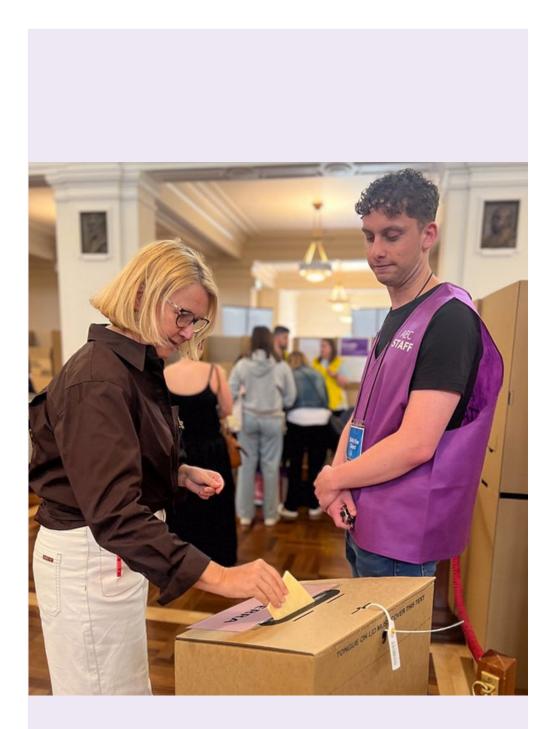
# Voting in a federal election Polling place

**A SOCIAL STORY** 



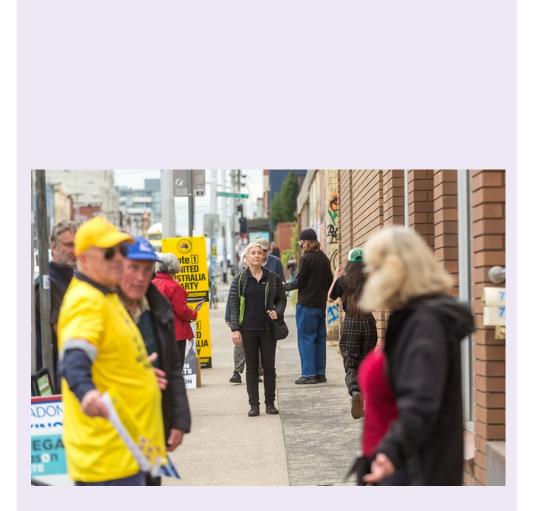


On election day, I will vote.

When I vote, I help to choose who is part of Australia's government.

The government makes decisions on our behalf about how to run the country.

It's important for me to have a say about who makes the decisions that affect me.



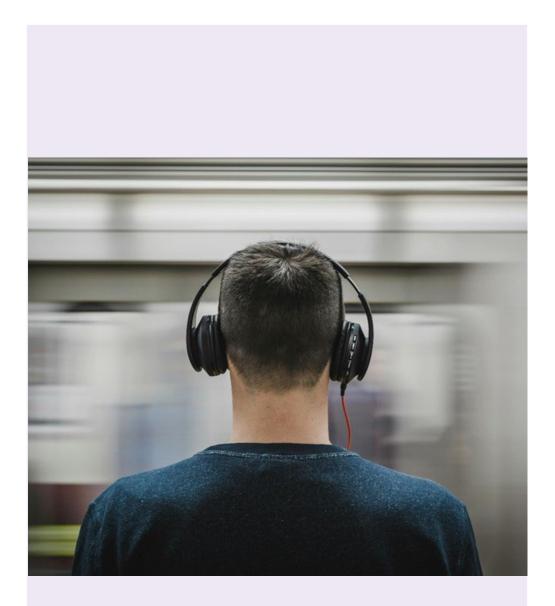
For me to make the best choice possible I can research the candidates or get advice from someone I trust.

My vote is secret. It's my choice who I vote for, and I don't need to tell anyone how I voted unless I want to.

