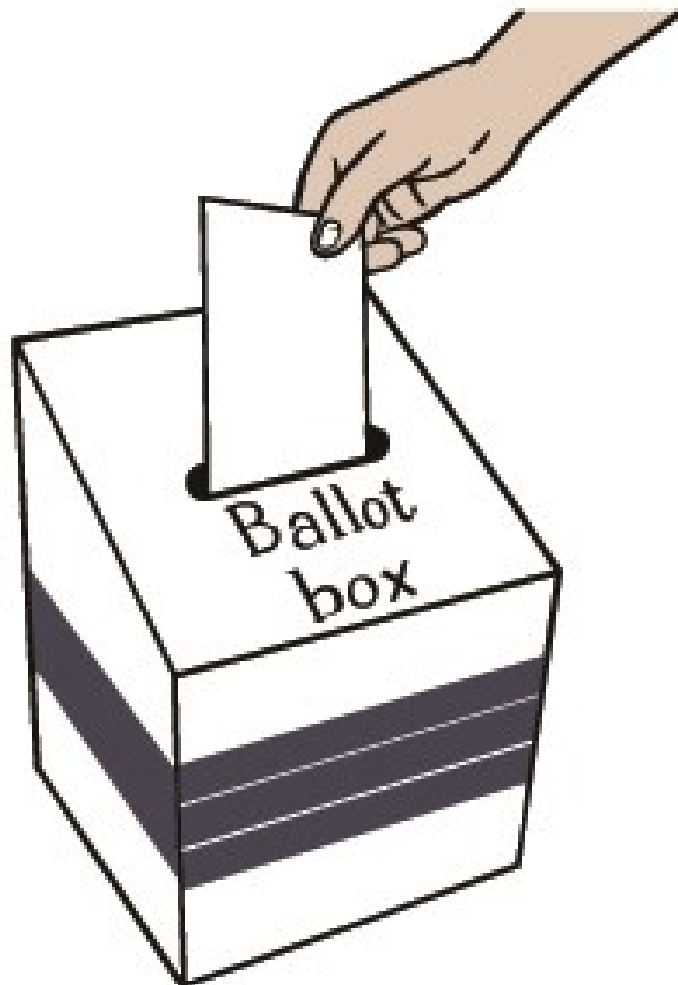




Easy English

Vote in the ACT election



Hard words

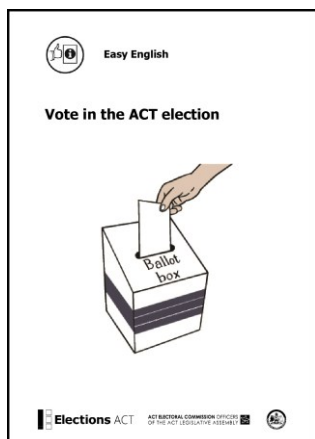
This book has some hard words.

The first time we write a hard word, it is in **blue**.

We write what the hard word means in the book.

Sometimes we write what the hard word means in the glossary on page 27.

You can ask someone to help you understand this book.



What is this book about?

This book is about

- the **ACT Legislative Assembly election**
- how to **enrol**
- how to **vote**.

The ACT Legislative Assembly means a group of people who make the laws for Canberra.

Election means make a choice.

Enrol means put your name on the voting list.

Vote means make your choice.

This book is by the ACT Electoral Commission.

In this book

Hard words 2

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In this book 4

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What is the Assembly? 6

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What is the electoral roll? 8

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How do I get on the electoral roll? 9

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About the ACT Legislative Assembly

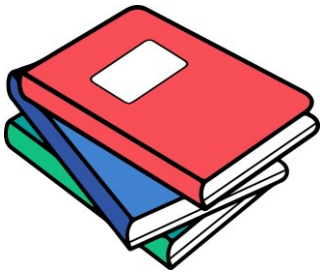
What is the Assembly?



The Assembly is a group of people.

