

Banknote Rarity Study South Africa 1921–Date

Issued and Replacement Notes

What is the Pick Number ?

People refer to a "Pick Number" and you'll see numbers starting with a letter "P" listed next to banknote descriptions. The Pick Number refers to numbers used by Albert Pick in 1975 when he published the first copy of the Standard Catalog of World Paper Money.

Standard
Catalog of

WORLD PAPER MONEY

General Issues • 1368-1960

Edited by Tracy L. Schmidt

16th Edition



The World's Authority on Paper Money

12,000
Detailed
Illustrations

The Pick number can also have a **suffix** at the end, like P#123c. Unlike prefixes, suffixes are in **lowercase**. The following suffixes may appear:

- “**a**”, “**b**”, “**c**”, etc. suffixes (e.g., P#123a, P#123b, P#123c...): For each **issue date** of the same banknote.



166 10,000 Pesetas

12.10.1992 (1996). Slate blue on multicolor underprint. King Juan Carlos I at right, *Casa de América* in Madrid at lower center, with blurred *BANCO DE ESPAÑA* at right margin. Back: A. de Ulloa y de Jorge Juan above astronomical navigation diagram on vertical format. Watermark: J.J. Santacilia. 154x74mm.

VF UNC

110 225

Note: For later issues used in Spain, see European Union listings.

The South African series rare banknotes are as follows:

Pound Series		Replacements		Modern
77		102a*		106a
78		102b*		109a
79		103a*		132b
82b		104a*		141a
82c		104b*		
83		105a*		
84d		109a*		
85		110a*		
89a		111a*		
89b		112a*		
90b		113a*		
91b		114a*		
91c				
92a				
92b				
93a				
93c				
93d				
94				
96b				
100b				
101b				

Comments and some photographs have been extracted from Riaan Visser's Document SABND, which may be downloaded for free, and is an excellent resource. Statistics extracted from the PMG census are as of 22 May 2024.

A Rarity is defined by me as:

Fewer than 8 Pound notes graded .

Fewer than 6 Replacement notes graded.

Fewer than 11 Modern notes graded.

The PMG Census

South Africa All Denominations Filters

Catalog #	Series	Denom	Total	Shop Now	20	25	25 EPQ	30	30 EPQ	35	35 EPQ	40	40 EPQ	45	45 EPQ	50	50 EPQ	53	53 EPQ	55	55 EPQ	58	58 EPQ	60	60
73s	1920	£10,000	1	Shop Now	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	0
74	1921-22	10/- Shillings	16	Shop Now	5	3	0	2	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
75	1921-22	£1	40	Shop Now	6	12	0	10	1	2	0	2	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
76s	1921-22	£5	1	Shop Now	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	0
76	1921-22	£5	18	Shop Now	3	6	0	4	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
77s	1921	£20	1	Shop Now	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
79	1926	10/- Shillings	4	Shop Now	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
79cts1	1926	10/- Shillings	2	Shop Now	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
79cts2	ND (1926)	10/- Shillings	2	Shop Now	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	0
80	1925-28	£1	11	Shop Now	4	4	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
81	1926	£5	10	Shop Now	2	5	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
82a	1928-31	10/- Shillings	10	Shop Now	0	1	0	4	2	1	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
82b	1931-32	10/- Shillings	7	Shop Now	3	1	0	3	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
82bs	1931-32	10/- Shillings	2	Shop Now	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	0
82c	1931	10/- Shillings	1	Shop Now	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
82d	1932-45	10/- Shillings	55	Shop Now	0	6	0	7	0	6	2	1	2	1	5	2	1	0	1	2	6	0	3	0	0

