

The invention relates to a security element (1) to be applied to or embedded in articles (300), especially for valuable documents such as bank notes, credit cards and the like. Said security element has a multi-layer structure and comprises an interference element (I) producing a flip-flop color change effect, a layer (M) having magnetic properties and a reflection layer (R) interposed between the interference element (I) and the magnetic layer (M). In embodiments of the invention, the reflection layer (R) and the magnetic layer (M) comprise an inversed type (20) and/or a coding (11). In a further embodiment, diffractive structures (2) are integrated into the security element (1). The inventive security element is especially suitable for use as a windowed security thread (200) in bank notes.