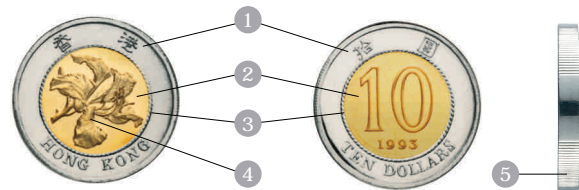


Security Features for Hong Kong Coins

\$10



1. outer ring
2. inner core
3. joins
4. bauhinia
5. alternate plain and milled edge



Hong Kong coins are issued by the Hong Kong Monetary Authority on behalf of the Hong Kong Special Administrative Region Government. The obverse of each coin bears the standard bauhinia, with the word “Hong Kong” in Chinese characters and English. The reverse features the denomination in Chinese characters and English with a large Arabic numeral in the centre and the year of issue below.

Security features

The \$10 coin is made of two metals: a white nickel alloy outer ring and a brass inner core. The standard bauhinia on the obverse gives a sharp embossed image. The neat bonding between the outer and inner rings gives it another unique feature. The \$10 coin has an alternate plain and milled edge.

The \$5 coin has a milled edge. A groove running within the milled edging contains raised English and Chinese characters, which read “Hong Kong Five Dollars”. The \$1 and 50¢ coins have simple milled edges. The \$2 and 20¢ coins have scalloped edges. The 10¢ coin has a plain edge.

Tips on identifying counterfeit \$10 coins

The vast majority of counterfeit \$10 coins are easily detected as fakes on close examination. Look out, in particular, for the following:

- **The colour and shininess of the two metals:** The white nickel alloy outer ring on some counterfeits contains yellowish tints.
- **The bonding (or joins) between the two metals:** On genuine coins the bonding is perfectly smooth. The rope-pattern around it is sharply defined and regular. On counterfeits the bonding is often crude and the rope-pattern lacks definition.
- **The wording:** On genuine coins the wording (both Chinese characters and English letters) is clear and sharp and uses a regular, well-defined font. On counterfeits it is often flat and irregular.
- **The bauhinia:** On genuine coins the three-dimensional relief is detailed and clear, particularly for the stamens and the folds on the petals.

- **The milling around the edge:** On genuine coins the milling is clear and alternates with a smooth and shiny surface. On counterfeit coins the milling is often rough and sometimes continuous.
- **The feel and weight:** Counterfeit coins are often made of different alloys, with a different weight and a different feel.

It is not possible to describe all the defects of counterfeit \$10 coins because they may come in various forms or have different metal contents. The above descriptions can therefore only serve as a general guide.

Under Hong Kong law (sections 98 – 102 of Cap. 200), anyone who makes or possesses or controls or passes any counterfeit note or coin commits an offence and is liable on conviction to imprisonment for up to 14 years.

Anyone who finds any suspected counterfeit note or coin or has any information on counterfeit notes or coins should make an immediate report to the nearest Police Station or telephone the Commercial Crime Bureau at 2860 5013 or 2860 5012.