

1780  
BANKNOTES  
*in Switzerland  
and in the Canton of Vaud*

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*Translated from French*



**ODDO BHF**

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*Swiss banknotes*  
**FIRST SERIES: 1907 – 1925**

The time between the creation of the Swiss National Bank in 1905 and the opening of its branches in 1907 was too short to allow the fabrication of a new banknote type. It was therefore determined as a transitional measure, to reutilize the type of the concordat notes by adding the name of the new issuing institution, and by replacing the concordat bank number with the federal cross on a red guilloche.

In order to better distinguish the various denominations, an underprint color was chosen for the faces (front and back sides) of each value, pink (1000 Francs), green (500 Francs), blue (100 Francs) and orange (50 Francs).

These notes were created by the Professor Josef von Storck, director of the banknote workshop of the Austro-Hungarian bank in Vienna. They featured a Helvetia (also called Liberty) designed by Albert Walch from Bern. Albert Walch is moreover the author of the original drawing of the standing Helvetia, present on the ½, 1 and 2 Franc coins engraved by Antoine Bovy in 1874 and still in circulation today, as well as the head of Liberty that we see daily on our 5 to 20 Centime coins.

The Federal Council's decree of July 30th, 1914 authorized the legal tender status of the SNB banknotes. From this date, Swiss banknotes ceased to be an auxiliary means of payment; they became legal tender in the same way as coins.



## 100 FRANCS

Allegory on Front	<i>Helvetia</i>
Motifs on Back	Portraits of Mercury, ornaments
Main color	Dark blue on blue underprint
Dimensions	116 x 183 mm
Total issued	1'700'000 banknotes
Date issued	20.06.1907
Withdrawn	01.07.1925
Invalidated on	01.07.1945
Not reimbursed	2184 banknotes
Engraver	Bradbury Wilkinson & Co. Ltd., London
Intaglio	Benziger & Co., Einsiedeln Schwyz
Typography, numbering	Stämpfli & Co., Bern

## 50 FRANCS

Allegory on Front	<i>Helvetia</i>
Motifs on Back	Portraits of Mercury, ornaments
Main color	Green on orange-yellow underprint
Dimensions	103 x 166 mm
Total issued	2'500'000 banknotes
Date issued	20.06.1907
Withdrawn	01.07.1925
Invalidated on	01.07.1945
Not reimbursed	5556.5 banknotes*
Engraver	Bradbury Wilkinson & Co. Ltd., London
Intaglio	Benzinger & Co., Einsiedeln Schwyz
Typography, numbering	Stämpfli & Co., Bern

\* The resulting fraction is because halves of banknotes were reimbursed for half of their face value.

*Swiss banknotes*  
**EIGHTH SERIES: 1995 – 2021**

In 1989, the Swiss National Bank launched a new competition for the creation of a complete series. The imposed themes were architecture, music, visual arts and literature.

The development of this eighth series, which was to be designed by the graphic designer Jörg Zintzmeyer, had two imperatives. The anti-counterfeiting features of the banknotes had to be reinforced by using the most advanced technologies, such as kinegrams and color-changing inks. It was also necessary to adapt the banknote format to mechanized handling of paper money. To achieve this, the SNB adopted a new range of formats: the six denominations would be identical in width, and only vary in length.

Designed by computer for the first time, the new notes were equipped with a wide range of security features. Most of them were focused on the visual aspect of the note's denomination value number by using: dancing numbers, magic numbers, colored numbers, chameleon numbers, glittering numbers and perforated numbers using the microperf® technique. By regrouping on a small surface such a large number of security features, the graphic designer and printer have realized an indisputable achievement.





Under the Article 243 of the Swiss Penal Code, it is prohibited in Switzerland to reproduce or imitate banknotes in such a way that the reproductions or imitations may create a risk of confusion with genuine banknotes.

### 1000 FRANCS

Portrait on Front	Jacob Burckhardt (1818-1897) Historian of art and culture
Motifs on Back	Antiquity, the Renaissance and the way of thinking about History
Main color	Purple
Dimensions	74 x 181 mm
Date issued	01.04.1998
Withdrawn	01.05.2021
Artist	Jörg Zintzmeyer
Printer	Orell Füssli, Zurich

### 200 FRANCS

Portrait on Front	Charles Ferdinand Ramuz (1878-1947) author
Motifs on Back	Mountains, lake and the facsimile of the manuscript <i>La beauté sur la Terre</i> from 1927
Main color	Brown
Dimensions	74 x 170 mm
Date issued	01.10.1997
Withdrawn	01.05.2021
Artist	Jörg Zintzmeyer
Printer	Orell Füssli, Zurich