77s

Category: South Africa

Series: 1921

Denomination: £20

Total Graded: 1

1 of 9

	Pound Series		
Pick #	Denomination	Signature	Language
77	20 Pound	WH Clegg	E D
78	100 Pound	WH Clegg	E D
79	10 Shilling	WH Clegg	E
82b	10 Shilling	WH Clegg	E
82c	10 Shilling	WH Clegg	E
83	1 Pound	WH Clegg	E
84d	1 Pound	J Postmus	E
85	5 Pound	WH Clegg	E
89a	100 Pound	WH Clegg	E A D
89b	100 Pound	J Postmus	E
90b	10 Shilling	MH de Kock	E
91b	10 Shilling	MH de Kock	A
91c	10 Shilling	MH de Kock	A
92a	1 Pound	MH de Kock	E
92b	1 Pound	MH de Kock	E
93a	1 Pound	MH de Kock	A
93c	1 Pound	MH de Kock	A
93d	1 Pound	MH de Kock	A
94	5 Pound	MH de Kock	E
96b	5 Pound	MH de Kock	E
100b	100 Pound Cancelled	MH de Kock	A
101b	100 Pound Cancelled	MH de Kock	A



Pick 77

1. This is the first 20 Pounds banknote issued by the South African Reserve Bank in September 1921.
2. The obverse was printed in English, while the reverse is in Dutch.
3. With only 125,000 notes printed, this note is considered extremely rare.
4. I have never seen this note, but an ungraded note in Fine condition has sold on Spink Auctions during 2013 at GBP 3700.
5. A C/2 series was printed but destroyed after a decision was taken to make changes to the design of the note.
6. Only one note, a Specimen has been graded by PMG.

The actual note C/1 018196 sold by Spink in 2013.

Auction: 13018 - World Banknotes
Lot: 1524

South African Reserve Bank, £20, 29
September 1921, serial number C/1 018196,
blue and pale pink, galleon at left,
allegorical scenes of South Africa in
field, Clegg signature, value right
centre and at each corner, English text,
reverse blue and pale pink and yellow,
design as obverse but Dutch text
(Pick 77, Hern 217), *quite fresh and
original, a pleasing about very fine and
the very rare first issue for type*

Sold for
£3,700



This note is a Specimen example, Pick
78s



Pick 78

1. This note was printed in English on the obverse and Dutch on the Reverse.
2. With only a total of 2,734 notes printed, this note is considered extremely rare in any condition. I have never seen any of these notes myself, nor have I ever seen one on auction and question whether any of these even survived.
3. Prefix D/2 was printed but destroyed after a decision was made to change the design on the note.
4. No notes of any type graded by PMG.
5. Specimens exist as illustrated in Hern p 34.



Pick 79

1. With this issue, the Reserve Bank introduced a new design.
2. All notes were bilingual with English predominating over Dutch.
3. Even though 3,000,000 notes were issued, I believe very few samples have survived, making this issue extremely hard to find in any condition.
4. Specimen banknotes do exist for this banknote.
5. Only 4 notes graded by PMG.



Pick 82b

1. With this issue, Afrikaans replaced the Dutch language on the banknote.
2. This note was dated 2 April 1932 but was overprinted with the date 17 November 1931 due to the announced retirement of WH Clegg as Reserve Bank Governor at the end of 1931.
3. This banknote is considered extremely scarce in any condition.
4. 800 00 notes were printed.
5. Only 7 notes graded by PMG.



Pick 82c

1. With this issue, Afrikaans replaced the Dutch language on the banknote.
2. The remaining 200,000 banknotes in this issue and E/12 prefix were all dated 17 November 1931.
3. With only 200,000 banknotes printed, this banknote is considered extremely rare.
4. Specimen banknotes do exist for this banknote.
5. Only 1 Note graded by PMG. (My collection) , illustrated above.



Pick 83

1. In this issue, the reverse of the 1 Pound banknote saw a new design.
2. With only 1,000,000 notes printed in this issue, this note is extremely hard to find in any condition.
3. Only 2 notes graded by PMG.



Pick 84d

1. In this issue, the South African Reserve Bank became the first organization in the world to introduce a banknote with a metallic thread as a security feature in the paper of a banknote.
2. Only 7 notes graded by PMG.