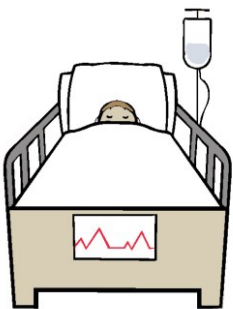
The people are called members.

The members make the laws for Canberra.



The laws are about

libraries and schools



- health

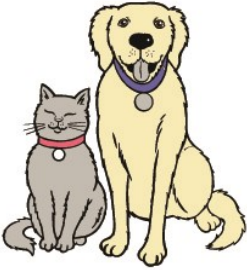


- public transport.

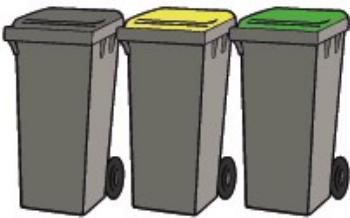
Also the laws are about



- emergency services



- pets



- rubbish and recycling.

Who chooses the members?



People who are on the ACT **electoral roll** vote for the members in the election.

How to enrol

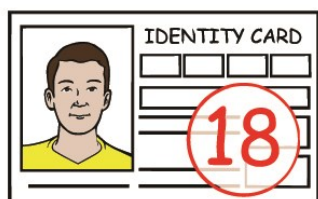
What is the electoral roll?

The electoral roll is the list of people who can vote at an election.

Who can be on the ACT electoral roll?

You **must**

- be an **Australian citizen** and



- be 18 years old or older

and

- live in the ACT.

You **must** put your name on the electoral roll.

You can ask for help.

How do I get on the electoral roll?



Enrol to vote or update your details

You can complete this form online today at www.aec.gov.au
For more information call 13 23 26

You can use this form to:

- enrol to vote
- change your residential or postal address, and/or
- change your name on the electoral roll for federal and Legislative Assembly elections in the Australian Capital Territory

Returning your form

Post Australian Electoral Commission
P.O. Box 9827
CANBERRA ACT 2601
(No stamp is needed if posted in Australia)

Fax 02 6257 6014

Email info@aec.gov.au

In person To any AEC office

AEC | **Elections ACT**

Get an enrolment form

- from the post office
- from Elections ACT
- at www.aec.gov.au – click on Enrol to vote.

Fill in the form.



You can ask for help.



Post the paper form to us.

We put your name on the electoral roll.

Now you can vote in the election.

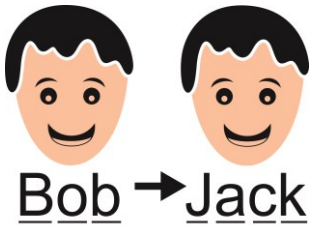
What else do I have to tell you?

You **must** tell us when you



- change your address

or



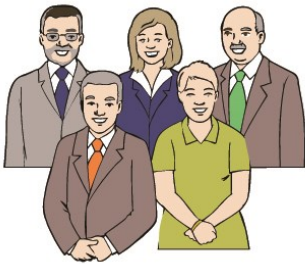
- change your name.

What does vote mean?

You vote on **election day**.

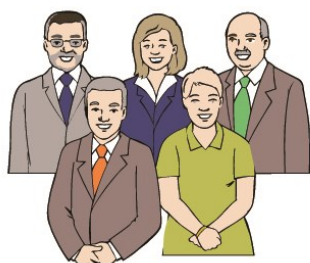
Your vote shows your choice.

What is my vote for?



Your vote helps choose the members for the
Assembly.

The electorates



The ACT is divided into areas called **electorates**.

The people in each electorate choose 5 members for the Assembly.

There are 5 electorates in the ACT.

The electorate names are

- Brindabella
- Ginninderra
- Kurrajong
- Murrumbidgee
- Yerrabi

You can find your electorate on a map.

The map is on page 33 of this book.

You can ask for help to read the map.



Why should I vote?

Your vote is your right.



