

Designs of bank notes issued by the
Reserve Bank of India since 1967

Year	Size	Watermark	Front	Back
I. Rs.10 notes				
1967	137x6 3mm	Ashoka Pillar	Purple colour. Numeral 10 in the centre.	Value of the note in 14 languages. The oval seascape with country craft.
1968	-do-	-do-	Blue-black colour. Promise clause, guarantee clause and signature printed in bilingual.	-do- RBI's name in Hindi added.
1969	-do-	-do-	Blue Black colour. 'Ten Rupees' instead of 'Rupees Ten'.	Mahatma Gandhi's Portrait.
1970	-do-	Ashoka Pillar with spinning wheels.	Hindi version of RBI incorporated in place of English and vice versa. Hindi rendering of Guarantee clause, promise clause and Governor's signature have been interchanged.(सत्यमेव जयते) incorporated. Watermark window and numbering panel enlarged.	Bilingual seal incorporated
1975	-do-	-do-	Dark brown, umber and blue colour. Numeral '10' printed in dark brown. Intaglio printing. Languages scroll on left and Ashoka Pillar emblem on right.	Pale brown, Ochre blue and green colour. A circle with two Peacocks on branch of a tree. Deer, horses, bird and lotus.
1992	-do-	-do-	Overall colour scheme in pale pink, magenta and yellow	Shalimar garden
1996	-do-	Portrait of Mahatma Gandhi with multidirectional lines in the watermark window.	Overall colour scheme in mauve brown, orange and pink. Portrait of Mahatma Gandhi. Embedded security thread containing the words 'भारत RBI' readable on both sides when held against light.	Intricate guilloche and floral patterns with profiles of an elephant, rhinoceros and tiger's faces. Value of note in 15 Indian languages.
2006	-do-	The portrait of Mahatma Gandhi, the multidirectional lines, and an electrotype mark showing the	Machine readable windowed demetalised clear text magnetic security thread with inscriptions 'Bharat' (in Hindi) and RBI which fluoresces in yellow on both sides under UV light. (Generic). Width: 1.4 mm	Year of printing is incorporated at the printing stage on the reverse of the banknote.

Year	Size	Watermark	Front	Back
		denominational numeral 10 appear in this section and these can be viewed better when the banknote is held against light.	Dual coloured optical fibres. The small floral design printed both on the front (hollow) and back (filled up) of the note in the middle of the vertical band next to the Watermark has an accurate back-to-back registration so that the numeral appears as one when seen against the light.	
II. Rs.20 notes				
1972	147X63 mm	Ashoka Pillar	Saffron colour. Ashoka Pillar emblem on the right and language panel on the left side.	Bold lettering in Hindi appears centrally in a horizontal panel, flanked by figures 20 at the corner. Picture of Parliament House. On the left value in Indian languages
1975	-do-	Small Ashoka Pillar with chain of spinning wheels. Resin treated paper	Red, blue, mauve and pale yellow colour. Numerical 20 in dark mauve on a light yellow lotus shaped design. Language scroll on the left and Ashoka Pillar emblem on right. The printing bleeds off on all sides but not in corners, which are paper white. Bilingual names, clauses and signature.	Dry offset printing. Red, blue and mauve colour. Chariot wheel of Konark Sun temple at the centre. Watermark window in pale blue is surrounded by an ornamental design in perfect register with corresponding design on obverse of the note.
2001	-do-	Mahatma Gandhi Portrait	The security thread totally embedded with the letters "Bharat" (in Hindi) and "RBI" The colour is predominantly reddish orange. The Ashoka Pillar has been replaced by the Mahatma Gandhi's Portrait in dark red while the Ashoka Pillar has been shifted to the left side bottom corner and the size is smaller. The numeral 20, RBI seal, Mahatma Gandhi's Portrait, RBI Legend, Guarantee and Promise clauses, Governor's Signature and Ashoka Pillar inset are in intaglio. The words RBI and the numeral 20 in Micro letters appear alternatively behind the Mahatma Gandhi's Portrait. An	The central theme depicts the Indian coastal line with coconut grooves. The value of the note appears in 15 languages in a vertical panel in the left hand side.