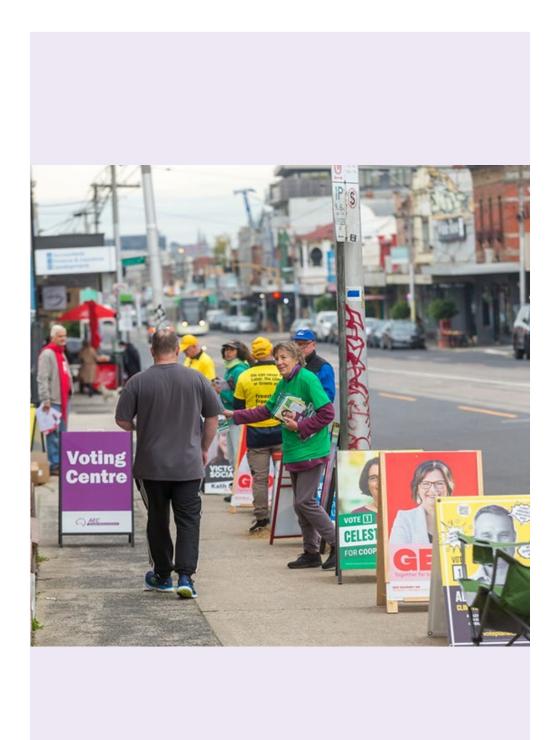


On election day, I will go to a polling place.

When I arrive at the polling place there might be a lot of people, and I might need to wait in a line.



It might be very noisy, and I might want to take ear plugs, headphones or a support person to help me.



I might see people handing out pieces of paper. These pieces of paper explain how I might like to vote for a particular party.

I don't have to take one if I don't want to.

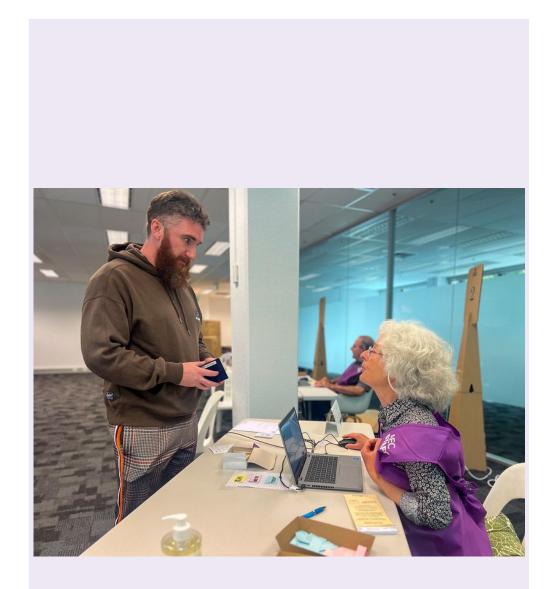


The Australian Electoral Commission, or AEC, is responsible for running the election.

When I go inside, I will speak to an AEC staff member in a purple vest with a lanyard around their neck. I can ask someone to help me at any time.



## I might need to line up and wait for my turn before I get to vote.



The staff member will help me find the table where I will speak to another AEC staff member.

This person will ask me 3 questions so they can find my name on the list.



First, they will ask, "What is your name?"

I need to tell them my first and last name.



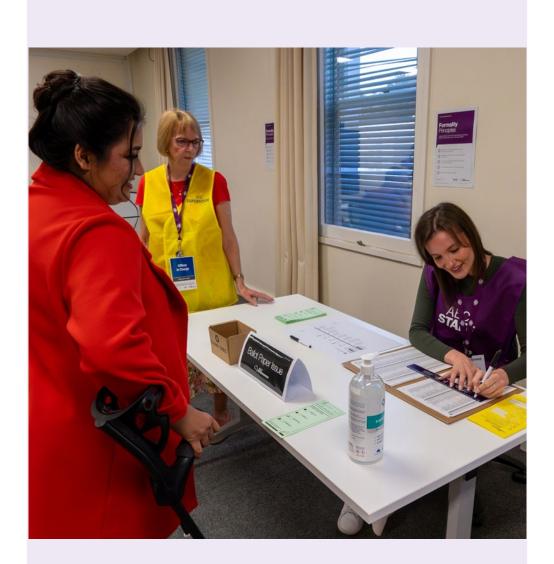
Next, they will ask, "What is your address?"

I need to tell them the address I gave when I enrolled to vote. This address will probably be where I live.

