

# Voting is different this federal election

The Parliament has recently passed changes to the voting method for electing Senators in your state or territory.

The changes will apply at the 2016 federal election.

Clear instructions will be included on the Senate ballot paper advising you how to record your vote on the ballot paper.

## What you need to know

**To vote for Senators in your state or territory at the 2016 federal election, you must fill in your ballot paper in the order of your choice. You can do this by voting either above the line or below the line.**

### Voting above the line

If you vote above the line, you must number at least six boxes from 1 to 6. By voting above the line, your preferences will be distributed in the order that the candidates appear below the line for the party or group you have chosen.

Your preferences will first be distributed to the candidates in the party or group of your first choice, then to candidates in the party or

group of your second choice and so on, until all your preferences have been distributed.


### Voting below the line

If you vote below the line, you must number at least twelve boxes from 1 to 12. By voting below the line your preferences will be distributed to the individual candidates as numbered on your ballot paper, in the order of your choice.


## Above the line

If you vote above the line, you must **number at least six boxes from 1 to 6.**

Place a 1 in the box above the party or group that is your first choice, the number 2 in the box above the party or group that is your second choice and so on until you have numbered at least six boxes above the line.











Senate Ballot Paper  
State – Election of 6 Senators



**You may vote in one of two ways**

**Either**

**Above the line**  
By numbering at least 6 of these boxes in the order of your choice (with number 1 as your first choice).

	A	B	C	D	E	F	G
			 			 	
	5	2	1		3	6	4
	PARTY	PARTY	PARTY	PARTY	PARTY	PARTY	

**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).

	PARTY	PARTY	PARTY	PARTY	PARTY	PARTY	PARTY	UNGROUPED
	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
	SURNAME Given Names PARTY	SURNAME Given Names PARTY	SURNAME Given Names PARTY	SURNAME Given Names PARTY	SURNAME Given Names PARTY	SURNAME Given Names PARTY	SURNAME Given Names PARTY	SURNAME Given Names INDEPENDENT
	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
	SURNAME Given Names PARTY	SURNAME Given Names PARTY	SURNAME Given Names PARTY	SURNAME Given Names PARTY	SURNAME Given Names PARTY	SURNAME Given Names PARTY	SURNAME Given Names PARTY	SURNAME Given Names INDEPENDENT
	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
	SURNAME Given Names PARTY	SURNAME Given Names PARTY	SURNAME Given Names PARTY	SURNAME Given Names PARTY	SURNAME Given Names PARTY	SURNAME Given Names PARTY	SURNAME Given Names PARTY	SURNAME Given Names INDEPENDENT
	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
	SURNAME Given Names PARTY	SURNAME Given Names PARTY	SURNAME Given Names PARTY	SURNAME Given Names PARTY	SURNAME Given Names PARTY	SURNAME Given Names PARTY	SURNAME Given Names PARTY	SURNAME Given Names INDEPENDENT

SAMPLE
















## Below the line

If you vote below the line, you must **number at least 12 boxes from 1 to 12**.

Place a 1 in the box beside the candidate that is your first choice, and the numbers 2, 3, 4 and so on to at least the number 12. You can continue to place numbers in the order of your choice in as many boxes below the line as you like.
















Senate Ballot Paper  
State – Election of 6 Senators

**You may vote in one of two ways**  
**Either**  
**Above the line**  
By numbering at least 6 of these boxes in the order of your choice (with number 1 as your first choice).

A	B	C	D	E	F	G
 	 	  	 	 	  	
PARTY	PARTY	PARTY	PARTY	PARTY	PARTY	

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**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).

PARTY	PARTY	PARTY	PARTY	PARTY	PARTY	UNGROUPED
 SURNAME Given Names PARTY	<b>8</b> SURNAME Given Names PARTY	 SURNAME Given Names PARTY	<b>6</b> SURNAME Given Names PARTY	<b>10</b> SURNAME Given Names PARTY	 SURNAME Given Names PARTY	 SURNAME Given Names INDEPENDENT
<b>1</b> SURNAME Given Names PARTY	 SURNAME Given Names PARTY	<b>3</b> SURNAME Given Names PARTY	 SURNAME Given Names PARTY	 SURNAME Given Names PARTY	<b>11</b> SURNAME Given Names PARTY	<b>7</b> SURNAME Given Names INDEPENDENT
 SURNAME Given Names PARTY	 SURNAME Given Names PARTY	<b>2</b> SURNAME Given Names PARTY	<b>12</b> SURNAME Given Names PARTY	 SURNAME Given Names PARTY	 SURNAME Given Names PARTY	 SURNAME Given Names PARTY
 SURNAME Given Names PARTY	 SURNAME Given Names PARTY				 SURNAME Given Names PARTY	

**SAMPLE**

Sample ballot paper

## Your ballot papers will now include political party logos

At the 2016 federal election, your Senate and House of Representatives ballot papers will both look different. Parties who have registered a logo with the Australian Electoral Commission before the issue of writs for the election will have their logo printed on the ballot papers.

**Voting in the House of Representatives has not changed.** To make your vote count, you must **number all boxes** on the green House of Representatives ballot paper in the order of your choice.









Instructions on how to vote will be clearly displayed on your ballot paper.

**Don't worry if you make a mistake. You can ask for another ballot paper and start again.**

House of Representatives  
Ballot Paper

State  
Electoral Division of Division Name

**Number the boxes from 1 to 8 in the order of your choice**

	<b>2</b> SURNAME, Given Names INDEPENDENT
	<b>3</b> SURNAME, Given Names PARTY
	<b>7</b> SURNAME, Given Names PARTY
	<b>4</b> SURNAME, Given Names PARTY
	<b>1</b> SURNAME, Given Names PARTY
	<b>5</b> SURNAME, Given Names PARTY
	<b>6</b> SURNAME, Given Names PARTY
	<b>8</b> SURNAME, Given Names PARTY

Remember... number every box to make your vote count

**SAMPLE**

Sample ballot paper

[www.aec.gov.au](http://www.aec.gov.au) 13 23 26

