKETCH TO MINTED COIN ·

## Preparing a wax model

The first step in the production of a new coin is the artist's sketch. From this, the artist creates a wax model, converting the flat sketch to a relief. Then a silicon rubber model is made, which in turn is the basis for the sometimes numerous plaster moulds. Finally, a mould of hard plastic is cast.

The models are around seven times larger than the minted coin. It is difficult to make models since a good large-scale model does not necessarily mean that the actual coin – on which all details will be very small – will be a success. Often various draft models

must be made before the final design of the coin is found.







**1 krone:**

*Put into circulation on 26 January 1993*



**2 kroner:**

*Put into circulation on 26 January 1993*



**5 krone:**

*Put into circulation on 10 April 1990*

The middle sequence of the coin series is silver-coloured. These denominations are characterised by a hole in the centre of the coins, a tradition retained in only very few countries. The hole was used for the first time by the Danish mint in 1924.

The obverse of the coins depicts the Queen's monogram, interlinked by three crowns. The monogram was designed specifically for the coins. The threefold reproduction of the monogram is deeply rooted in the Danish coin tradition. The 1-, 2- and 5-kroner coins bear the hearts of the Royal Mint on both obverse and reverse. The reverse is also decorated with waved ornamentation, inspired by prehistoric finds.

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## Reduction

The hard plastic model is then reduced to the actual dimensions of the coin. This is a very lengthy process. For instance, it takes 20-24 hours to reduce a 5-kroner coin. Reduction takes place in a reducing machine where a sensor registers "peaks" and "valleys" on the model. A small-scale miller then transfers the "pattern" to a steel piston called an original die.





**10 kroner:**

*Put into circulation on 3 July 1989*



**10 kroner:**

*Put into circulation in July 1994*



**20 kroner:**

*Put into circulation on 10 April 1990*



**20 kroner:**

*Put into circulation in October 1994*



**10 kroner and 20 kroner:**

*The 10- and 20-krone coins with the most recent portrait, put into circulation on 26 September 2001. The 20-krone coin with the altered reverse motif was put into circulation on 21 August 2003, and the 10-krone coin on 25 October 2004.*

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## Minting dies

The final minting dies are created from the original die. In contrast to the flat original die the minting dies are convex, i.e. they are higher in the centre than at the rim. When a convex die is used to stamp the coins the die first hits the centre of the metal disc (the blank) on which the coin is stamped. Then the metal "flows" outwards like a wave as the piston is pushed down onto the blank. The result is a clearly embossed coin. If flat dies were used instead, the metal would not flow outwards and the embossment would not be visible. The Royal Mint's



minting machines can mint around 700 coins per minute.



The highest denominations in the coin series are gold-coloured. In keeping with the tradition for the highest denominations in a Danish coin series, the obverse of the 10- and 20-krone coins depicts a portrait of the Queen. The portrait is replaced from time to time, in order to maintain a good likeness.

In the present coin series three different portraits are used. The first was designed by Hanne Varming and was used from 1989 to 1993. The second was designed by Jan Petersen and was used from 1994 to 1999. The third is by Mogens Møller and has been used since 2001. In addition to coins with the three portraits shown, a number of 20-krone coins bear different portraits. These are commemorative coins which are minted to mark special events in the Royal Family, cf. page 5.

The reverse of the 10- and 20-krone coins depicts the small coat of arms, also called the national coat of arms. It consists of three lions and nine hearts under one crown. The reverse was redesigned by Mogens Møller in 2003. The ornamentation has been removed, thus creating a simpler, more streamlined image to match the portrait of the Queen on the obverse.

The three crowned lions have been used by Danish kings for the last 800 years. In the 16th century the number of hearts was set at nine. The hearts may not be hearts at all, but heraldic lily leaves (floating hearts), which again may be derived from linden leaves.

In addition to the ordinary coins, there are 10-krone coins with fairy-tale motifs and 20-krone coins with towers on the reverse.

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## Coin sets and medals

The Royal Mint also issues a coin set for each year. These coins are minted with two strokes, giving them a clearer embossment than the ordinary coins, which are minted with only one stroke. The coin set is also minted in a proof-quality version, an especially fine version minted with three strokes. Since 2004, the coin set has included the Medal of the Year, which is a copy of an old medal depicting a motif from a Danish naval battle.



