



## Of Fake IDs and Genuine Fake IDs

Novelty fake IDs are popular in Canada and the United Kingdom, though its use has been met with much contention in the United States. The thought of buying counterfeit identification cards much more the trade of these items would probably raise the eyebrows of people who haven't heard about a legitimate online or brick and mortar fake ID business.

A legitimate, fake ID business... Isn't that illegal? Good point! But before you get argumentative, allow me to give you a brief overview just to tone down your confusion. The word "fake" would really work out some serious undertones. The manufacture of fake IDs operates in two categories and one of them is considered as legitimate in a few countries.

From a legalistic point of view, the reproduction of an original ID or any legal document for that (1) [matter to ensue fraudulent schemes](#) is considered illegal. On the other hand, the production of a "novelty" fake ID may be considered as a lawful endeavor. The term novelty, integrated with the strong phrase serves to downplay its negative implication.

The thin line that separates a purely *fake ID* business from that of a *novelty fake ID* points to the intentions behind its manufacture and use. A *fake ID* is the exact clone of an existing legal identification card, sometimes produced with some biometric alterations, that is used to concoct identity theft schemes. A *novelty fake ID* is an original artwork of a desktop designer and while it can be used to fake one's name or age, the intention behind its production is not to proliferate a malicious intent. Being labeled as novelty item, it supposedly serves an impractical purpose—that of a collectible; though most often than not, novelty IDs look even better than the real thing.

It used to be that identification documents issued by the state are hard to clone and duplicate. The Social Security Card you keep in your wallet is made out of exquisite material called Polyvinyl Chloride or PVC. Previously, holograms were integrated into the face of the card that comes laminated with butterfly pouches as a fraud-control measure. The bar code followed suit, which is a mini-database of basic information pertinent to the cardholder. Moreover, printing the identification details and other pertinent data over the PVC would only run through the expensive Electron and Fargo printers. These security features applied to the biometric features of the conventional IDs served as a foolproof way of validating the card bearer's identification for some time, though not without lapses.

Nevertheless, the advances of the modern world would keep up with our present technologies to render existing security features ineffective. You'll be surprised at how easy it is today to reproduce a stunning clone of your driver's license. You can even duplicate a card at home. All it takes is an expertise in Adobe Photoshop and an ID template you can obtain online. Moreover, alternative materials and equipment are available to replace PVC and those expensive printers. The intricate patterns of the hologram can be easily duplicated as well. So there's just no stopping anyone from getting hooked on producing counterfeit IDs.

But who wants to buy fake IDs anyway. I bet there are thousands of interested individuals out there. Whether it's a clone or genuine fake, chances are these items are used for deceitful agenda in one way or another. Obviously con artists, swindlers and terrorists would want to get their hands on faked IDs. But this should not discount the fact that some people from all walks of life can't help but dig into their pockets and buy one, to come in handy when one gets into sticky situations. Minors are a niche market for novelty, fake ID cards. Pertinent survey reported that about half of underage high school and university students in the United States own fake IDs. I wonder how many of them keep a fake ID just for the sheer pleasure of owning one. You've probably heard about minors driving with fake driver's license or getting past bouncers in a night club to splurge on alcohol using fake IDs.



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But for the benefit of those who purchase fake IDs just for the novelty of it; beware as well of the online scams prevalent today. When transacting online, be particular about the ID samples on demo at the website. Take note of the way their support group responds to your queries. Moreover, (2) [do not deal with fake ID makers](#) that accept only cash as a method of payment. Most likely these are scams and you wouldn't want to risk your hard earned dollars over these fakes.

It's funny how a business that sells counterfeit ID also ends up being schemed by bogus operators. It's a security nightmare that still haunts the federal governments to this day and it can even jeopardize your personal identity for that matter. It would probably take a few more years to resolve this threat. Nevertheless, remember that there won't be sellers, if there ain't buyers. Thus, if you fancy fake IDs, be sure it's just for the pleasure of it and nothing more.

(1) <http://www.fakeidnews.com/id-articles2.html>

(2) <http://newid.com/>