Year	Size	Watermark	Front	Back
			identification mark by way of a small vertical rectangle in raised form appears on the left side of the note to facilitate the visually impaired to identify the denomination of the note. The numbers in the number panel are printed in red.	
2006	-do-	The portrait of Mahatma Gandhi, the multidirectional lines, and an electrotype mark showing the denominational numeral 20 appear in this section and these can be viewed better when the banknote is held against light	Machine readable windowed demetalised clear text magnetic security thread with inscriptions 'Bharat' (in Hindi) and RBI which fluoresces in yellow on both sides under UV light.(Generic). Width: 1.4 mm Dual coloured optical fibres. The small floral design printed both on the front (hollow) and back(filled up) of the note in the middle of the vertical band next to the Watermark has an accurate back-to-back registration so that the numeral appears as one when seen against the light.	Year of printing is incorporated at the printing stage on the reverse of the banknote.
III. Rs.50 notes				
1975	147X73 mm	Ashoka Pillar with chain of wheels.	Mauve colour with hues of blue green and purple. Numeral 50 in dark brown. Language scroll on left and Ashoka Pillar emblem on right. Printing bleeds off on all sides except at corners.	Mauve, brown and yellow colours. Parliament House at the centre. Watermark window in pale mauve, surrounded by an ornamental design, which is in perfect register with corresponding design on the obverse.
1981	Do	-do-	Intaglio-fast blue, yellow red. Ashoka Pillar and languages in deep violet colours, rest in deep green and brown colours. सत्यमेव जयते below Ashoka Pillar emblem.	Dry offset-yellowish brown and body in deep purple colour. Parliament House with National flag on top
1997	-do-	Portrait of Mahatma Gandhi with multidirectional lines in the window.	Yellow, blue and violet colour. Ashoka Pillar replaced by Mahatma Gandhi Portrait in blue. Security thread totally embedded inside the note the letters (भारत) and 'RBI'. A	A panoramic view of India's Parliament House with floral patterns above and filigree patterns on the sides. The value of the note in 15 Indian languages.

Year	Size	Watermark	Front	Back
			small black solid square on the left hand side of the watermark to help the visually impaired to identify the denomination of the note.	
2005	-do-	The portrait of Mahatma Gandhi, the multidirectional lines, and an electrotpe mark showing the denominational numeral 50 appear in this section and these can be viewed better when the banknote is held against light	Machine readable windowed demetalised clear text magnetic security thread with inscriptions 'Bharat' (in Hindi) and RBI which fluoresces in yellow on both sides under U.V.light – width 1.4 mm.. The Intaglio Printing i.e. raised prints is more prominent in the name of the Bank in Hindi and English, the Reserve Bank Seal, guarantee and promise clause, Ashoka Pillar Emblem on the left, RBI Governor's signature. A square in intaglio on the left of the watermark window with increased depth of engraving helps the visually impaired to identify the denomination. Optical fibres are in dual colour. The small floral design printed both on the front (hollow) and back (filled up) of the banknote in the middle of the vertical band next to the watermark window has an accurate back-to-back registration so that the numeral appears as one when seen against the light.	Year of printing is incorporated at the printing stage on the reverse of the banknote.
IV.Rs.100 notes				
1967	157X7 3mm	Ashoka Pillar	Blue colour. Numeral 100 appears prominently in centre. Ashoka Pillar emblem on the right.	Vertical panel of 14 Indian languages on left. Hirakud Dam in the background in a circular frame.
1969	-do-	-do-	Blue colour and promise clause, Guarantee clause and Governor's signature in bilingual.	Picture of Mahatma Gandhi in a sitting posture with Sevagram Ashram in the background in a circular frame.
1975	-do-	Ashoka Pillar with spinning wheels.	Intaglio deep blue with hues of blue, brown, pink and dark green. Numeral 100 in dark blue. Watermark window light blue. RBI's name, promise clause, Guarantee clause and	Intaglio deep blue and brown shade of corn, agricultural operations, Tea plantation and hydroelectric power project. 'Watermark' window is surrounded by an ornamental