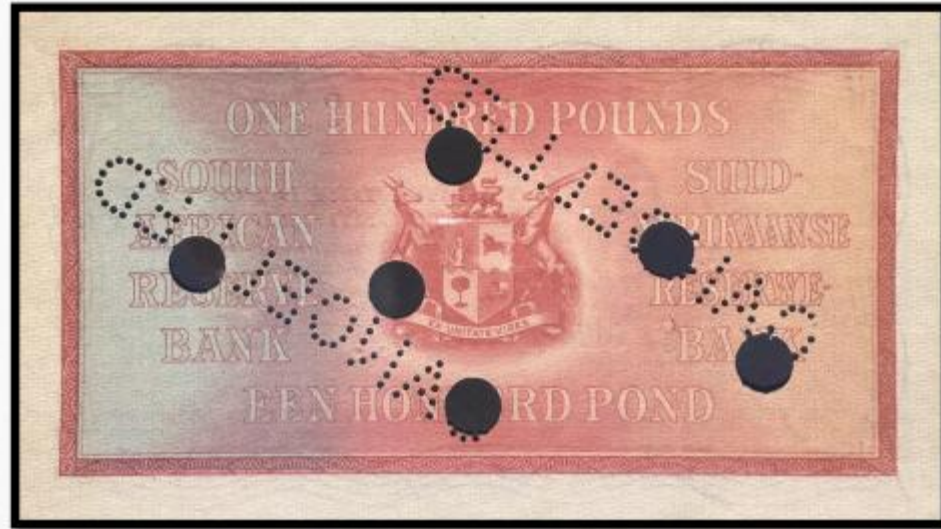
Pick 85

1. This issue saw a new design on the Reverse of the 5 Pound banknote.
2. With only 1,000,000 notes issued, this note is hard to find in any condition.
3. Only 7 notes have been graded by PMG.



Pick 89a

1. This issue introduced a new design for the 100 Pound banknote.
2. In this issue, Afrikaans replaced the Dutch language on the note.
3. The note, however, still had a security print in the Dutch language.
4. With only a total of 5,000 notes printed, this note is considered extremely rare in any condition. Personally, I have never seen any of these notes, nor have I seen one on auction. Hern illustrates note D/3 003579.
5. Very few must have survived.



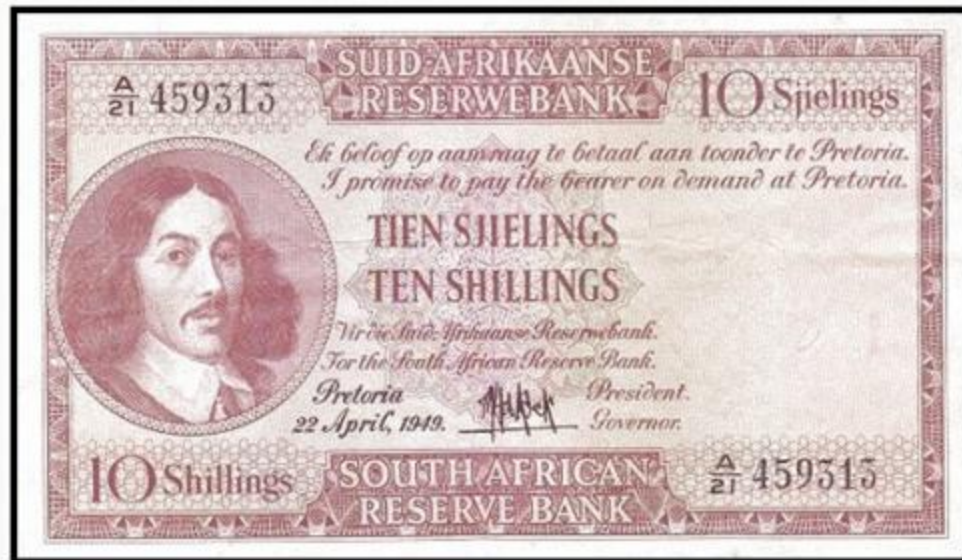
Pick 89b

1. In this issue, the Dutch security print on the note was removed.
2. With only 20,000 notes issued, this note is considered extremely scarce.
3. Only 3 notes graded by PMG, the above note is a 64 example in my collection.



Pick 90b

1. With this issue, the Reserve Bank reverted to normal thickness of paper.
2. They also started making use of paper treated with Melamine for all banknotes. Specimen banknotes do exist for this issue. (1 note graded by PMG).
3. Only 6 notes graded by PMG.



Pick 91b

1. With Prefix A/21 all notes were printed on thicker paper. Only 1,000,000 notes were issued with this prefix, making this note hard to find in any condition.
2. Only 3 notes graded by PMG.



