How to Check an ID

To be efficient and effective when checking IDs, be sure to work in a well-lit area and use proper tools (such as a 10X magnifying glass and UV light). Inspect each ID's security features to those shown in a reliable reference guide, such as Keesing's *Documentchecker Guide*. Below are examples of the most common ID security features, with tips on how to inspect them.
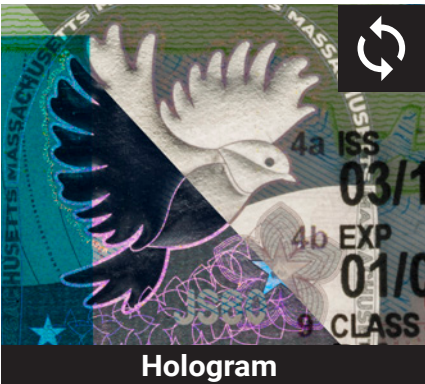
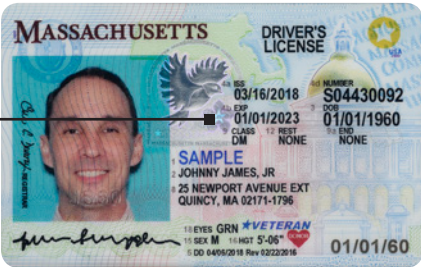**Feel**   **Tilt**   **Light source**   **Magnifier**
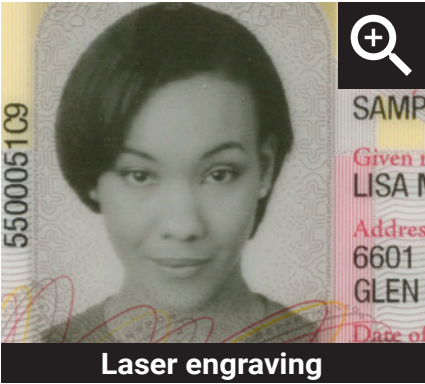
Common Security Features

Hologram

To view, hold the ID against a light source and tilt it back and forth.

UV image

Shine a UV light (or blacklight) on the ID. Check both the front and back sides of the card.

Laser engraving

(photo or personal data of holder) Use a magnifier to inspect the engraved image, numbers and/or text.

Variable laser image

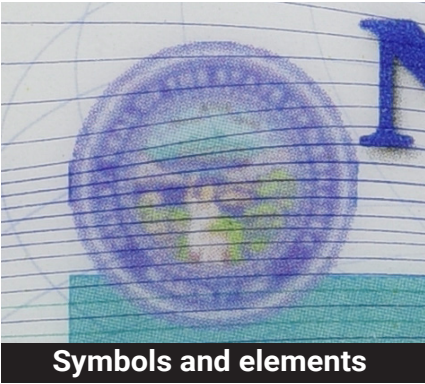Tilt the ID back and forth to look for personal text or images that alternate as you tilt the card.

Tactile feature

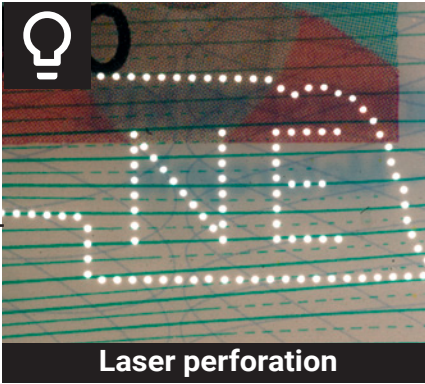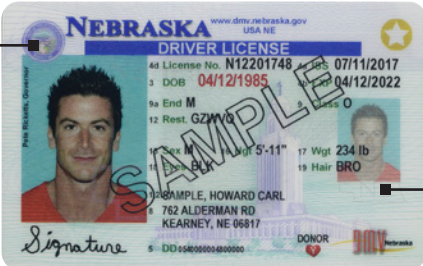Run your finger over the ID to feel this raised print.

Transparent window

Hold the ID against a light source. Window containing an image/text should become clear.

Symbols and elements

Inspect elements such as state seal and REAL ID symbol. Do their appearance and placement match what is shown in your guide?

Laser perforation

Hold the ID against a direct light source to see the tiny holes punched in the card and forming a pattern.