



Voting Kit

**Australian Federal Election
2022**



Easy English

2022

Easy English

Hard Words



This toolkit has some hard words.

The first time we write a hard word

- The hard word is in **blue**
- We will write what the hard word means

You **can** get help with this toolkit.

You **can** get someone to help you



- read this toolkit
- know what it says
- find more information

This toolkit is about



- the **Federal Election 2022**
- how to find information about **who to vote for**
- some ideas to help you decide who to vote for.



For information on



- how to enrol to vote in the Federal Election
- how to vote



go to the Australian Electoral Commission website



[Information for people with disability or mobility restrictions - Australian Electoral Commission \(aec.gov.au\)](https://www.aec.gov.au)



Federal Election

The **Federal Election** is

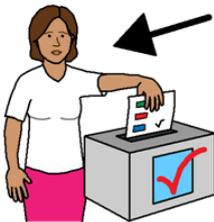
MAY 2022

SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
8	9	10	11	12	13	14
15	16	17	18	19	20	21
22	23	24	25	26	27	28
29	30	31	1	2	3	4

- **Saturday 21 May 2022**



The election is when **we** choose who will work for us in the Australian Government.



On election day, people from Australia will **vote**.



When you **vote**, you help choose who is part of the Australian **Parliament**.



Parliament is a part of the government that makes the laws for Australia.

You **must** vote if you



- are over the age of **18** years



- you are an Australian citizen.



It is **your right** to vote.

When you vote, you show



- your voice matters



- you have power.



How does the Federal election work?

The Australian Parliament has **2** parts. We call the parts **houses**.



The **2 houses** are

- **House of Representatives**
- **Senate**



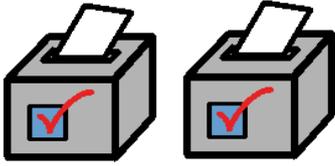
The **House of Representatives**

- has **151** members
- is where the Australian Government forms.

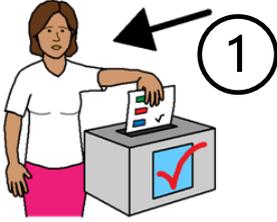


The **Senate**

- has **76** members
- works with the government to make decisions about Australian laws.



In a federal election you do **2** votes.



The **first** vote helps choose your **local member** in the House of Representatives



Your **local member** is the person who speaks for you and your **electorate**.



Your **electorate** is the area you live in.

You can find your electorate here:



[Find my electorate \(aec.gov.au\)](http://aec.gov.au)



13 23 26



My electorate is



Every electorate has **1** member in the House of Representatives.

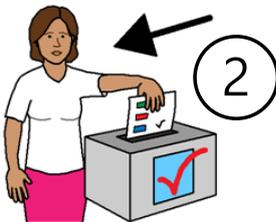
You can find who your current member of your electorate is here:



[Members of the House of Representatives | Directory](#)



The member for my electorate now is:



The **second** vote helps choose your local **senators**.



Your local **senators** are the people who speak for you and your State or Territory in the Senate.



Every State has **12** senators.



The ACT and the Northern Territory have **2** senators.

You can find a list of current senators for your State or Territory here



[List of Senators – Parliament of Australia \(aph.gov.au\)](#)



Who can I vote for?

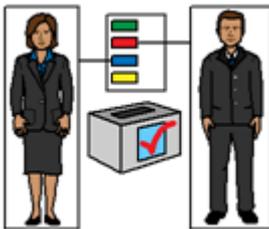
Who you vote for is **your decision**.



You vote for **political parties** and **candidates** in your electorate.

A **political party** is a group of people who

- share the same ideas
- agree on how government should run in Australia.



A **candidate** is a person who wants to be in parliament.

A candidate can be

- a part of a political party

or

- independent.





Each electorate has different candidates you can vote for.



The candidates want to **represent** you in the next Parliament.



Represent means to speak for you and your electorate when government makes decisions.



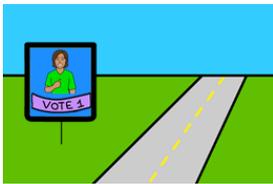
Who are the candidates in my electorate?