Pick 91c

1. With this issue, the Reserve Bank reverted to normal thickness of paper.

They also started making use of paper treated with Melamine for all banknotes.

2. Specimen banknotes do exist for this issue. (3 graded by PMG.)

3. Only 3 issued banknotes graded by PMG.



South Africa, Reserve Bank

Pick# 92a 1948-49 £1

PAPER MONEY GUARANTY

S/N B/7 075408 - Sign. M.H. de Cock

45

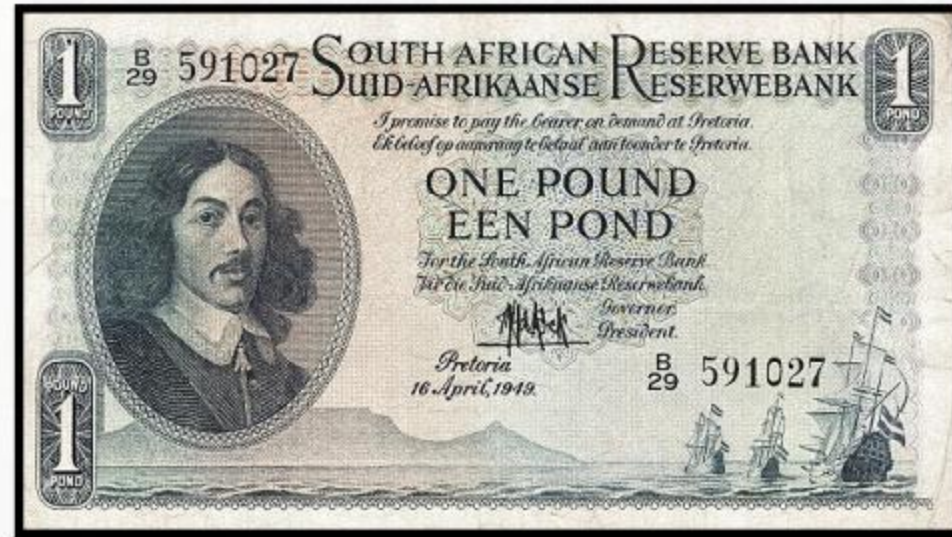
EPQ

Choice Extremely Fine



Pick 92a

1. With this issue, the South African Reserve Bank issued a new design for the 1 Pound banknote.
2. Prefix B/23 should be English over Afrikaans, but there exists a specimen note which is Afrikaans over English.
3. Only 7 notes graded by PMG.



Pick 92b

1. With this issue, the Reserve Bank reverted to printing notes on thinner paper again.
2. Only 4 notes graded by PMG.



Pick 93a

1. With this issue, the South African Reserve Bank issued a new design for the 1 Pound banknote.
2. Only 7 notes graded by PMG.



South Africa, Reserve Bank

Pick# 93c 1949 £1 - Wmk: J. van Riebeeck

PAPER MONEY GUARANTY

S/N B/36 827513 - Date With Name of Month

35

Choice Very Fine



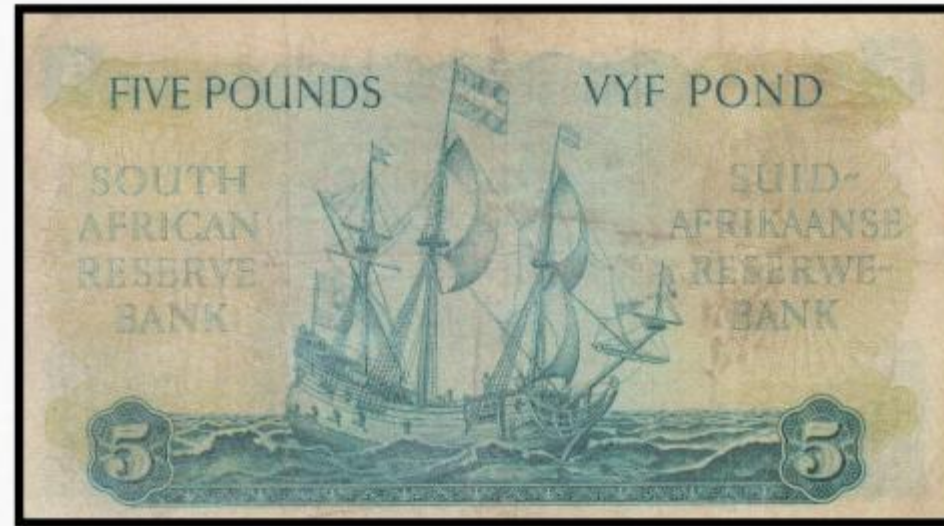
Pick 93c

1. With this issue, the Reserve Bank reverted to printing notes on thinner paper again.
2. Only 1 note graded by PMG. (In my collection)