# The banknotes of Denmark

The present series of banknotes was introduced over a period of just under three years, from 1997 to 1999. It is called the "1997 Series". The new banknote series is distinguished from previous series by its strong colours, but otherwise the structure and motifs of the banknotes are deeply rooted in tradition. The portrait continues to be a key element, and a rosette still decorates the area around the note value.

All banknotes in the series are of the same height, but with a difference in length of 1 cm between each denomination. The different lengths helps the blind and sight-impaired to distinguish the banknotes from each other.





### **New security features**

The rapid advances within graphical technology make it easier to produce copies that are difficult to distinguish from genuine banknotes in everyday use. Consequently, Danmarks Nationalbank has upgraded the banknote series by adding two new security features – a hologram and fluorescent colours that glow under ultra-violet light.

### **Portraits on the face of the banknotes**

The key motif on the face of each banknote is a portrait of an individual who has made a significant contribution to Danish art or science. Literature (Karen Blixen), music (Carl Nielsen), the theatre (Johanne Luise Heiberg), science (Niels Bohr) and pictorial art (Anna and Michael Ancher) are all represented. It is a Danish tradition that only persons now deceased are depicted on banknotes – and that they are never depicted more than once. To be chosen, it is necessary that a portrait with a good likeness is available.

The portrait in intaglio is also a security feature, since the facial characteristics are easily recognisable and any minor changes appearing on counterfeit notes are easily detected.

Part of the background pattern on the face of the banknotes is related to the person portrayed. For example, the vignette on the 200-krone



banknote depicting Johanne Luise Heiberg is a stylised theatre mask.

### **Ecclesiastical art on the reverse**

The motifs on the reverse of the banknotes are inspired by stone reliefs from Danish churches dating from just after the introduction of Christianity. The motifs depict warriors, fabled animals and wild animals drawn from a universe dominated by the struggling forces of good and evil.



Dimensions: 125 x 72 mm

Colour: Violet

Issued on 7 May 1999

Issued in an upgraded version on 25 August 2005

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## A good original

On choosing motifs for the banknote series it is important to have a good original in the form of a portrait which is a close likeness. Sometimes – as in the case of Karen Blixen – there may be many to choose from, while in other cases there is only one single choice. It is important that the portraits used in a banknote series are as different from each other as possible. Both men and women are included, either in profile or as full-face portraits. Varying head coverings also contribute to this diversity.





The portrait on the face of the 50-krone banknote is of the Danish author Karen Blixen (17 April 1885 - 7 September 1962). She is known for such works as *Seven Gothic Tales* (1935) and her memoirs *Out of Africa* (1937). The face of the banknote is also decorated with flowers, of which Karen Blixen was very fond. On the reverse is a centaur, half horse and half man. This motif is inspired by a stone relief in Landet Church on the island of Tåsinge.

The legend "femti" (fifty) is also used on e.g. cheques and giro slips instead of the normal Danish word for fifty which is "halvtreds". It was used for the first time on the 50-krone banknote issued in 1957.



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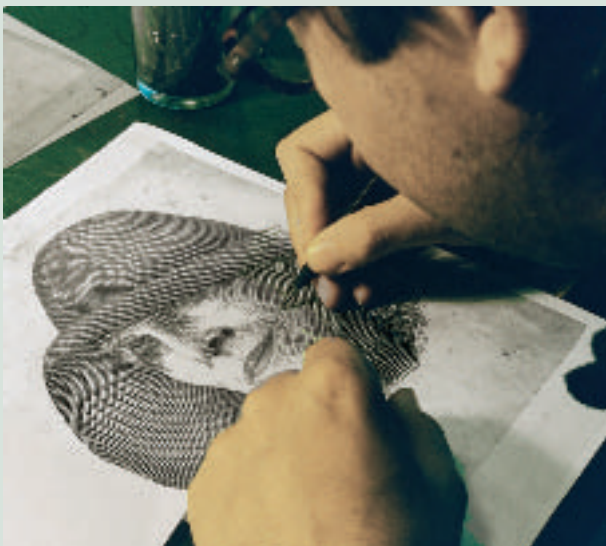
Dimensions: 135 x 72 mm

Colour: Orange

Issued on 22 November 1999

Issued in an upgraded version on 27 November 2002

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## Intaglio printing

Intaglio is an old printing technique which is still used for banknotes owing to the wealth of detail that it provides. Today a drawing is first made of the engraving for the portrait, after which the engraving itself is created using a photographic technique. This gives the same result as traditional hand engraving in steel.