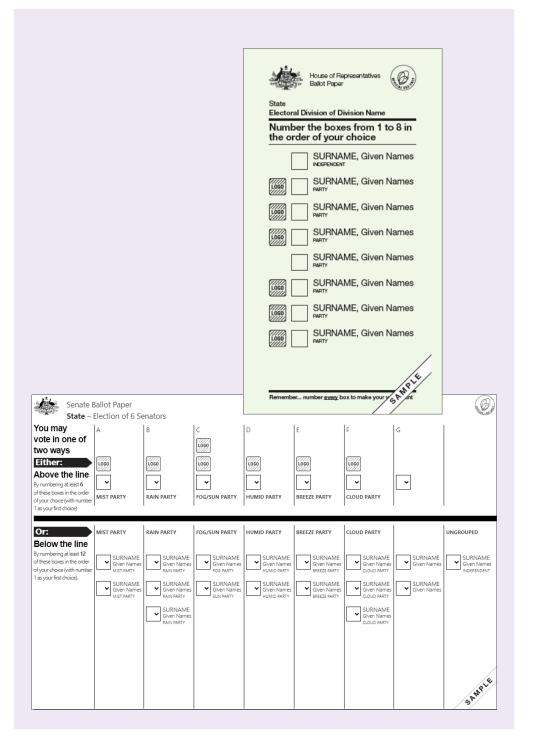


The third question they will ask is, "Have you voted before in this election?"

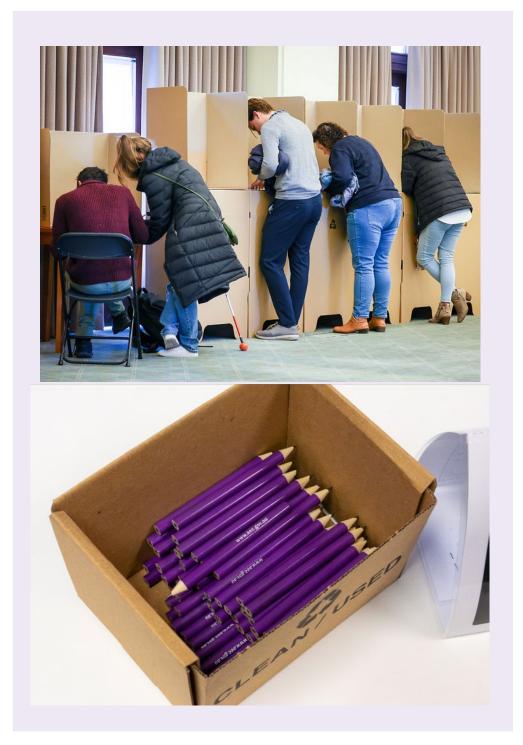
I need to say "No" if I haven't voted in this election. I need to say "Yes" if I have already voted in this election.



## The AEC staff member will cross my name off the list.



#### I will be given 2 ballot papers.



I need to take my ballot papers to the voting tables.

I will be given a pencil to fill out the ballot papers. I can also bring and use my own pen or pencil if I want to.

	he boxes from 1 to 8 in of your choice
	SURNAME, Given Names
L000	SURNAME, Given Names
L060	SURNAME, Given Names
L0G0	SURNAME, Given Names
	SURNAME, Given Names
L0G0	SURNAME, Given Names
L0G0	SURNAME, Given Names
L060	SURNAME, Given Names

The green ballot paper is for the House of Representatives, and it has a list of all the candidates I can vote for.

A candidate is a person who wants to be part of the Parliament.

If the candidate belongs to a political party, it will be written under their name.

	ber the boxes from 1 t rder of your choice	o 8 in
	SURNAME, Given	Names
L0G0	SURNAME, Given	Names
L0G0	SURNAME, Given	Names
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		Vames
L0G0	SURNAME, Given	Names
///// L0G0		Names
L0G0	SURNAME, Given	Names

On the green ballot paper, I need to write 1 in the box next to my favourite candidate, then 2 in the box for my second favourite.

There are instructions on the ballot paper telling me how many numbers to write.

I need to keep writing numbers until all the boxes are filled.