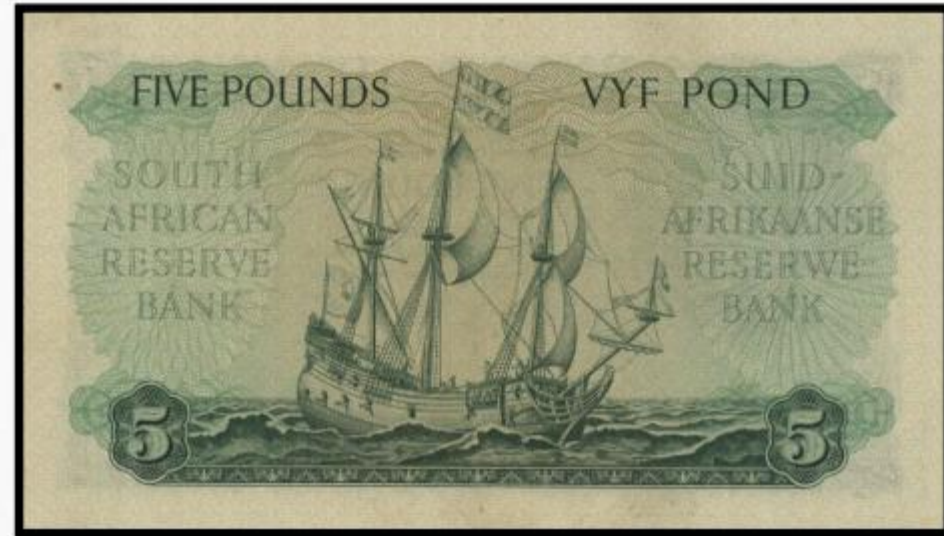
Pick 93d

1. With this issue, the Reserve Bank started printing notes on paper treated with Melamine.
2. Only 7 notes graded by PMG.



Pick 94

1. This issue saw a new design in the 5 Pound banknote.
2. Only 4 notes graded by PMG.



Pick 96b

1. In this issue, the South African Reserve Bank reverted to normal paper not treated with Melamine.
2. The date format in this issue was changed to a numeric date format.
3. Only 5 notes graded by PMG.



Pick 100b

1. This banknote forms part of the issue above.
(Pick 100)
2. Krause Publications assigned a PICK number and suffix "b" to this note due to the "Cancelled" perforation.
3. Only 6 notes graded by PMG.



Pick 101b

1. This banknote forms part of the issue above.
(Pick 101)
2. Krause Publications assigned a PICK number to this note due to the "Cancelled" perforation.
3. Only 1 note graded by PMG.

Modern Rarities 1961-Date

Pick #	Denomination	Signature	Language or Type
106a	10 Rand	MH de Kock	E/A
109a	1 Rand	G Rissik	E/A
132b	200 Rand	G Marcus	1st Issue
141a	100 Rand	G Marcus	3rd Issue Omron Rings



Pick 106a

1. This is the first R10 banknote issued by the South African Reserve Bank. E/A much scarcer than A/E.
2. Only 11 notes graded by PMG. (but only 4 in uncirculated grades)



Pick 109a

1. South Africa has established the South African Banknote Company and from this issue started printing banknotes in South Africa.
2. This issue saw a new design on the R1 banknote.
3. The old Jan van Riebeeck watermark was now replaced with the Springbok.
4. Language predominated every Prefix or 1,000,000 notes.
5. Only 11 notes graded by PMG.