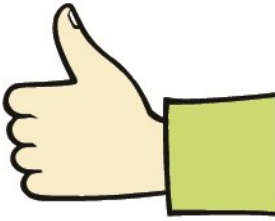
Your vote gives you power.

You help choose who makes the laws.

No one can say who you must vote for.

Your vote is your say.

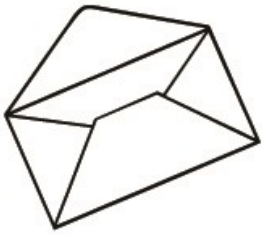
Do I have to vote?



Yes.

You **must** vote.

What will happen if I do not vote?



We will send you a letter.

We ask you why you did **not** vote.



You might have to pay a fine.

About the election

When is the election?

OCTOBER 2016						
S	M	T	W	T	F	S
						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					

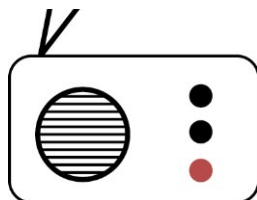
The election happens every 4 years.

The election is on the third Saturday in October.

You might find out about the election



- on TV



- on the radio



- in newspapers



- on the internet

We will post information to your home.

Where can I vote?

You vote at a **polling place**.

We will make a list of polling places.



Look in The Canberra Times on the day before the election.

or



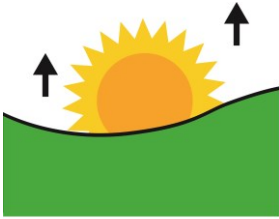
Call Elections ACT on 6205 0033.

or



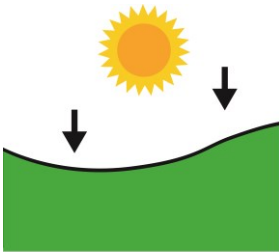
Go to www.elections.act.gov.au

When can I vote?



8:00

Polling places open at 8 am on election day.



6:00

Polling places close at 6 pm on election day.

What do I do at the polling place?

You join the line of people.

You go to the table with the **election official**.

Say your name and address.



The election official marks your name off the electoral roll.

The election official gives you a **ballot paper**.

What is a ballot paper?

A ballot paper is a list of **candidate** names.

Ballot Paper		Election of 5 Members		2016		Legislative Assembly for the Australian Capital Territory	
Electorate of Yerrabi Number five boxes from 1 to 5 in the order of your choice You may then show as many further preferences as you wish by writing numbers from 6 onwards in other boxes							
A PARTY 1	B PARTY 2	C PARTY 3	D PARTY 4	E PARTY 5	F PARTY 6	UNGROUPED	
<input type="checkbox"/> Candidate ONE	<input type="checkbox"/> Candidate ONE	<input type="checkbox"/> Candidate ONE	<input type="checkbox"/> Candidate ONE	<input type="checkbox"/> Candidate ONE	<input type="checkbox"/> Candidate ONE	<input type="checkbox"/> Candidate ONE INDEPENDENT	
<input type="checkbox"/> Candidate TWO	<input type="checkbox"/> Candidate TWO	<input type="checkbox"/> Candidate TWO	<input type="checkbox"/> Candidate TWO	<input type="checkbox"/> Candidate TWO	<input type="checkbox"/> Candidate TWO	<input type="checkbox"/> Candidate TWO	
<input type="checkbox"/> Candidate THREE	<input type="checkbox"/> Candidate THREE	<input type="checkbox"/> Candidate THREE	<input type="checkbox"/> Candidate THREE	<input type="checkbox"/> Candidate THREE	<input type="checkbox"/> Candidate THREE	<input type="checkbox"/> Candidate THREE INDEPENDENT	
<input type="checkbox"/> Candidate FOUR	<input type="checkbox"/> Candidate FOUR		<input type="checkbox"/> Candidate FOUR	<input type="checkbox"/> Candidate FOUR	<input type="checkbox"/> Candidate FOUR	<input type="checkbox"/> Candidate FOUR PARTY 7	
	<input type="checkbox"/> Candidate FIVE			<input type="checkbox"/> Candidate FIVE	<input type="checkbox"/> Candidate FIVE		
Remember, number at least five boxes from 1 to 5 in the order of your choice							
1						1	



Each candidate wants to be elected to be a member of the Assembly.