State –	Ballot Paper Election of 6 Se	enators						Ø
You may vote in one of two ways Either: Above the line By numbering at least 6 of these boxes in the order of druse choice (with number 1 as your first choice)	A	B (1060) V RAIN PARTY	C L060 FOG/SUN PARTY	D LOGO HUMID PARTY	E	F	G	
Or: Below the line By numbering at least 12 of these boxes in the order of your choice (with number 1 as your first choice).	MIST PARTY SURNAME Given Names MIST PARTY SURNAME SURNAME MIST PARTY	RAIN PARTY SURNAME Given Names RAIN PARTY SURNAME SURNAME SURNAME SURNAME SURNAME SURNAME SURNAME	FOG/SUN PARTY Given Names FOG PARTY SURNAME SUN PARTY	HUMID PARTY SURNAME Given Names HUMID PARTY SURNAME SURNAME HUMID PARTY	BREEZE PARTY Green Names SREEZE PARTY SURNAME SURNAME SREEZE PARTY	CLOUD PARTY Given Names CLOUD PARTY SURNAME Given Names CLOUD PARTY SURNAME SURNAME SURNAME SURNAME SURNAME	Given Names	UNGROUPED SURNAME Given Names INDEPENDENT

The white ballot paper is for the Senate, and it has a list of all the candidates I can vote for.

	Ballot Paper Election of 6 Se	enators						Ø
You may vote in one of two ways Either: Above the line By numbering at least 6 of these boxes in the order of these boxes in the order las your first choice)	A	B LUGGO RAIN PARTY	C L060 FOG/SUN PARTY	D Lugg HUMID PARTY	E Lucco BREEZE PARTY	F L060 CLOUD PARTY	G	
Or: Below the line By numbering at least 12 of these boxes in the order of your choice (with number 1 as your first choice).	MIST PARTY SURNAME Given Names MIST PARTY SURNAME Given NAME MIST PARTY	RAIN PARTY SURNAME Guen Names RAIN PARTY SURNAME SURNAME SURNAME SURNAME SURNAME SURNAME SURNAME	FOG/SUN PARTY SURNAME Guen Names FOG BARTY SURNAME SUN BARTY	HUMID PARTY SURNAME Guen Names HUMID PARTY SURNAME SURNAME HUMID PARTY	BREEZE PARTY SURNAME Given Names BREIZE PARTY SURNAME SURNAME BREEZE PARTY	CLOUD PARTY SURNAME Given Names COUD PARTY SURNAME SURNAME SURNAME SURNAME SURNAME SURNAME SURNAME	SURNAME Given Names SURNAME Given Names	UNGROUPED SURNAME Given Names INDEPENDENT

There is a list of groups above the black line.

Most of the groups are political parties.

A political party is a group of people who:

- share some of the same ideas
- work together on a plan for how government should run our country.

There is a list of candidates below the black line.