Year	Size	Watermark	Front	Back
			Governor's signature in bilingual. Language scroll on left and Ashoka Pillar emblem on right. Printing bleeds off on all sides except at corners.	design, which is in perfect register with similar design on the obverse.
1979	-do-	-do-	One side intaglio blue, red and deep green, Tints of reddish and yellowish green shade. (सत्यमेव जयते) below Ashoka Pillar emblem.	Dry-offset. Black and maroon colours. Tint design in greenish blue and brownish shades.
1996	-do-	Portrait of Mahatma Gandhi with multidirectional lines in the watermark window.	Printed with the combination of offset and intaglio process. overall colour is predominantly blue, grey and green. Portrait of Mahatma Gandhi. A windowed security thread partly visible from the front but totally embedded inside. Letters (भारत) and 'RBI' printed on the thread. A small black solid triangle in intaglio on left hand side of the watermark to help the visually impaired to identify the denomination of the note.	Central theme depicts a panoramic view of the Kanchangunga range with floral patterns above and filigree patterns on the sides. The value of note appears in 15 languages on the left hand side.
2005	-do-	The portrait of Mahatma Gandhi, the multidirectional lines, and an electrotype mark showing the denomination numeral 100 appear in this section and these can be viewed better when the banknote is held against light.	Machine-readable windowed demetalised clear text magnetic security thread with inscriptions 'Bharat' (in Hindi) and RBI on notes of Rs.100 with exclusive colour shift. Colour of the thread shall shift from green to blue when viewed from different angles. It will fluoresce in yellow on the reverse and the text will fluoresce on the obverse under U.V.light –width – 2 m.m. The Intaglio Printing i.e. raised prints is more prominent in the name of the Bank in Hindi and English, the Reserve Bank Seal, guarantee and promise	Year of printing is incorporated at the printing stage on the reverse of the banknote.

Year	Size	Watermark	Front	Back
			<p>clause, Ashoka Pillar Emblem on the left, RBI Governor's signature. A triangle in intaglio on the left of the watermark window with increased depth of engraving helps the visually impaired to identify the denomination. Optical fibres are in dual colour. The small floral design printed both on the front (hollow) and back(filled up) of the banknote in the middle of the vertical band next to the watermark window has an accurate back to back registration so that the numeral appears as one when seen against the light.</p>	
V. Rs.500 notes				
1987	167X73mm	Ashoka Pillar with spinning wheels.	<p>Printed by dry offset and intaglio process. Background colours in peacock blue, ochre and green. Portrait of Mahatma Gandhi, Ashoka Pillar emblem, Promise clause & language panel are printed in intaglio. Five black horizontal relief lines in intaglio on the left side of the watermark to help the visually impaired to identify the denomination of the note.</p>	<p>Background showing rising sun. Background colours in deep green, orange and sky blue. Mahatma Gandhi leading a group of people.</p>

Year	Size	Watermark	Front	Back
1997	-do-	Portrait of Mahatma Gandhi with the multidirectional lines in the watermark window.	Printed by offset and intaglio process. Colour scheme is predominantly in yellow, green, mauve and brown. Mahatma Gandhi's portrait is dark brown in colour. Mahatma Gandhi's portrait, RBI legend guarantee and promise clauses, Ashoka Pillar inset and Governor's signature are in intaglio. A windowed security thread, partly visible from the front but totally embedded inside. Letters भारत and RBI are printed on the thread. Green vertical band behind the Mahatma Gandhi portrait where latent image of 500 is printed. A small black solid circle in intaglio on the left hand side of the watermark to help the visually impaired to identify the denomination of the note.	Mahatma Gandhi leading a group of people in brown colour with floral patterns appearing above and filigree patterns on each side of this theme. A vertical panel of 15 languages appear on the left. All the above features are in intaglio.
2000	-do-	-do-	The colours are predominantly mild yellow, mauve and brown. Mahatma Gandhi's portrait is in light brown. Numeral 500 printed in Optically Variable Ink (OVI) in Green to Blue colour shift. Except these changes, other designs are same as of 1997 series notes.	The design is the same as is on the 1997 series note.

