



Questions & Answers

Potential Updates to Canada's \$1 and \$2 Circulation Coins

What changes would be made to Canada's \$1 and \$2 circulation coins?

- The brass components of Canada's updated \$1 and \$2 circulation coins would be replaced with bronze: the inner core of the \$2 coin would be struck in aluminum bronze and the \$1 coin would be plated in bronze.
- The coins would also incorporate leading-edge visual security features which would enhance the existing security features.

Why make changes to the coins?

- The Mint has developed a cyanide-free process for producing coin components with bronze plating. It is the first coin manufacturer in the world to do so.
- This innovation not only eliminates a toxic chemical from the manufacturing stream, it also enables process improvements that would lower the Mint's greenhouse gas emissions while enhancing the resilience of the production process for circulation coins. Moreover, the appearance and durability of the \$1 and \$2 circulation coins produced in this new bronze composition would improve, as the new bronze coins would have greater tarnishing resistance over the coins' lifespan.
- The change in compositions is also an opportunity for the Mint to enhance the coins' visible security features. Proactively enhancing the coins' visible security features would ensure continued high levels of protection and further safeguards Canada's high-denomination coinage against counterfeiting and would make one of the world's most secure coinage systems even more so.

When would we start seeing these updated coins?

- Assuming GoC approval is received, we anticipate that the updated coins will begin circulating in early 2027 and start appearing in circulation at retail stores and in your everyday change soon thereafter.

How would the updated coins be communicated to the public?

- Following receipt of GoC approval and announced, the Mint would proactively reach out to media and inform Canadians through social media and website content.



What would happen to old \$1 and \$2 circulation coins?

- All of Canada's current circulating \$1 and \$2 coins would remain legal tender. Older versions of the \$1 and \$2 circulation coins would continue to circulate and be acceptable for cash transactions.
- There would be no need to return current coins or replace them. It would be business as usual for all \$1 and \$2 coins in circulation, no matter how old.

Would I be able to recognize these updated coins once they have security features on them? What are they going to look like?

- There is currently no plan to change the traditional "Loon" and "Polar Bear" designs on the standard \$1 and \$2 coins. The only visible changes would be the modification and addition of small visual security features around the traditional designs of the \$1 and \$2 reverse designs, and the \$2 coin's obverse design.

Would the updated coins have a different weight than the current \$1 and \$2 coins?

- The Mint took special care to make sure that the look and feel of the updated \$1 and \$2 circulation coins remain as consistent as possible with the current coins in terms of their diameter, thickness and weight.
- While it is true that the weight of the updated coins would change, the difference in weight is so negligible that they would not feel noticeably when handled. This minimal weight change would not be an issue for vending machine acceptance.

The exact weight difference is as follows:

Circulation Coin Weight (g)	Current	Proposed
\$1	6.27	6.13
\$2	6.92	6.95

Would these coins work in vending machines, pay phones and parking meters?

- Yes. Coins manufactured in the new compositions have the same electromagnetic signature (EMS) as existing brass-plated coins. The Mint has conducted extensive internal and external testing confirming the updated coins' acceptance by existing coin-operated equipment including vending machines, coin redemption machines, payphones, and parking meters. Pending GoC approval, sample coins would be provided to coin acceptance mechanism manufacturers and vending equipment operators to confirm the functionality of the new compositions, and their systems' calibration.



Where can I get more information?

- All details about these new coins would be made available to you/your organization once the coins are approved and announced. In addition, the Mint would be happy to support hosting an online information session should that be helpful preparation.