

This is pretty amazing. Scary actually.

For those of us who like visuals,

What does one TRILLION dollars *look like?*

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.

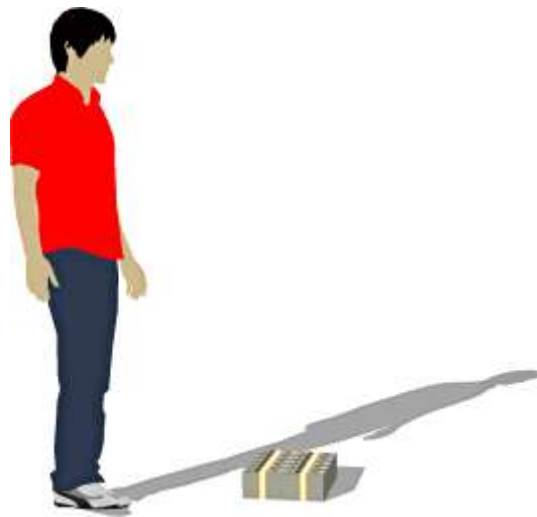
We'll start with a \$100 dollar bill. Currently the largest U.S. Denomination in general circulation. Most everyone has seen them, slightly fewer have owned them. Guaranteed to make friends wherever they go.



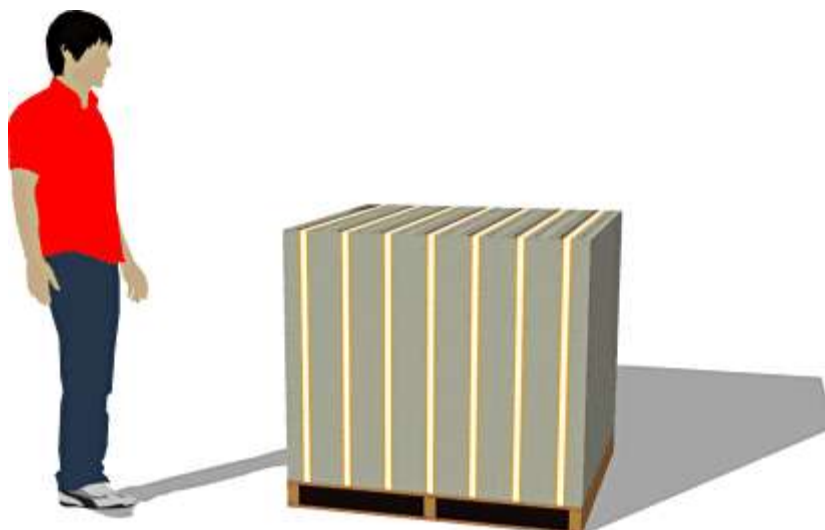
A packet of one hundred \$100 bills is less than 1/2" thick and contains \$10,000; fits in your pocket easily and is more than enough for a week or two of shamefully decadent fun.



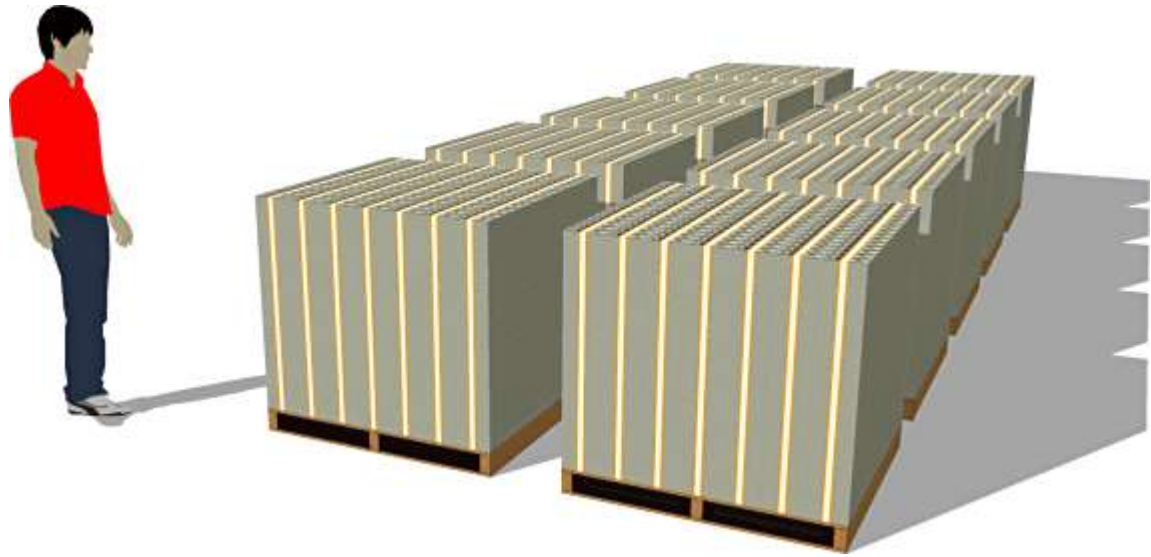
Believe it or not, this next little pile is \$1 million dollars (100 packets of \$10,000). You could stuff that into a grocery bag and walk around with it.