Pick 132b

1. Other than a new Governor and signature on the note, no design changes were made to the R200 banknote in this issue.
2. The South African Reserve Bank no longer release figures publicly on the number of banknotes printed. The prefixes above, as well as the estimated prints, are simply based on the prefixes that have been identified. Real print figures are expected to be much higher than that figure.
3. Only 10 notes graded by PMG.



Pick 141a

1. In this issue, Omron Rings were added to the obverse and reverse of the R100 banknote.
2. The South African Reserve Bank no longer release figures publicly on the number of banknotes printed. The prefixes given, as well as estimated prints, are simply based on the prefixes that have been identified. Real print figures are expected to be much higher than that figure.
3. Only 10 notes graded by PMG.

Replacement Rarities

REPLACEMENT IDENTIFIERS

Applying the serial number is usually the last printing step. Serialization is still done at most printers with old-style mechanical tumblers in large, complex numbering box systems. If a serial number is used on a defective note during printing, it is used and cannot be re-used. That note is sequestered and must be replaced by a genuine and perfect note. Some printers create a set of 'Z' series notes with the replacement serial numbers, while the USA has used stars to identify replacement notes.

These notes are relatively rare and central banks don't seem to put out statistics on their frequency of errors and replacements. A reasonable estimate is 1 - 4 notes per 100,000 notes. This rarity makes the replacement notes interesting and valuable to collectors.

South Africa used the following identifying prefixes:

Pick #	Denomination	Signature	Language
102a*	1 Rand	MH de Kock	E/A
102b*	1 Rand	G Rissik	E/A
103a*	1 Rand	MH de Kock	A/E
104a*	2 Rand	MH de Kock	E/A
104b*	2 Rand	G Rissik	E/A
105a*	2 Rand	MH de Kock	A/E
109a*	1 Rand	G Rissik	E/A
110a*	1 Rand	G Rissik	A/E
111a*	5 Rand	G Rissik	E/A
112a*	5 Rand	G Rissik	A/E
113a*	10 Rand	G Rissik	E/A
114a*	10 Rand	G Rissik	A/E



Pick 102a*

1. Replacement Banknotes were printed with the purpose of replacing error or faulty banknotes identified during the printing process.
2. With only 30,000 replacement notes printed, this note is scarce in any condition.
3. Only 1 note graded by PMG (In my collection, illustrated above)



Pick 102b*

1. Replacement Banknotes were printed with the purpose of replacing error or faulty banknotes identified during the printing process.
2. Only 5 notes graded by PMG.



Pick 103a*

1. Replacement Banknotes were printed with the purpose of replacing error or faulty banknotes identified during the printing process.
2. With only 30,000 replacement notes printed, this note is scarce in any condition.
3. Only 1 note graded by PMG. (In my collection)



Pick 104a*

1. Replacement Banknotes were printed with the purpose of replacing error or faulty banknotes identified during the printing process.
2. With only 85,000 notes printed, this note is considered extremely scarce
3. Only 1 note graded by PMG. (In my collection)



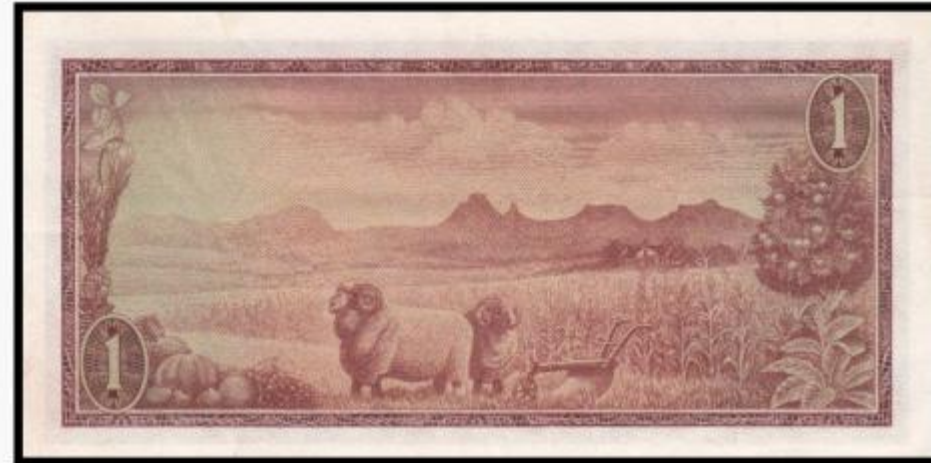
Pick 104b*

1. Replacement Banknotes were printed with the purpose of replacing error or faulty banknotes identified during the printing process.
2. Prefix Y/4 only had 320,000 notes issued and these are harder to find.
3. Only 5 notes graded by PMG.



