



### Dinar

Traces to the ancient Roman *denarius* coin, which meant “containing ten” because it was worth ten bronze coins.



### Dollar

A shortening of German *Joachimstaler*, the name of a coin minted in the Bohemian town of *Sankt Joachimsthal*.



### Franc

From the Medieval Latin phrase *Francorum Rex*, or “king of the Franks,” which was inscribed on French coins in the 14<sup>th</sup> century.



### Krona

Literally means “crown” in Swedish, because crowns are stamped onto the coins. Same in Denmark, Norway, Iceland, Czechia.



### Lira

Traces back to the Latin word *libra*, which meant “pound” and was the monetary system during the Roman Empire.



### Naira

Simply a contraction of the word “Nigeria” coined by Yoruba nationalist and Nigerian statesman Obafemi Awolowo.



### Peso

Means “weight” in Spanish. The word used to refer to Spanish pieces of eight, which were issued with a consistent weight.



### Pound Sterling

*Sterling* meant “little star,” in reference to the stars that appeared on Anglo-Saxon coins which were measured out in *pounds*.



### Rand

Named after *Witwatersrand*, the ridge where most of South Africa's gold deposits were found.



### Real

The term means “royal” in Portuguese and was borrowed from a Portuguese currency previously used in Brazil.



### Renminbi

A Communist term coming from the Mandarin words *renmin*, meaning “people,” and *bi*, meaning “currency.”



### Ruble

Thought to be from Old Russian *rubiti*, meaning “to cut,” because early coins were made by cutting pieces off silver bars.



### Rupee

From the Sanskrit word *rupyah*, meaning “wrought silver.” As an adjective, it meant “shapely” or “stamped.”



### Shekel

From Hebrew *saqal*, meaning “weigh,” because it was originally a unit of measurement roughly around 11 grams.



### Taka

Comes from the Sanskrit word *tanka*, which described a denomination of silver coin used in ancient times.



### Yen

Means “round object,” in reference to the shape of the coins. Also a cognate of Chinese *yuan* and Korean *won*.