Year	Size	Watermark	Front	Back
2005	-do-	The portrait of Mahatma Gandhi, the multidirectional lines, and an electrotype mark showing the denomination numeral 500 appear in this section and these can be viewed better when the banknote is held against light.	Machine-readable windowed demetalised clear text magnetic security thread with inscriptions 'Bharat' (in Hindi) and RBI on notes of Rs.500 with exclusive colour shift. Colour of the thread shall shift from green to blue when viewed from different angles. It will fluoresce in yellow on the reverse and the text will fluoresce on the obverse under U.V.light –width – 3 m.m. The Intaglio Printing i.e. raised prints is more prominent in the name of the Bank in Hindi and English, the Reserve Bank Seal, guarantee and promise clause, Ashoka Pillar Emblem on the left, RBI Governor's signature. A circle in intaglio on the left of the watermark window with increased depth of engraving helps the visually impaired to identify the denomination. Optical fibres are in dual colour. The small floral design printed both on the front (hollow) and back(filled up) of the banknote in the middle of the vertical band next to the watermark window has an accurate back to back registration so that the numeral appears as one when seen against the light.	Year of printing is incorporated at the printing stage on the reverse of the banknote.
VI. Rs.1000/- notes				
2000	177X73mm	Portrait of Mahatma Gandhi with multidirectional lines in the watermark window.	Colour is generally pink (light peach colour with grey offset background). Mahatma Gandhi's portrait is brown in colour. Mahatma Gandhi's portrait, numeral 1000, एक - हजार रुपये, RBI seal, RBI legend, guarantee and promise clause, Governor's signature are in intaglio printing. Left hand number panel in red colour and right hand number panel in blue colour. Numeral 1000 printed in Optically	The theme depicts the overall development of the Indian economy in three-colour intaglio. The 15-language panel is on the left side.

Year	Size	Watermark	Front	Back
			<p>Variable Ink (OVI) in Green to Blue colour shift. Optically variable (colour shifting) windowed security thread with magnetic property and containing text 'भारत 1000 RBI'. Green vertical band behind the Mahatma Gandhi portrait where latent image of 1000 is printed. A small black solid diamond shape mark in intaglio on the left hand side of the watermark to help the visually impaired to identify the denomination of the note.</p>	
2005	- do -	<p>The portrait of Mahatma Gandhi, the multidirectional lines, and an electrotype mark showing the denominational numeral 1000 appear in this section and these can be viewed better when the banknote is held against light</p>	<p>Machine-readable windowed demetalised clear text magnetic security thread with inscriptions 'Bharat' (in Hindi) and RBI on notes of Rs.1000 with exclusive colour shift. Colour of the thread shall shift from green to blue when viewed from different angles. It will fluoresce in yellow on the reverse and the text will fluoresce on the obverse under U.V.light –width – 3 m.m. The Intaglio Printing i.e. raised prints is more prominent in the name of the Bank in Hindi and English, the Reserve Bank Seal, guarantee and promise clause, Ashoka Pillar Emblem on the left, RBI Governor's signature. A diamond in intaglio on the left of the watermark window with increased depth of engraving helps the visually impaired to identify the denomination. Optical fibres are in dual colour. The small floral design printed both on the front (hollow) and back(filled up) of the banknote in the middle of the vertical band next to the watermark window has an accurate back to back registration so that the numeral appears as one when seen against the light.</p>	<p>Year of printing is incorporated at the printing stage on the reverse of the banknote.</p>