Design a Bank Note

If you had a currency what would it look like



Some graphics, when designed in Photoshop, give us the opportunity to practice a lot of techniques and processes along the way.

- 1. Create a new document 235mm wide and 300mm high. Drag the first texture "texture1.jpeg" into your spread, then resize (Cmd+T) it to roughly the shape of a bank note.
- 2. Open "texture2.jpeg" and place it above "texture1". Cmd-click "texture1" thumbnail to get selection, then hit, Cmd.+Shift+I to inverse this and cut the overlapping area (Cmd.+X). Reduce the texture's Opacity to around 40%.



3. Cmd.-click a layer thumbnail to create another new selection and go to Layer>New Fill Layer>Gradient. Click the Blue, Red, Yellow preset, change the left and right most tones to #8e08eb, the middle one to #e9ffb3 then change the blend mode to Overlay.



4. To change the color slightly, as well as to tone down the saturation, apply a Hue/Saturation adjustment by going to Layer>New Adjustment layer>Hue Saturation. Adjust the Hue to +30 and reduce the Saturation to -80.



5. Open "portrait.jpeg", hit Cmd.+A to select all, Cmd.+C to copy, move to your main bank note document and hit Cmd+V to paste it. Use the transform tools to scale, then go to Image>Mode>Grayscale. When the dialogue appears, select Discard. Go to Image>Mode>Bitmap and change the method to Halftone Screen.



6. Now another dialog box will appear. Depending on the resolution of your image, you'll need to alter the frequency until you get best results. (Gaussian Blur). Change the Shape to Line and press OK. This should achieve a halftone-pint effect, which will give the impression the photos has been printed onto the note. Now change this layer's mode to Color Burn.



7. As this is an imaginary bank note, you don't necessarily need a currency symbol, unless you'd like to invent one. Create a new layer (Cmd.+N) and add your value with the Horizontal Type tool.



8. Double click on the text layer and add a Drop Shadow with the 24px Distance, 0px Spread and 0px Size. Change the colors to #cad7b0 and increase the Opacity to 100%. Now duplicate the layer and position the numbers either side of your portrait.



9. Next we'll add some custom shape element to the bank note. Hit Shift+U until you have the Custom Shape tool selected, then open the Custom Shape tool selected, then open the Custom Shape picker at the top and select All from the fly –out menu. Pick Leaf Ornament 2 and place four on your note.



10. Flip the top two elements so they face the opposite direction to the bottom two (Edit>Transform>Flip Horizontal). Now add a Drop Shadow to the elements using the same color as the previous, but this time with 9px Distance, 0px Spread and 0px Size.



11. Find and place the custom shape Ornament 1 onto your bank note. Change its color to #c6d0d0 and add a black Drop Shadow with a 42% Opacity, 4px Distance, 0px Spread and 0px Size.



12. Now Duplicate (Layer>Duplicate Layer) the element four times and place accordingly. Flip each one so the middle swoops point towards the center, then merge them together by highlighting Cntr-right click and selecting Merge Layers. Now change the blend mode to Soft Light.



13. Next you can apply some text to the note. Here we've decided to add the name of the bank above the portrait in a classic font, Edwardian Script. You can play around here by adding more next to the note as you see fit.



14. As the text that's been added is white you'll want it to stand out by using more shadow. Apply another black Drop Shadow with a 42% Opacity, 4px Distance, 0px Spread and 0px Size.



15. Next you need to create four dividers to separate the portrait and the numbers. Drag in the custom shape Ornament 8 to your canvas, duplicate it roughly 30times and position each one underneath the last to crate along divider.



16. Merge the Ornament 8 customer shape layers and resize the divider to fit your bank note. Duplicate the divider four times and position them accordingly. Alter the middle two divider to white by adding a Color Overlay in the Layer Styles menu.



17. Next with the Rectangular Marquee tool create two equal-sized rectangle either dies of the black dividers. Fill the section with black and change the layer's blend mode to Soft Light.



18. Now the bank note is finished, highlight all of the layers(excluding the white background) and merge them together.

