

How to complete your federal and state election ballot papers.



To make your vote count correctly, you need to complete two ballot papers, one for each house of parliament.

The Australian (Federal) and Western Australian (State) parliaments are made up of two parts called *houses*. The lower house is where most laws are made or amended, and the upper house both makes and reviews laws.

The two houses work together to pass the laws that govern us.

Our democracy works best when we all participate in the process. Learn how to correctly complete your ballot papers for each house to ensure your vote is counted.

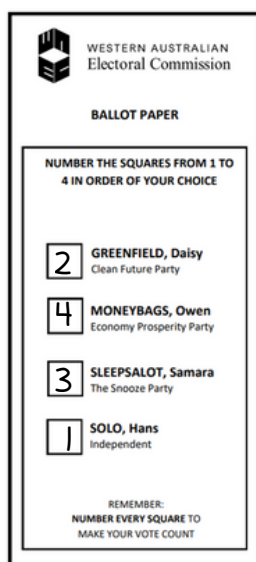
Preferential voting

Both State and Federal elections use **preferential** voting. This means you number the candidates in order of your preference: 1 for your first choice, 2 for your second choice and so on.

The small ballot paper is for the lower house

The lower house ballot paper is for selecting a representative for the electoral area or **electorate** where you live.

For the small ballot paper, you must **number every square**.



WESTERN AUSTRALIAN Electoral Commission

BALLOT PAPER

NUMBER THE SQUARES FROM 1 TO 4 IN ORDER OF YOUR CHOICE

2	GREENFIELD, Daisy Clean Future Party
4	MONEYBAGS, Owen Economy Prosperity Party
3	SLEEPSALOT, Samara The Snooze Party
1	SOLO, Hans Independent

REMEMBER:
NUMBER EVERY SQUARE TO
MAKE YOUR VOTE COUNT

Lower House ballot paper example

For the large ballot paper, you must choose either **above the line** or **below the line**—not both.

Be sure to read and follow the instructions on the ballot paper.

The large ballot paper is for the upper house

Upper house voting is more complex because you are selecting multiple representatives for a large electorate. In Western Australia, this means the entire state.

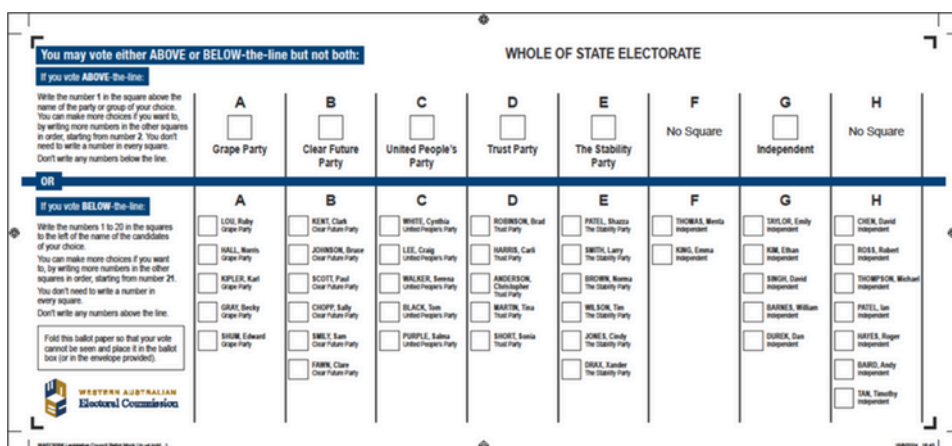
To help voters express their preferences, the ballot paper is divided into two sections by a horizontal line. You must choose to vote *either* above the line or below the line. *Not both*.

Above the Line Voting

- The top section of the ballot paper lists political parties horizontally.
- To vote above the line, write a '1' in the square above the name of your preferred party or group.
- You may continue numbering other parties, but you don't need to number every square. In a federal election you must number at least 6 squares.