You choose the candidates you think are best for the job.

You help choose 5 members.

What do I do with the ballot paper?



Take your ballot paper to the voting screen.

There is a pencil in the voting screen.

Ballot Paper Election of 5 Members 2018

Electoral District

Number five boxes from 1 to 5

You may then show as many further preferences as you wish

A. PARTY 1	B. PARTY 2	C. PARTY 3	D. PARTY 4
<input type="checkbox"/> Candidate ONE	<input type="checkbox"/> Candidate ONE	<input type="checkbox"/> Candidate ONE	<input type="checkbox"/> Candidate ONE
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Candidate TWO	<input type="checkbox"/> Candidate TWO	<input type="checkbox"/> Candidate TWO	<input type="checkbox"/> Candidate TWO
<input type="checkbox"/> Candidate THREE	<input type="checkbox"/> Candidate THREE	<input type="checkbox"/> Candidate THREE	<input type="checkbox"/> Candidate THREE
<input type="checkbox"/> Candidate FOUR	<input type="checkbox"/> Candidate FOUR	<input type="checkbox"/> Candidate FOUR	<input type="checkbox"/> Candidate FOUR
	<input type="checkbox"/> Candidate FIVE		

Remember, number at least five boxes

Choose the person you think can do the best job.

Write number 1 in the box next to the name of the person.

Ballot Paper Election of 5 Members 2018

Electoral District

Number five boxes from 1 to 5

You may then show as many further preferences as you wish

A. PARTY 1	B. PARTY 2	C. PARTY 3	D. PARTY 4
<input type="checkbox"/> Candidate ONE	<input type="checkbox"/> Candidate ONE	<input type="checkbox"/> Candidate ONE	<input type="checkbox"/> Candidate ONE
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Candidate TWO	<input type="checkbox"/> Candidate TWO	<input type="checkbox"/> Candidate TWO	<input type="checkbox"/> Candidate TWO
<input type="checkbox"/> Candidate THREE	<input type="checkbox"/> Candidate THREE	<input type="checkbox"/> Candidate THREE	<input type="checkbox"/> Candidate THREE
<input type="checkbox"/> Candidate FOUR	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Candidate FOUR	<input type="checkbox"/> Candidate FOUR	<input type="checkbox"/> Candidate FOUR
	<input type="checkbox"/> Candidate FIVE		

Remember, number at least five boxes

Write number 2 in the box for the person you choose next.

Ballot Paper Election of 5 Members 2018

Electoral District

Number five boxes from 1 to 5

You may then show as many further preferences as you wish

A. PARTY 1	B. PARTY 2	C. PARTY 3	D. PARTY 4
<input type="checkbox"/> Candidate ONE	<input type="checkbox"/> Candidate ONE	<input type="checkbox"/> Candidate ONE	<input type="checkbox"/> Candidate ONE
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Candidate TWO	<input type="checkbox"/> Candidate TWO	<input type="checkbox"/> Candidate TWO	<input type="checkbox"/> Candidate TWO
<input type="checkbox"/> Candidate THREE	<input type="checkbox"/> Candidate THREE	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Candidate THREE	<input type="checkbox"/> Candidate THREE
<input type="checkbox"/> Candidate FOUR	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Candidate FOUR	<input type="checkbox"/> Candidate FOUR	<input type="checkbox"/> Candidate FOUR
	<input type="checkbox"/> Candidate FIVE		

Remember, number at least five boxes

Write number 3 in the box for the person you choose next.

