HOW TO SPOT A FAKE

If you suspect fraud or criminal activity, call the U.S. Postal Inspection Service at `1-877-876-2455`

To verify the validity of a money order, call the Money Order Verification System at 1-866-459-7822 or use the QR code on the money order itself.

Postal Money Order released July 2025

The top banner contains the words "Postal Money Order" and follows a red, blue, red color pattern with subtle design features of an eagle head and an American flag in the body.

The "See reverse warning…" statement has changed location to the top left corner.

Two watermarks that run from top to bottom are only visible when held up to a light source:

1. A watermark of a Pony Express® rider down the left side.

2. A watermark that reads "United States Postal Service" in a rectangular box down the right side.

3. An embedded security thread runs from the top to the bottom of the Postal Service money order, just to the right of the Pony Express rider watermark. Visible when held to the light, the thread reveals the letters "USPS" alternating right side up and upside down throughout the thread.

4. A Quick Response (QR) code directs users to the USPS website to verify the status of money orders using three pieces of information.

Watermark — 1
Watermark — 2
Embedded security thread — 3
QR Code — 4

Postal Money Order released February 2025

The top banner contains the words "Postal Money Order" and follows a red and blue color pattern with subtle design features of an eagle head and an American flag.

Two watermarks that run from top to bottom are only visible when held up to a light source:

1. A watermark of a Pony Express® rider down the left side.

2. A watermark that reads "United States Postal Service" in a rectangular box down the right side.

3. An embedded security thread runs from the top to the bottom of the Postal Service money order, just to the right of the Pony Express rider watermark. Visible when held to the light, the thread reveals the letters "USPS" alternating right side up and upside down throughout the thread.

4. A Quick Response (QR) code directs users to the USPS website to verify the status of money orders using three pieces of information.

Watermark — 1
Watermark — 2
Embedded security thread — 3
QR Code — 4

Last updated May 2025

HOW TO SPOT A FAKE

If you suspect fraud or criminal activity, call the U.S. Postal Inspection Service at 1-877-876-2455

To verify the validity of a money order, call the Money Order Verification System at 1-866-459-7822 or use the QR code on the money order itself.

Suspect Fraud? Here's How To Check

- Discoloration around the dollar amounts may indicate the amounts were changed.
- Paper fiber disturbance around the dollar amounts may indicate the amounts were changed.
- The numeric and written dollar amounts should match.
- Watermarks that are easily visible, or unusually pronounced, without even holding the money orders up to a light source, may indicate fraud.

Notices

- The 2009 versions of the Postal Service money orders will continue to be sold until all existing stock is depleted. As money orders do not expire, you may continue to see them presented for redemption for years to come.
- As of October 1, 2024, USPS no longer sells international money orders. USPS will no longer cash international money orders after September 30, 2025.
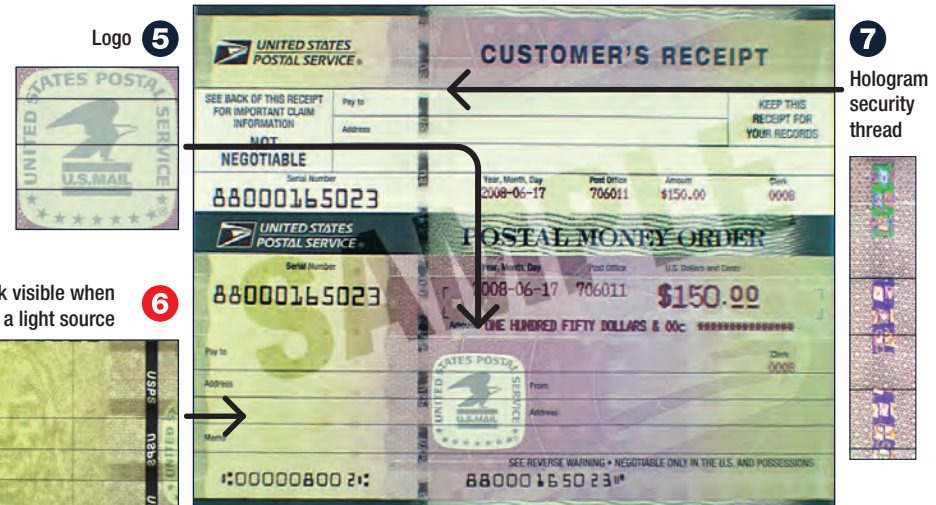
Take Action

- Verify the validity of a money order at https://tools.usps.com/money-orders.htm or using the Money Order Verification System at 1-866-459-7822. You may also scan the QR code on the 2025 versions, which will take you to the money order verification page on USPS.com.
- If you or a customer suspects fraud or criminal activity, contact the U.S. Postal Inspection Service at 1-877-876-2455 or www.uspis.gov/report

Point-of-Sale Postal Money Order released October 2009

The full document contains a green and purple color pattern.

5 A U.S. Mail 1970 eagle logo appears in the center.

6 A watermark of Benjamin Franklin on the left side repeating top to bottom is only visible when held up to a light source.

7 A vertical, hologram security thread with the letters "USPS" weaves in and out of the paper on the right of the Benjamin Franklin watermark.

Logo **5**

7 Hologram security thread

Watermark visible when held up to a light source **6**

Paymaster Postal Money Order released October 2009

The full document contains a green and purple color pattern.

5 A U.S. Mail 1970 eagle logo appears in the center.

6 A watermark of Benjamin Franklin on the left side repeating top to bottom is only visible when held up to a light source.

7 A vertical, hologram security thread with the letters "USPS" weaves in and out of the paper on the right of the Benjamin Franklin watermark.

Watermark visible when held up to a light source **6**

7 Hologram security thread

5 Logo

Last updated May 2025