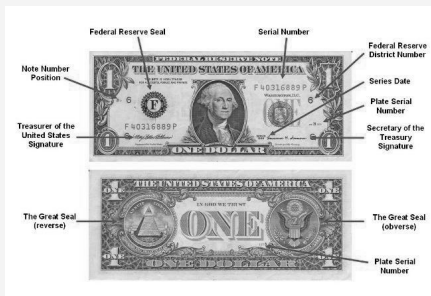


One Dollar Bill

The one dollar bill you're looking at first came off the presses in 1957 in its present design. This paper money is in fact made of a cotton and linen blend, with red and blue minute silk fibers running through it. A special blend of ink is used (secret formula). It is overprinted with symbols and then it is starched to make it water resistant and pressed to give it that nice crisp look.

US Dollar



Obverse (front) of current \$1 bill

■ The portrait of George Washington is displayed in the center of the obverse of the one-dollar bill, as it has been since the 1869 design. The oval containing George Washington is propped up by bunches of Bay Laurel leaves.

■ To the left of George Washington is the Federal Reserve District Seal. The name of the Federal Reserve Bank that issued the note encircles a capital letter, (A-L), identifying it among the twelve Federal Reserve Banks. The sequential number of the bank, (1: A, 2: B, etc.), is also displayed in the four corners of the open space on the bill. Until the redesign of the higher denominations of currency beginning in 1996, this seal was found on all denominations of Federal Reserve Notes. Since then it is only present on the \$1 and \$2 notes, with the higher denominations only displaying a universal Federal Reserve System seal, and the bank letter and number beneath the serial number..

Obverse (front) of current \$1 bill (cont)

■ To the right of George Washington is the Treasury Department seal. The balancing scales represent justice. The chevron with thirteen stars represents the original thirteen colonies. The key below the chevron represents authority and trust; 1789 is the year that the Department of the Treasury was established. The series 1969 dollar bills were the first to use a simplified Treasury Seal, with the wording in English instead of Latin.

■ Below the FRD seal (to the left of George Washington) is the signature of the Treasurer of the U.S., which occasionally varies, and below the USDT Seal (right side) is the Secretary of the Treasury's signature. To the left of the Secretary's signature is the series date. A new series date results from a change in the Secretary of the Treasury, the Treasurer of the United States, and/or a change to the note's appearance such as a new currency design.

■ On the edges are olive branches entwined around the 1's.

Reverse of current \$1 bill

■ The reverse of the one-dollar bill has an ornate design that incorporates both sides of the Great Seal of the United States to the left and right of the word ONE. This word appears prominently in the white space at the center of the bill in a capitalized, shadowed, and serifed typeface. A smaller image of the word "ONE" is superimposed over the numeral "1" in each of the four corners of the bill.

■ **"THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA"** spans the top of the bill, **"ONE DOLLAR"** is emblazoned along the bottom, and above the central **"ONE"** are the words **"IN GOD WE TRUST"** the official motto of the United States since 1956. Below the reverse of the Great Seal on the left side of the bill are the words **"THE GREAT SEAL"**, and below the obverse on the right side are the words **"OF THE UNITED STATES."**

The Great Seal



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The Great Seal

■ The Great Seal, originally designed in 1782 and added to the dollar bill's design in 1935, is surrounded by an elaborate floral design. The renderings used were the typical official government versions used since the 1880s.

■ The seal on the left features a barren landscape dominated by an unfinished pyramid of 13 steps, topped by the Eye of Providence within a triangle. At the base of the pyramid are engraved the Roman numerals **MDCCLXXVI** (1776), the date of American independence from Britain. At the top of the seal stands a Latin phrase, "**ANNUIT COEPTIS**," meaning "**He (God) favors our undertaking.**" At the bottom of the seal is a semicircular banner proclaiming "**NOVUS ORDO SECLORUM**" meaning "**New Order of the Ages**," which is a reference to the new American era. To the left of this seal, a string of 13 pearls extends toward the edge of the bill..

Presidential Seal



Bald Eagle

The obverse of the seal on the right features a bald eagle, the national bird and symbol of the United States. Above the eagle is a radiant cluster of 13 stars arranged in a six-pointed star. The eagle's breast is covered by a heraldic shield with 13 stripes that resemble those on the American flag. As on the first US flag, the stars and stripes stand for the 13 original states of the union. The eagle holds a ribbon in its beak reading "**E PLURIBUS UNUM**," a **Latin phrase meaning "Out of many [states], one [nation],"** a de facto motto of the United States (and the only one until 1956). In its left talons the eagle holds 13 arrows, and in its right talons it holds an olive branch with 13 leaves and 13 olives, representing, respectively, the powers of war and peace. To the right of this seal, a string of 13 pearls extends toward the edge of the bill.

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