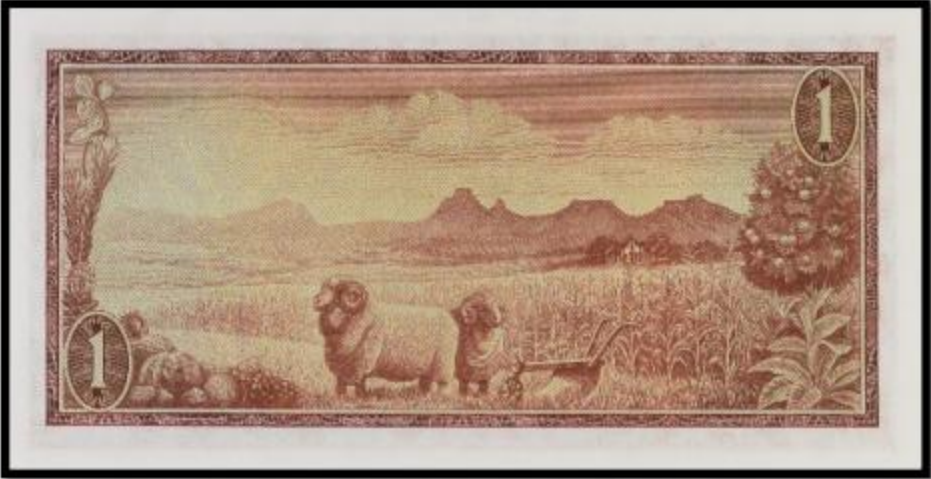
Pick 105a*

1. Replacement Banknotes were printed with the purpose of replacing error or faulty banknotes identified during the printing process.
2. With only 85,000 notes printed, this note is considered extremely scarce.
3. Only 4 notes graded by PMG.




Pick 109a*

1. Replacement Banknotes were printed with the purpose of replacing error or faulty banknotes identified during the printing process.
2. Only 4 notes graded by PMG.




Pick 110a*

1. Replacement Banknotes were printed with the purpose of replacing error or faulty banknotes identified during the printing process.
2. Only 5 notes graded by PMG.


South Africa Replacement / Star
 Pick# 111a* RD2 ND (1966) 5 Rand - Wmk: Springbok
 PAPER MONEY GUARANTY S/N X/2 000200 - Sign. #4

