

Voting in the ACT

1. Is it compulsory to enrol and vote?
2. Where will you find an enrolment form?
3. What is the parliament of the ACT called?
4. What is the leader of the parliament called?
5. What kind of electoral system does the ACT have?
6. How many electorates are there?
7. Which electorate do you live in?
8. How many members represent each electorate?
9. How many members of the parliament are there?
10. How often do we have an election in the ACT?
11. What day of the week do we have elections?
12. Where do you go to vote?
13. What time are polling places open?
14. What do you do if you are away on polling day?
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15. How should you fill in a ballot paper?
16. How do you know who to vote for?
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17. What is the Hare-Clark proportional representation system of counting votes?
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18. What is Robson Rotation?
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19. When will the next ACT election be?
20. How old will you be then? Will you have to vote?



Answers

1. Yes
2. Online from the Australian Electoral Commission's website www.aec.gov.au
3. The ACT Legislative Assembly
4. The Chief Minister
5. Hare-Clark electoral system (an optional preferential system of voting with single transferable vote)
6. Five
7. See the electorates map on Elections ACT website www.elections.act.gov.au
8. Five
9. Twenty-five
10. Every 4 years on the third Saturday in October
11. Saturday (for all parliamentary elections in Australia)
12. A polling place on election day (often a local school) or an early voting centre (open for 3 weeks before election day)
13. Polling places open at 8am (and close at 6pm)
14. Vote early before you leave or apply for a postal vote to be mailed to you or notify the electoral commission, before you leave, that you are unable to do either of these.
15. Number at least 5 candidates in your order of choice by writing the numbers from 1 to 5 in the boxes. You can number more candidates, as many as you like, after that.
16. You can do some research to find the candidates that best represent your views on issues that are important to you. You can find this out by looking on a candidate's website and social media pages; on the news; in flyers and pamphlets sent to electors and handed out in public places; and by talking to candidates who set up campaign stalls at shopping centres.
17. A voting system for electing more than one representative. Candidates and parties win seats in proportion to the amount of support they have from voters in their electorate.
18. Candidates' names in each column on a ballot paper are rotated with each new ballot paper printed. This gives 60 different versions of the ballot paper for a 5-member electorate. Robson rotation stops candidates from gaining advantage from donkey votes.
19. Saturday, 19 October 2024
20. Anyone who is 18 years old or more, living in the ACT permanently and an Australian citizen at the time of the next election, must be enrolled for, and vote in, that election.