State -	Ballot Paper Election of 6 Se	enators						(C)
ou may ote in one of	A	8	C	D	ε	F	G	
wo ways	1060	1060	1060	1060	1060	1060		
numbering at least 6 these boxes in the order your choice (with number is your first choice)	5- MIST PARTY	3~ RAIN PARTY	1- FOG/SUN PARTY	4- HUMID PARTY	2- BREEZE PARTY	CLOUD PARTY	6~	
)r:	MIST PARTY	RAIN PARTY	FOG/SUN PARTY	HUMID PARTY	BREEZE PARTY	CLOUD PARTY		UNGROUPED
elow the line numbering at least 12 these boxes in the order your choice (with number is your first choice).	SURNAME Given Names MIST BARTY	SURNAME Given Names RAIN BARTY	SURNAME Given Names ROG BARTY	SURNAME Given Names HUMO BARY	SURNAME Given Names BREEZE BARTY	SURNAME Gven Names CLOVO FARTY	SURNAME Given Names	SURNAME Gven Names INDEPENDENT
6 your mit crooks	SURNAME Given Names MIST RARTY	SURNAME Given Names AAN PARTY	SURNAME Given Names SUN PARTY	SURNAME Given Names HUMO BARTY	SURNAME Given Names BALLIZE DARTY	SURNAME Given Names CLOUD TAKTY	SURNAME Given Names	
		SURNAME Given Names RAIN BARY				Given Names CLOUD TARTY		
								SAMPLE
200221-	Ballot Paper							(B)
State – ou may	Ballot Paper Election of 6 Se A	enators 8	c	D	ε	F	G	Ø
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State – ou may ote in one of yo ways lither: bove the line numbering at least 6 there boas in the oder your droke (with number syour first choice) Cr: elow the line numbering at least 12 there boas in the oder your droke (with number your droke) (with number	A MIST PARTY	B 1000 RAIN PARTY	1969 1999 Fog/sun Party	HUMID PARTY	USED BREEZE PARTY	CLOUD PARTY	SURNAME	UNGROUPED
State – ou may ote in one of yo ways lither: bove the line numbering at least 6 how the other syour first choice)	A MIST PARTY MIST PARTY SURNAME SURNAME SURNAME	B RAIN PARTY RAIN PARTY SURNAME SURNAME SURNAME SURNAME SURNAME SURNAME	FOG/SUN PARTY	HUMID PARTY	BREEZE PARTY BREEZE PARTY SURNAME Green Names INFORMATION BREEZE PARTY	CLOUD PARTY	SURNAME	SURNAME Gven Names
State – ou may ote in one of wo ways	A MIST PARTY	B RAIN PARTY RAIN PARTY	FOG/SUN PARTY	HUMID PARTY	BREEZE PARTY BREEZE PARTY SURNAME Green Names	CLOUD PARTY	SURNAME Guen Names	SURNAME Gven Names
State – bu may be in one of yo ways lither: bove the line humbeing at least 6 how the other our doice (with number syour first doice)	A MIST PARTY MIST PARTY SURNAME SURNAME SURNAME	B RAIN PARTY RAIN PARTY SURNAME Guen Names RAIN BARTY SURNAME Guen Names RAIN BARTY SURNAME SURNAME SURNAME SURNAME	FOG/SUN PARTY	HUMID PARTY	BREEZE PARTY BREEZE PARTY SURNAME Green Names INFORMATION BREEZE PARTY	CLOUD PARTY CLOUD PARTY CLOUD PARTY CLOUD PARTY SURNAME Green Names CLOUD PARTY SURNAME Green Names CLOUD PARTY	SURNAME Guen Names	SURNAME Given Names
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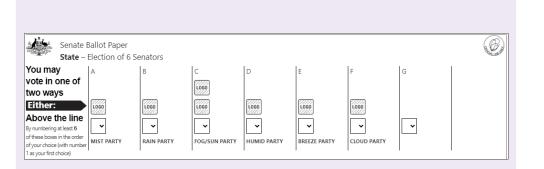
There are two ways I can vote. I get to choose.

I can vote above the line and vote for groups or political parties.

Or

I can vote below the line and vote for candidates.

I should read and follow the instructions on the ballot paper carefully to make sure my vote counts.



### Write numbers 1–6

1 = my favourite

To vote above the line, I can put numbers in the boxes **above** the black line.

I will write a number 1 in the box for my favourite group, then 2 in the box for my second favourite.

I need to keep going until I have written numbers 1, 2, 3, 4, 5 and 6.

I can finish at 6 or keep going and write numbers in as many boxes above the line as I like.

Or: MIST PARTY	RAIN PARTY	FOG/SUN PARTY	HUMID PARTY	BREEZE PARTY	CLOUD PARTY		UNGROUPED
Below the line yrumbering at least 12. If these boxes in the order as your first choice). SURNAME Given Name Given Name MIST PARTY	Given Names RAIN PARTY	FOG PARTY	HUMID PARTY	SURNAME Green Names BREEZE PARTY SURNAME Green Names BREEZE PARTY	SURNAME Given Names c.cuo party SURNAME Given Names c.cuo party SURNAME Given Names c.cuo party	SURNAME Given Names	SURNAME Gren Names NOPPIDENT

### Write numbers 1–12

1 = my favourite

To vote below the line, I can put numbers in the boxes **below** the black line.

I will write 1 in the box next to my favourite candidate, then 2 in the box for my second favourite.

I need to keep going until I have written numbers **1 to 12**.