Ballot Paper Election of 5 Members 2016

Electorate of Yerrabi

Number five boxes from 1 to 5 in the order of your choice

You may then show as many further preferences as you wish by writing numbers from 6 onwards in other boxes

A PARTY 1	B PARTY 2	C PARTY 3	D PARTY 4
Candidate ONE	5 Candidate ONE	Candidate ONE	Candidate ONE
1 Candidate TWO	Candidate TWO	Candidate TWO	Candidate TWO
Candidate THREE	4 Candidate THREE	3 Candidate THREE	Candidate THREE
Candidate FOUR	2 Candidate FOUR	Candidate FOUR	Candidate FOUR
	Candidate FIVE		

Remember, number at least five boxes

Write number 4 in the box for the person you choose next.

Ballot Paper Election of 5 Members 2016

Electorate of Yerrabi

Number five boxes from 1 to 5 in the order of your choice

You may then show as many further preferences as you wish by writing numbers from 6 onwards in other boxes

A PARTY 1	B PARTY 2	C PARTY 3	D PARTY 4
Candidate ONE	5 Candidate ONE	Candidate ONE	Candidate ONE
1 Candidate TWO	Candidate TWO	Candidate TWO	Candidate TWO
Candidate THREE	4 Candidate THREE	3 Candidate THREE	Candidate THREE
Candidate FOUR	2 Candidate FOUR	Candidate FOUR	Candidate FOUR
	Candidate FIVE		

Remember, number at least five boxes

Write number 5 in the box for the person you choose next.



You can stop here

or

you can choose more people.

Ballot Paper Election of 5 Members 2016

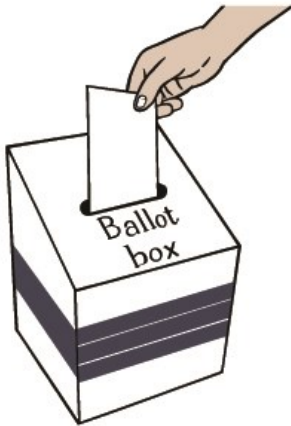
Electorate of Yerrabi

Number five boxes from 1 to 5 in the order of your choice

You may then show as many further preferences as you wish by writing numbers from 6 onwards in other boxes

A PARTY 1	B PARTY 2	C PARTY 3	D PARTY 4	E PARTY 5	F PARTY 6	UNGROUPED
10 Candidate ONE	5 Candidate ONE	24 Candidate ONE	8 Candidate ONE	14 Candidate ONE	23 Candidate ONE	7 Candidate ONE INDEPENDENT
1 Candidate TWO	22 Candidate TWO	29 Candidate TWO	25 Candidate TWO	26 Candidate TWO	20 Candidate TWO	18 Candidate TWO
28 Candidate THREE	4 Candidate THREE	3 Candidate THREE	21 Candidate THREE	13 Candidate THREE	12 Candidate THREE	30 Candidate THREE INDEPENDENT
15 Candidate FOUR	2 Candidate FOUR		6 Candidate FOUR	19 Candidate FOUR	11 Candidate FOUR	9 Candidate FOUR PARTY 7
	27 Candidate FIVE			16 Candidate FIVE	17 Candidate FIVE	

Remember, number at least five boxes from 1 to 5 in the order of your choice



Put your ballot paper into the **ballot box**.

You have finished your vote.

Your vote is secret.

Can I ask for help?



Yes you can ask for help.

You can take someone you trust with you.

For example

- family
- friend
- partner
- carer

Also you can ask an election official for help.

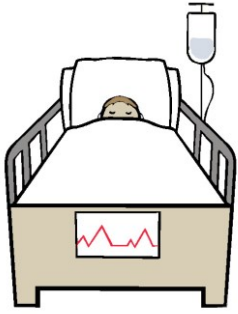
What if I make a mistake?



It is OK.

Give the ballot paper with a mistake to the election official.

Ask for a new ballot paper.



