

## Special exhibit

### Replacement banknote series from the Deutsche Mark era

In parallel with the first common series of Deutsche Mark banknotes in the Federal Republic of Germany, a series of replacement notes comprising only the most important denominations was also planned, developed and printed. In the years between 1963 and 1974, the two German banknote printing works produced banknotes, after designs by the Frankfurt graphic artist Max Bittrof, with a total value of DM25.278 billion. The replacement notes were intended to be used in the event of an increase in the incidence of counterfeits, which could have posed a threat to the banknotes in circulation. Fortunately, these notes never had to be used.

*The replacement series for western Germany*



At the same time, a separate series was created for West Berlin, which additionally comprised the 5 Mark note, but, like the west German series, lacked the two largest denominations of DM500 and DM1000. The banknotes were printed only by the Federal Printing Works (*Bundesdruckerei*) in Berlin after designs by Rudolf Gerhardt, a graphic artist who worked there. The total print volume, amounting to DM3.9905 billion, was stored, until it was destroyed, at the former Land Central Bank in Berlin; these notes were never put into circulation either.

*The replacement series for West Berlin*