The face of the banknote bears a portrait of the composer Carl Nielsen (9 June 1865 - 3 October 1931). Carl Nielsen was leader of the Royal Danish Orchestra, conductor and music teacher, but first and foremost an extremely versatile composer. He contributed more than 250 cherished songs to the national songbook, and he also wrote operas such as Maskerade and symphonies.

The basilisk on the reverse is a rather fierce fabled animal. It is a mixture of serpent, dragon and cock with fiery eyes and breath which leave death and destruction in its wake. Basilisk actually means "small king" and it can be identified by its crown. The basilisk is inspired by a stone relief from Tømmerby Church in Vester Hanherred.

*Approximately four out of 10 banknotes in circulation are 100-krone banknotes. This is the main denomination of the banknote series.*

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## Rosettes and text



The rosette is one of the elements traditionally found on Danish banknotes. The rosette decorates the area around the note value. Today, it is created as a computer graphic.

The banknotes bearing male portraits have rosettes and numerals of a rough and masculine design, whereas banknotes with portraits of women have a

softer, more feminine design. In the same way the font is matched to the gender of the person depicted.







Dimensions: 145 x 72 mm

Colour: Green

Issued on 10 March 1997

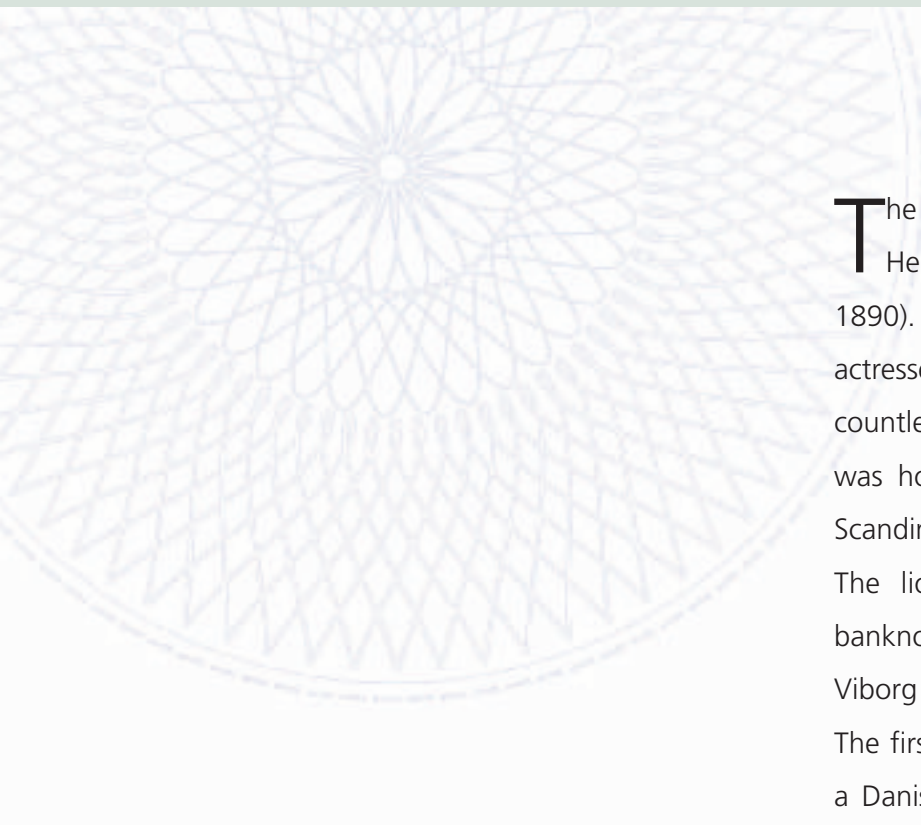
Issued in an upgraded version on 9 April 2003

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# Hologram

In the years 2002 to 2005 the banknote series was upgraded with two new security features – a hologram and fluorescent colours. The hologram shows the value of the banknote in both Roman and Arabic numerals. Other motifs taken from the banknote or related to the person portrayed are also included. For instance, the hologram on the 1,000-krone banknote shows a painter's palette, the number 1,000 and the Roman numeral M.