I can finish at 12 or I can keep going and write numbers in as many boxes below the line as I like.



If I need help, I can ask one of the AEC staff or a friend or family member

If I make a mistake on my ballot papers, I can take them back to the AEC staff member who gave them to me.

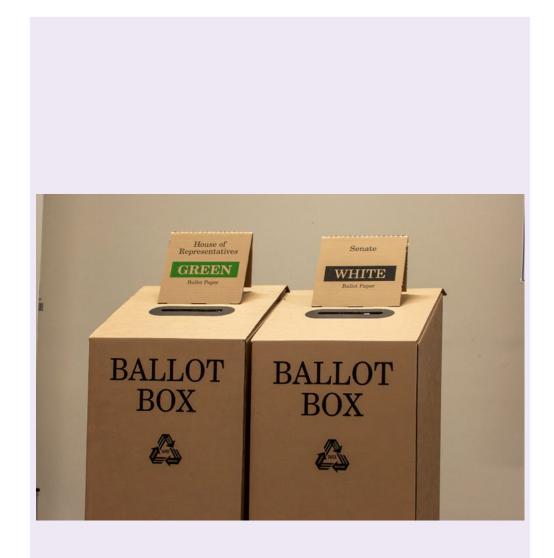


I can tell them I made a mistake and need a new ballot paper.

The AEC staff will:

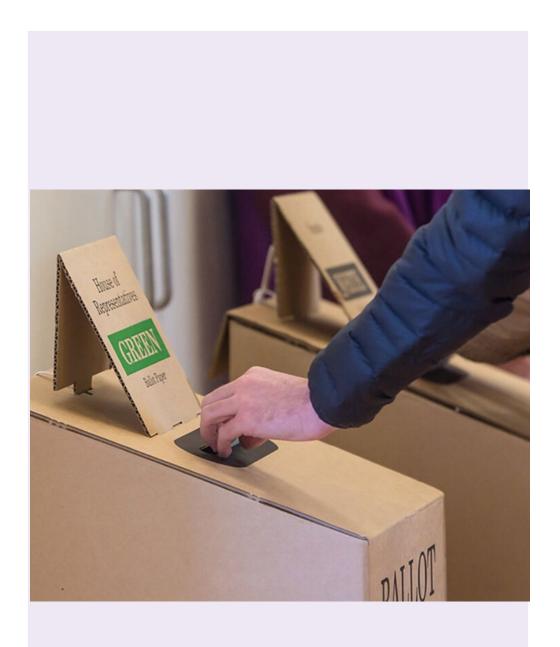
- take the ballot paper with the mistake
- give me a new one

I will take the new ballot paper and fill it out.



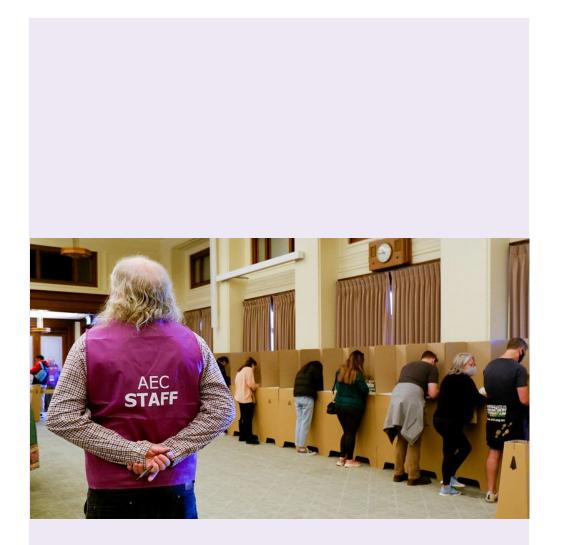
When I have voted I need to fold my ballot papers in half and put them in the ballot boxes.

There is one box for the green ballot paper and one box for the white ballot paper.



I will put my green ballot paper in the box that says: Green.

I will put my white ballot paper in the box that says: White.



The AEC staff member can help show me which boxes to put my ballot papers in.



## Now I have finished voting and I can leave.



Authorised by the Electoral Commissioner, 10 Mort Street, Canberra