Below the Line Voting

- The bottom section lists individual candidates vertically under each party name.
- If you want to choose specific candidates, you must number at least 1 to 20 in order of your preference.
- You can continue numbering beyond 20 if you like but you don't need to number every square. In a federal election you must number at least 12 squares.



You may vote either ABOVE or BELOW-the-line but not both:

If you vote ABOVE the line:

Write the number 1 in the square above the name of the party or group of your choice. You can make more choices if you want to, by writing more numbers in the other squares in order, starting from number 2. You don't need to write a number in every square. Don't write any numbers below the line.

A	B	C	D	E	F	G	H
<input type="checkbox"/> Grape Party	<input type="checkbox"/> Clear Future Party	<input type="checkbox"/> United People's Party	<input type="checkbox"/> Trust Party	<input type="checkbox"/> The Stability Party	<input type="checkbox"/> No Square	<input type="checkbox"/> Independent	<input type="checkbox"/> No Square

OR

If you vote BELOW the line:

Write the numbers 1 to 20 in the squares to the left of the name of the candidates of your choice. You can make more choices if you want to, by writing more numbers in the other squares in order, starting from number 21. You don't need to write a number in every square. Don't write any numbers above the line.

If fold this ballot paper so that your vote cannot be seen and place it in the ballot box (or in the envelope provided).

A	B	C	D	E	F	G	H
<input type="checkbox"/> LOU, Ruby Grape Party	<input type="checkbox"/> KENT, Clark Clear Future Party	<input type="checkbox"/> WHITE, Cynthia United People's Party	<input type="checkbox"/> ROBINSON, Brad Trust Party	<input type="checkbox"/> PATEL, Shazna The Stability Party	<input type="checkbox"/> THOMAS, Benita Independent	<input type="checkbox"/> TAYLOR, Emily Independent	<input type="checkbox"/> CHEN, David Independent
<input type="checkbox"/> HALL, Noreen Grape Party	<input type="checkbox"/> JOHNSON, Bruce Clear Future Party	<input type="checkbox"/> LEE, Craig United People's Party	<input type="checkbox"/> HARRIS, Carl Trust Party	<input type="checkbox"/> SMITH, Larry The Stability Party	<input type="checkbox"/> KING, Emma Independent	<input type="checkbox"/> KIM, Ethus Independent	<input type="checkbox"/> ROSS, Robert Independent
<input type="checkbox"/> RUPPEL, Karl Grape Party	<input type="checkbox"/> SCOTT, Paul Clear Future Party	<input type="checkbox"/> WALKER, Seema United People's Party	<input type="checkbox"/> ANDERSON, Christopher Trust Party	<input type="checkbox"/> SINGH, Numa The Stability Party	<input type="checkbox"/> NELSON, Tina Independent	<input type="checkbox"/> SINGH, David Independent	<input type="checkbox"/> THOMPSON, Michael Independent
<input type="checkbox"/> GRAY, Emily Grape Party	<input type="checkbox"/> COOPER, Sally Clear Future Party	<input type="checkbox"/> BLACK, Sam United People's Party	<input type="checkbox"/> MARTIN, Lisa Trust Party	<input type="checkbox"/> WELSON, Tina The Stability Party	<input type="checkbox"/> BARNES, William Independent	<input type="checkbox"/> PATEL, Jay Independent	<input type="checkbox"/> HAYES, Roger Independent
<input type="checkbox"/> SHIM, Edward Grape Party	<input type="checkbox"/> SMITH, Sam Clear Future Party	<input type="checkbox"/> PURPLE, Sulema United People's Party	<input type="checkbox"/> SHORE, Sonia Trust Party	<input type="checkbox"/> JONES, Cindy The Stability Party	<input type="checkbox"/> DUREK, Dan Independent	<input type="checkbox"/> BARRD, Andy Independent	<input type="checkbox"/> TAN, Timothy Independent
<input type="checkbox"/> FARR, Clare Clear Future Party				<input type="checkbox"/> GRAY, Kander The Stability Party			

Upper House ballot paper example

**Voting is important. It makes you part of choosing your government.
Completing your ballot papers correctly ensures your vote counts.**