The face shows a portrait of Johanne Luise Heiberg (22 November 1812 – 21 December 1890). She was one of the greatest Danish actresses of the 19th century and celebrated countless triumphs at the Royal Theatre. She was honoured as the greatest stage name in Scandinavia.

The lion on the reverse of the 200-krone banknote is inspired by a stone relief from Viborg Cathedral.

The first 200-krone banknote to be included in a Danish banknote series was issued in 1997. The background was a desire to settle payments using as few banknotes and coins as possible.

*The 200-krone banknote has become increasingly popular and has to some extent supplanted the 100-krone banknote.*

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## Fluorescent colours

Both the face and the reverse of the new banknotes include features and colours that glow under ultraviolet light. The fluorescent motif on the face of the banknote is a simplified version of the relief on the reverse. This motif is only visible under ultraviolet light. On the reverse of the banknote, the ink used to print the ring glows under ultraviolet light.

The new security features help to protect the Danish banknotes even better against counterfeiting.







Dimensions: 155 x 72 mm

Colour: Blue

Issued on 12 September 1997

Issued in an upgraded version on 24 September 2003

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## Printing banknotes

A banknote is printed on pure cotton paper with i.a. watermark and metallic thread with colour change. On its way through the printing press the paper passes through five printing units before the banknote is finished. For intaglio printing, the printing cylinder has a pressure of approximately 12 tonnes. This is necessary in order to transfer ink from the deep engraved lines to the paper. The high pressure also embosses the paper, which – combined with the thick layer of ink – ensures that the intaglio printing can be felt when the printed banknote is touched. The coloured print on



Niels Bohr (7 October 1885 – 18 November 1962) decorates the face of the 500-krone banknote. Niels Bohr made an outstanding contribution to science and played a key role in the development of modern nuclear physics. Niels Bohr was honoured with numerous awards, including the Nobel Prize for physics in 1922. He is one of the few Danes outside the Royal Family to have received the Order of the Elephant (1947).

The face of the banknote features vignettes formed as the yin-and-yang symbol, which can also be found on Niels Bohr's coat of arms in the Church of Frederiksborg Palace in Hillerød.

The reverse depicts a knight with a sword and shield fighting a dragon, inspired by a relief on the font of Lihme Church.

*The 500-krone banknote is known as "a ploughman". This nickname dates back to the years after 1910 when the motif on the face of the 500-krone banknote was a man ploughing his fields.*



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both sides of the banknotes is printed using the offset technique, which in contrast to intaglio cannot be felt.

The fluorescent colours on the face and reverse of the banknote are printed at the same time as the other motifs. However, the hologram is not added until after the banknotes have been printed. This takes place in a separate machine.





Dimensions: 165 x 72 mm

Colour: Red

Issued on 18 September 1998

Issued in an upgraded version on 25 November 2004

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## The lifespan of the banknotes

After the banknotes have been printed, cut out, checked and packaged, they are stored in the vaults of Danmarks Nationalbank. A box of 1,000-krone banknotes holds DKK 5 million worth of banknotes.

Banknotes and coins are put into circulation via central banknote holdings throughout Denmark. A central banknote holding acts as a stock of banknotes where banks can obtain or deliver cash. To maintain a high quality of banknotes in circulation, banknotes are exchanged before they become too worn or dirty. The







The double portrait on the 1,000-kroner banknote shows Anna Ancher (18 August 1859-15 April 1935) and her husband Michael Ancher (9 June 1849-19 September 1927), who are both known for their paintings primarily depicting everyday life in Skagen (the Skaw). Normally banknotes bear one portrait only, and the 1,000-kroner banknote is therefore unusual in a Danish banknote context. The double portrait on the banknote is inspired by two paintings by P.S. Krøyer from 1884. The anchors in the background pattern refer to a necklace worn by Anna Ancher.