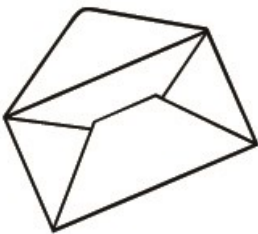
I cannot vote on election day. What can I do?

You can vote before election day.

You can

- vote at a **pre-poll voting centre**

or



- vote by post.

Vote at a pre-poll voting centre

Pre-poll voting centres are open 3 weeks before the election.



Call Elections ACT on 6205 0033.

We will tell you where the pre-poll voting centres are.

or



Go to www.elections.act.gov.au

There is a list of pre-poll voting centres.

or



Send an email to elections@act.gov.au.

Vote by post

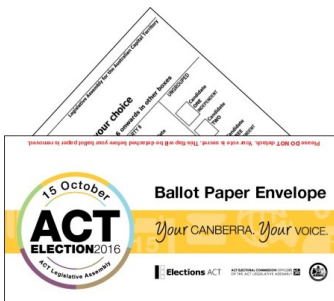
You can get a **postal vote** application from

- Elections ACT
- www.elections.act.gov.au
- the post office in Canberra or Queanbeyan.



Fill out the form.

You can get help.



When we get your form we will send you a postal vote.



Fill out your vote and post it to us.

You have finished your vote.

Words in this book (glossary)

Australian citizen – a person born in Australia.

or

a person born overseas who lives in Australia.

This person has made a special promise to follow all the laws of Australia.

This person has become an Australian citizen.



Ballot box – a box in the polling place where you put your filled-in ballot paper.

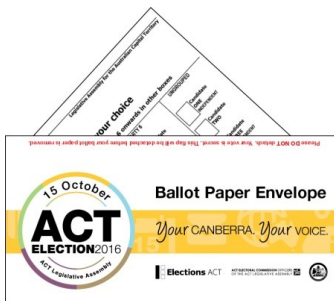
Election day – the day you go to vote.



Election official – a person who works at elections.

Pre-poll voting centre – the place where you can vote before election day.

Polling place – the place where you vote on election day.



Postal Vote – We post you a ballot paper.

You write your vote on the ballot paper.



You post your vote back to us before election day.



Contact information

You can get more information from Elections ACT.



Website

www.elections.act.gov.au

Email

elections@act.gov.au

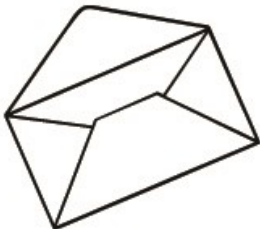


Phone

02 6205 0033

Fax

02 6205 0382



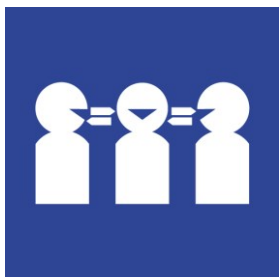
Postal address

Elections ACT

PO Box 272

Civic Square ACT 2608

Do you speak another language?



You can use the Translating and Interpreting Service.



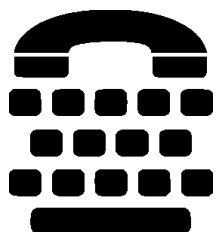
Call 13 14 50.

Then give number 02 6205 0033

or

Ask for the ACT Electoral Commission.

Is hearing hard for you?



You can use TTY.



Call 13 36 67.

Then give number 02 6205 0033.

Is your speech hard to understand?



You can use NRS Speak and Listen.



Call 1300 555 727.

Then give number 02 6205 0033.

Information for support person

Everyone has the right to vote. Your role as the support person is to help the reader understand the enrolment and voting process in the ACT.

This book has been written in Easy English to make the concepts easier to understand. You can discuss the concepts together and use the images to help explain the text.

Thank you for your assistance.

Map of electorates for the ACT Legislative Assembly election



With thanks

Elections ACT wrote the Easy English.

Scope Victoria provided advice and assistance with the Easy English, including user testing.

The State of Victoria (Victorian Electoral Commission) authored the images.