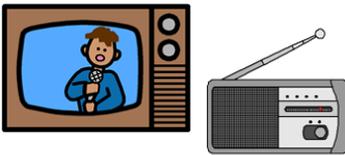
You can find information about who you can vote for



- in your letterbox – candidates often send pamphlets



- on posters at the side of roads



- on TV and radio



- in newspapers



- on the internet

You can find all the candidates in your electorate online here:



[Who are my candidates - Australian Electoral Commission \(aec.gov.au\)](http://www.aec.gov.au)



Find some candidates in your area.

House of Representatives candidates



Liberal

- _____



Labor

- _____



Nationals

- _____



Greens

- _____

Other parties and Independents



- _____
- _____
- _____



Find some candidates in your area.

Senate candidates



Liberal

- _____



Labor

- _____



Nationals

- _____



Greens

- _____

Other parties and Independents



- _____
- _____
- _____



My Electorate has many candidates.

How can I decide who to vote for?

Before you vote in an election, it is a good idea to think about



- what is important to you



- what things you want the Australian government to **change**.



This information can help you decide **who** you want to vote for.

Topics that might be important to you



- health



- cost of living



- jobs



- education



- environment



- disability and aged care



What is important to me?

Think about what is important to you.

Example



Work is important to me because I want to earn money and be in the community.

Write down some things that are important to you.

- _____
- _____
- _____





What things do I want the Australian Government to change?

Think about some things that you want the government to change.

Example



I want the government to make it easier for young people to buy a house.

Write down some things you want the Australian Government to **change**.



- _____
- _____
- _____



How can I find out which candidates have the same ideas as me?



Candidates have **different ideas** and **promises** about how they can make Australia a better place.

To find out what candidates in your electorate **promise** to do, you can



- go to the website of a candidate



- phone a candidate



- talk to a candidate if you see one in your area.

You can find information about all the electorates and candidates here:



[Electorates A-Z - ABC News](#)



How do I vote?

On election day, you go to a **polling place** to vote.



A **polling place** is a building, like a school or community centre, where people go to vote in an election.

You can find your nearest polling place here:

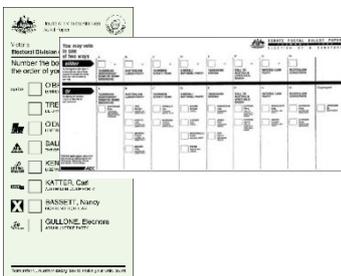


[Where can I vote in the 2022 federal election - Australian Electoral Commission \(aec.gov.au\)](https://www.aec.gov.au/where-can-i-vote)



My nearest polling place

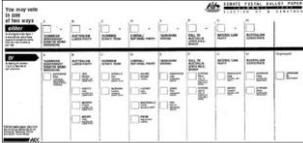
At the polling place, you will get **2** bits of paper.



- green
- white

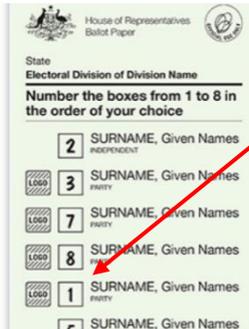


The **green** paper is for the House of Representatives.



The **white** paper is for the Senate.

You write numbers next to the candidates you want to vote for.



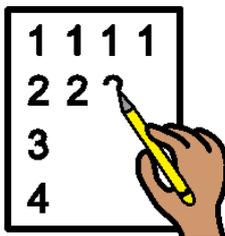
Number **1** is your first choice.

You can learn more about how to vote here:



https://www.aec.gov.au/About_AEC/Publications/easy-read/files/vote-polling-place-easy-eng.pdf

You can practice voting here:

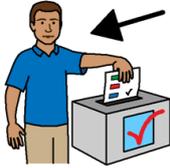


https://www.aec.gov.au/Voting/How_to_vote/practice/

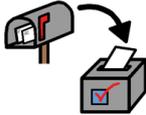


What if I can not vote on election day?

You can vote in other ways, like



- at a polling place **before** the election



- postal vote

You can find information about other ways to vote here:



[Information for people with disability or mobility restrictions - Australian Electoral Commission \(aec.gov.au\)](https://www.aec.gov.au/information-for-people-with-disability-or-mobility-restrictions)

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