The battle scene on the reverse of the 1,000-kroner banknote is inspired by a relief on a sepulchral monument in Bislev Church near Nibe.

*Since 1952, the three governors of Danmarks Nationalbank have alternately signed the banknotes together with the chief cashier.*

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lifespan of a banknote increases with its value since small denominations circulate faster than large denominations and are therefore worn faster. While a 50-kroner banknote usually lasts for just over a year, the lifespan of a 1,000-kroner banknote is more than three years. The banks return the worn banknotes to Danmarks Nationalbank, where they are e.g. checked for authenticity before they are shredded and incinerated.



# Banknotes and coins – a historical review

The history of coinage goes back far beyond the banknote tradition. The first Danish coins are believed to have been minted in Hedeby, Slesvig, at the beginning of the 9th century. The first coin minted by a Danish king was issued by Svend Tveskæg (Sweyn Forkbeard) in around the year 995 and bears the portrait of the king, with his name and title. For many hundreds of years the Danish monetary system was based on silver, and the value of the coins was determined by their weight.

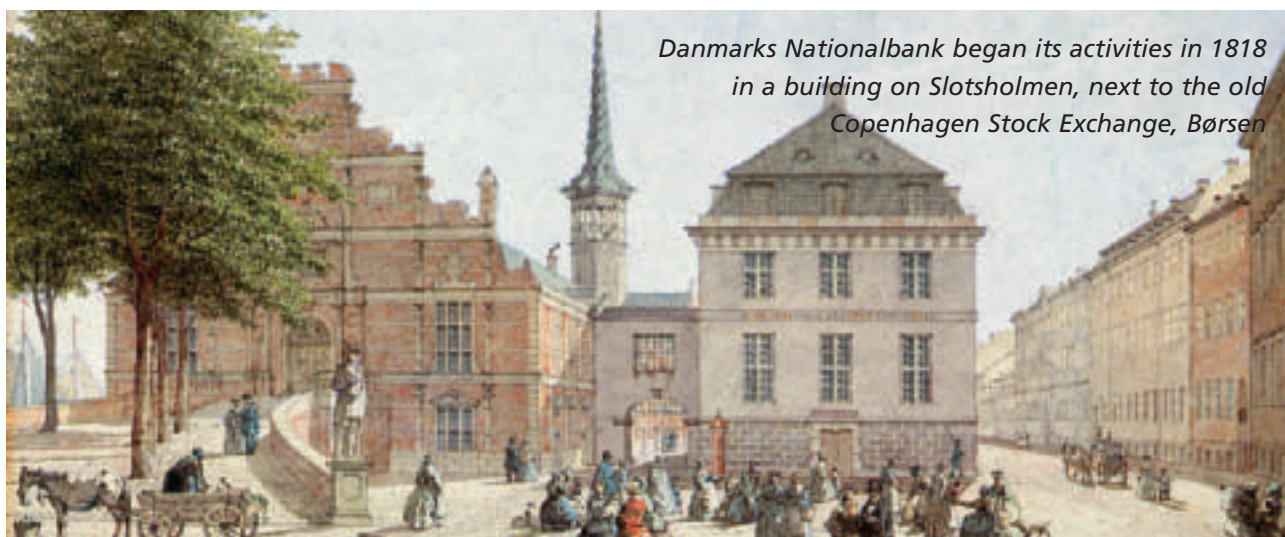
## The first banknotes

Banknotes first became part of the Danish money supply in the years 1713-28. The high costs of waging the Great Northern War meant that silver coins were used for trade and other payments to abroad. To facilitate trade the state issued authorised notes. The notes were to have the same value as silver coins, but could not be redeemed for silver.



*The first authorised notes were issued in 1713*

This created a loss of confidence in the notes and their value soon fell to far below their nominal value. The notes were withdrawn after the war. The first notes were pre-printed, with the amount, serial number and signatures added by hand. Over five months in 1713 around 120,000 notes were issued. For comparison, the present volume of banknotes in circulation is more than 140 million banknotes of different denominations.