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.

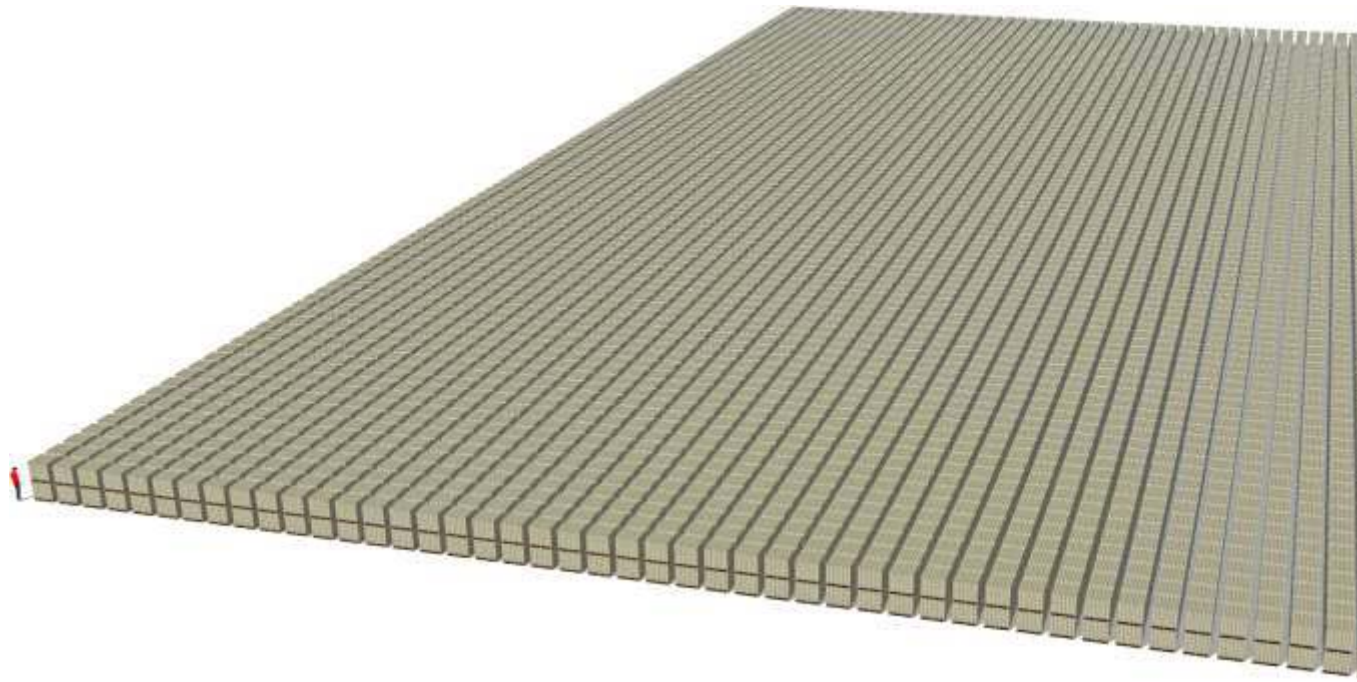
You ready for this?

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.