68 EPQ
 Superb Gem Unc

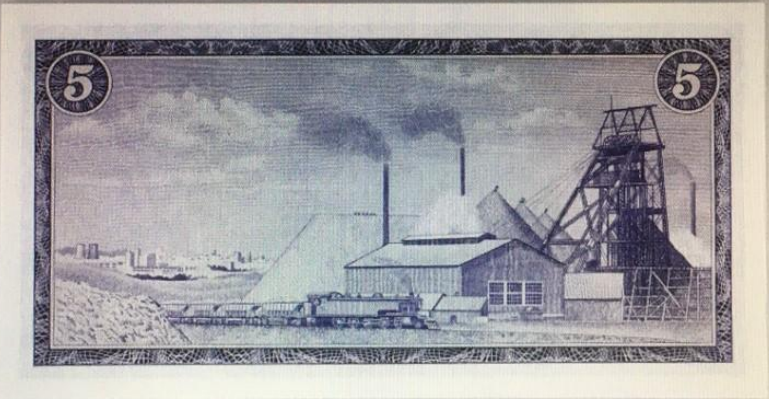



Exceptional Paper Quality

Sixty Eight

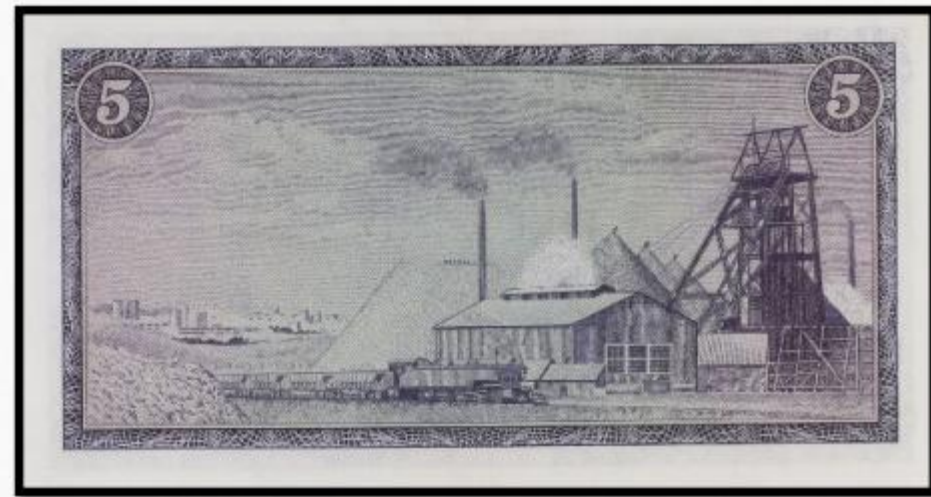
8065491-005

111a*68E8065491005G



Pick 111a*

1. Replacement Banknotes were printed with the purpose of replacing error or faulty banknotes identified during the printing process.
2. With only 420,000 replacement notes issued, this note is considered extremely scarce.
3. Only 1 note graded by PMG. (In my collection)



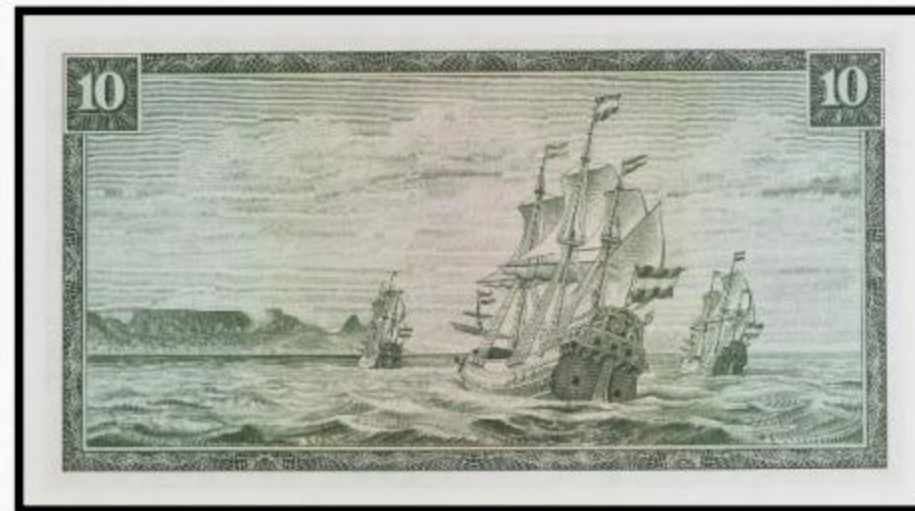
Pick 112a*

1. Replacement Banknotes were printed with the purpose of replacing error or faulty banknotes identified during the printing process.
2. With only 420,000 replacement notes issued, this note is considered extremely scarce.
3. Only 3 notes graded by PMG.



Pick 113a*

1. Replacement Banknotes were printed with the purpose of replacing error or faulty banknotes identified during the printing process.
2. From this issue, the South African Banknote Company was established, and all banknotes were printed in South Africa.
3. This issue saw a total new design for the R10 banknote.
4. A new Springbok watermark also replaced the old Jan van Riebeeck watermark.
5. Only 5 notes graded by PMG.



Pick 114a*

1. Replacement Banknotes were printed with the purpose of replacing error or faulty banknotes identified during the printing process.
2. From this issue, the South African Banknote Company was established, and all banknotes were printed in South Africa.
3. This issue saw a total new design for the R10 banknote.
4. A new Springbok watermark also replaced the old Jan van Riebeeck watermark.
5. Only 4 notes graded by PMG.

Happy hunting

Adrian Jordi