*Danmarks Nationalbank began its activities in 1818 in a building on Slotsholmen, next to the old Copenhagen Stock Exchange, Børsen*

### **Danmarks Nationalbank is established**

In 1737 Denmark's first bank was established, and held the sole right to issue banknotes. The ensuing period was characterised by unstable monetary conditions culminating in the "State Bankruptcy" in 1813 when the banknotes virtually became worthless. As part of the restoration of the monetary system the "Nationalbanken i Kjøbenhavn" was established as a private company in 1818. The bank was in private ownership since experience had shown that it was not recommendable for the state to handle the issue of banknotes. The Nationalbank was given the sole right to issue banknotes, and Danmarks Nationalbank retained this right on its reorganisation as a self-governing institution in 1936.

### **Introduction of the krone**

In 1875 kroner and øre were introduced to replace the old rigsdaler system. At the same time Denmark changed from a silver to a gold standard. The end of the 19th century saw increasing economic activity and thereby also a need for means of payment which were easier to handle than coins. Banknotes therefore gradually supplanted coins.

### **The value of money**

Up to 1914 any owner of a banknote could have it redeemed for an equivalent amount in gold coins. This gold standard was abolished on

the outbreak of World War I. In 1927 the gold standard was partly reintroduced, but was abolished finally in 1931. Today, the value of money does not depend on a particular metal value, but is based on the confidence that it will maintain its purchasing power. The purpose of the Monetary Policy is to ensure low inflation and thus to maintain this confidence.

The banknotes issued by Danmarks Nationalbank as from the exchange of money in July 1945 are still legal tender and can be exchanged at face value at Danmarks Nationalbank.



*A gold ingot weighs 12.5 kilos on average. It is not square, but slightly wider at the bottom than at the top*

### **Seigniorage**

By tradition, the sovereign's right to mint coins is related to the considerable revenues from minting coins. Issuing banknotes and coins is still a substantial source of revenue today. This revenue, called seigniorage, accrues to Danmarks Nationalbank. Since Danmarks Nationalbank's profit after allocations accrues to the Treasury, this revenue is to the overall benefit of Danish society.

# Authentic or counterfeit?

**Look, tilt and feel whether the banknote is genuine:**

## Watermark

When the banknote is held up to the light, a watermark appears in the left-hand side. The watermark is a portrait of the person on the banknote.

See:



## Hologram

The hologram is an important security feature since the metallic field and the change of motif when the banknote is tilted cannot be reproduced by photocopying.

Tilt:



## Metallic thread with colour change

The metallic thread is normally seen as a series of red, metallic fields. When the banknote is tilted, the colour changes to green. This colour change is lost when the banknote is photocopied.

Tilt:



## Thick layer of ink

The large rosette and the text on the face are printed with a thick layer of ink that can be felt.

Feel:



*There are a number of other security features, e.g. fluorescent colours, a hidden security thread that becomes visible when the banknote is held up to the light, and microprint around the watermark and all over the background pattern on the face of the banknote.*



### **The maximum sentence for counterfeiting**

Counterfeiting, attempted counterfeiting or aiding and abetting counterfeiting are criminal offences under sections 166-168 of the Danish Penal Code. The maximum sentence for counterfeiting is 12 years' imprisonment, which is one of the most severe penalties under the Penal Code. Even manufacture and use of only a few counterfeit notes usually leads to an unsuspended prison sentence. Accomplices are also prosecuted.

The provisions of the Penal Code also apply to counterfeiting of foreign banknotes and of Danish and foreign coins.

### **Use of banknotes as illustrations**

Banknotes can be useful to illustrate advertisements, printed matter and Internet pages. It is important, however, that they cannot be mistaken for genuine banknotes. Guidelines for the use of banknotes as illustrations can be found at [www.nationalbanken.dk](http://www.nationalbanken.dk) under Notes and coins.

### **Discoloured banknotes**

Banks, etc. use colour cartridges that discolour the banknotes when activated in connection with robbery. The folder "Kun ærlige penge, tak" (in Danish only) shows examples of banknotes damaged by colour cartridges and explains what to do if presented with suspicious banknotes.

For further information, see [www.nationalbanken.dk](http://www.nationalbanken.dk)





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