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# What is exactly *is* one TRILLION dollars?

All this talk about "stimulus packages" and "bailouts"…

A *billion* dollars…

A *hundred billion* dollars…

*Eight hundred billion* dollars…

One *TRILLION* dollars…

What does that look like? I mean, these various numbers are tossed around like so many doggie treats, so I thought I'd take Google Sketchup out for a test drive and try to get a sense of what exactly a trillion dollars *looks* like.

We'll start with a $100 dollar bill. Currently the largest U.S. denomination in general circulation. Most everyone has seen them, slighty fewer have owned them. Guaranteed to make friends wherever they go.



A packet of one hundred $100 bills is less than 1/2" thick and contains $10,000. Fits in your pocket easily and is more than enough for week or two of shamefully decadent fun.

Believe it or not, this next little pile is $1 million dollars (100 packets of $10,000). You could stuff that into a grocery bag and walk around with it.



While a measly $1 million looked a little unimpressive, $100 million is a little more respectable. It fits neatly on a standard pallet…



And $1 BILLION dollars… now we're really getting somewhere…

Next we'll look at ONE TRILLION dollars. This is that number we've been hearing about so much. What is a trillion dollars? Well, it's a million million. It's a thousand billion. It's a one followed by 12 zeros.
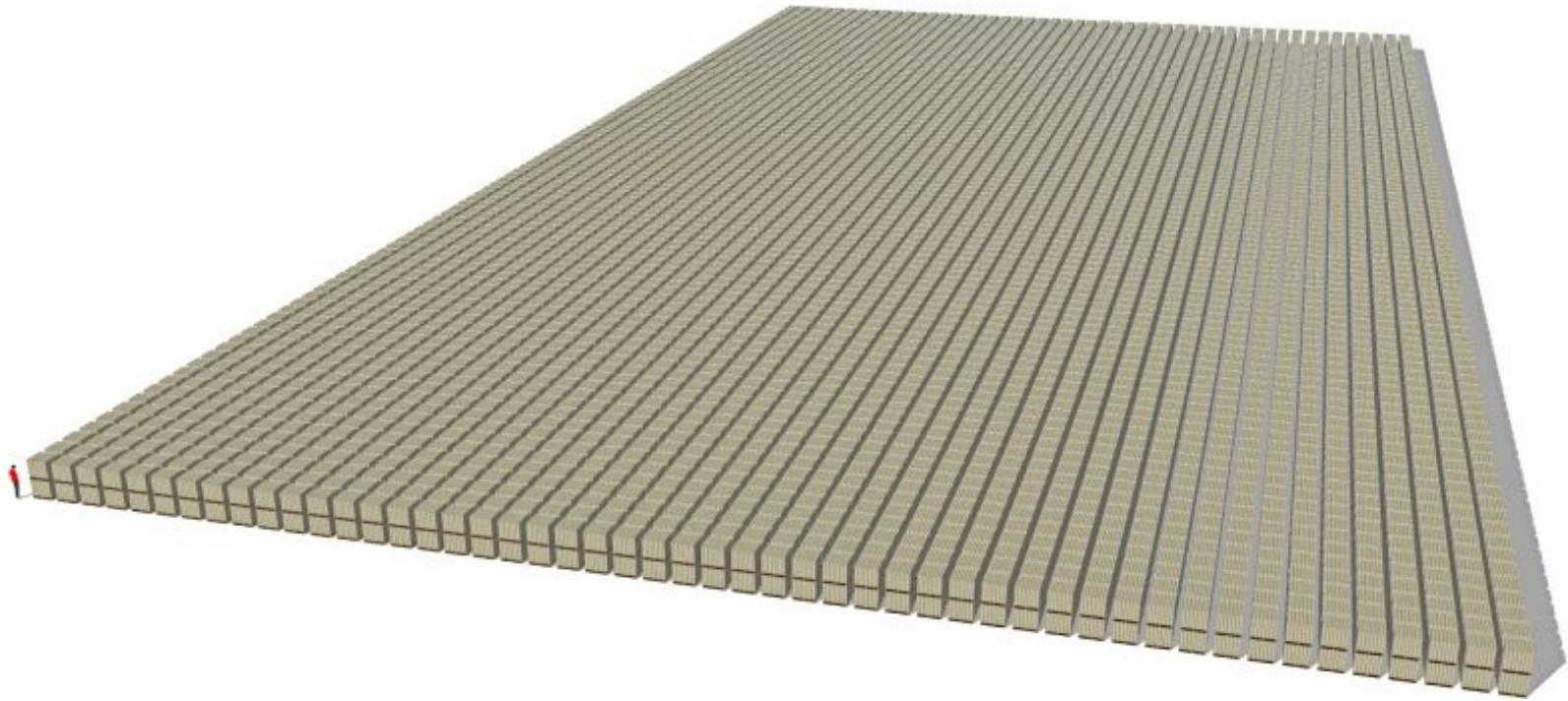
You ready for this?

It's pretty surprising.

Go ahead…

Scroll down…

Ladies and gentlemen… I give you *$1 trillion dollars*…

(And notice those pallets are *double stacked*.)

So the next time you hear someone toss around the phrase "trillion dollars"… *that's* what they're talking about.

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- What does a **trillion dollars** look like?

"Live as if you were to die tomorrow. Learn as if you were to live forever." - Mahatma Gandhi