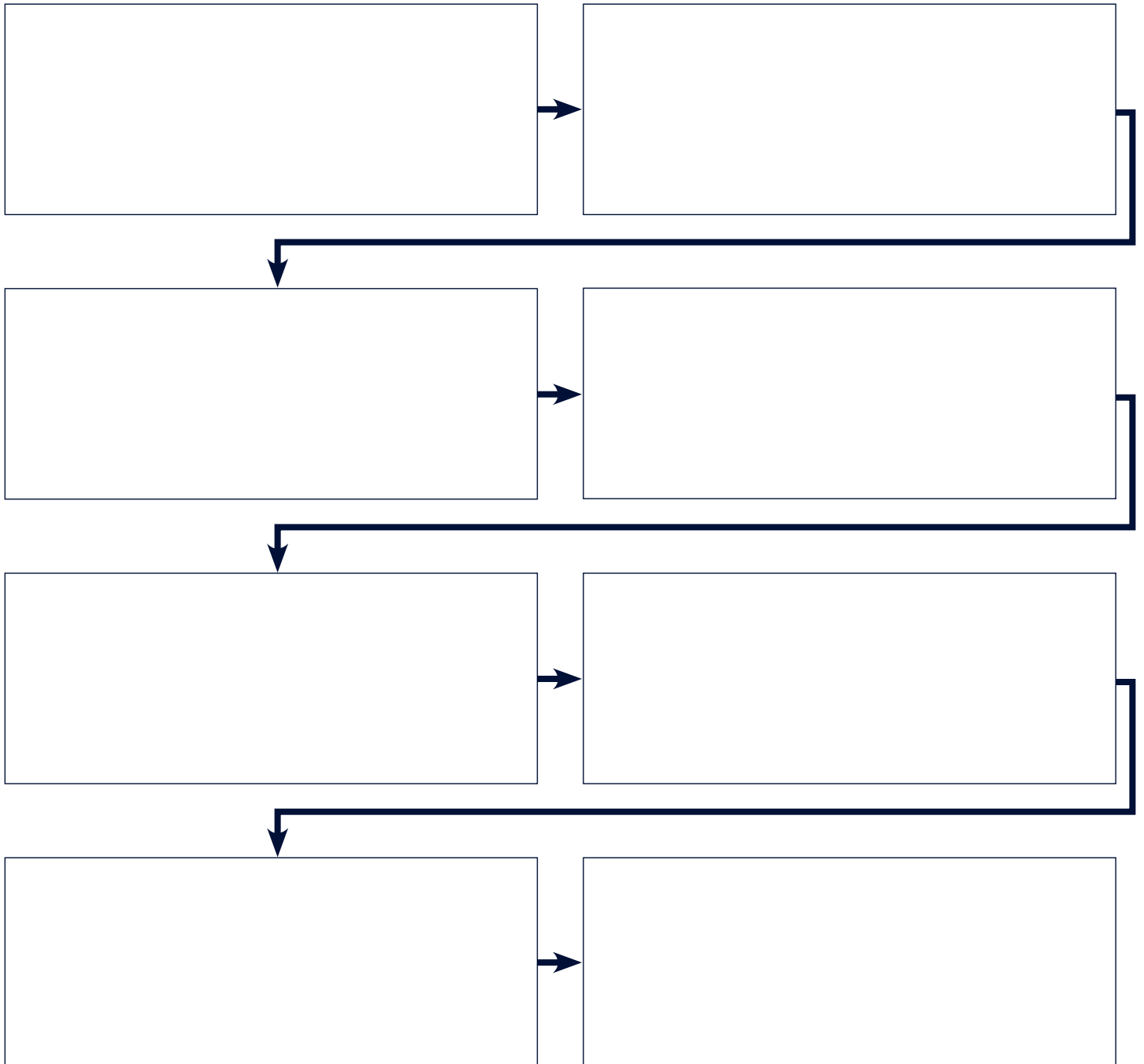


How our coins are made

On page two you will find eight steps in the coin-making process. Cut out the boxes and stick them in the spaces on this page to show the correct order from design to transport to banks.



Investigating Australian Coins

First, the coin designer prepares detailed pencil sketches of the design concept, which are sent to the appropriate Minister for approval.

A 3D digital scanner transfers the design to a computer, then a computer-controlled engraving machine cuts the design directly into tool steel.

The design is 'pressed' into the reverse (tails) of the blank coin at the same time as the portrait of the current monarch is pressed into the obverse (heads).

From the pencil sketches, a large model of the coin is sculpted, using modelling clay, on a sheet of glass.

Finally, the finished coins are packed and sent to banks around the country.

A steel ring is placed around the model and filled with plaster to form a reversed (negative) cast of the design.

The reversed cast model is used to make a second positive plaster cast model. The designer uses this model to refine the design.

Coin blanks are cut from sheet metal and sent to the Mint where Titan (a robot) tips them onto a conveyor belt to the coin presses.