

Key changes to the cheque specifications include:

1. Numeric date field in one of three specified formats — YYYYMMDD, MMDDYYYY or DDMMYYYY
2. A mandatory serial number in the MICR line encoded on the bottom of the cheque
3. The minimum length of a cheque increases from 6" to 6 ¼", or 15.88 cm, to ensure there is sufficient space to accommodate the mandatory serial number in the MICR line
4. Positions for key fields on the cheque, including date and amount in figures, have been standardized
5. Elements that may hinder the capture of images or data from the cheques, such as inverse printing, italics or slanted fonts, a bottom border printed below the MICR line, or the use of black carbon on the reverse of cheques, will not be permitted

The diagram shows a sample cheque with the following details and callouts:

- Callout 1:** Points to the date field, which is a numeric field with boxes for D, D, M, M, Y, Y, Y, Y.
- Callout 2:** Points to the MICR line at the bottom, showing the format: `⑈0001⑈ ⑆12345⑆⑆678⑆ ⑆123456789⑆`.
- Callout 3:** Points to the horizontal line separating the front and back of the cheque.
- Callout 4:** Points to the amount field, which includes a dollar sign (\$) and a box for the amount.
- Callout 5:** Points to the issuer information: "Davis Hyde Financial, 123 Main Street, Your Town, Province A1B 2C3, Tel: (123) 456-7890".
- Callout 6:** Points to the security features area, which includes a lock icon and the text "Security features included".
- Callout 7:** Points to the top border of the cheque, which has a decorative pattern.

6. Security features should not interfere with key data, or "areas of interest" as defined in Standard 006, Part A
7. New printing requirements for the reverse of the cheque

Note: US Dollar cheques and self-print cheques may require additional modifications. Visit cdnpay.ca for more details