

A Principled Citizen's Three-Step Guide to

VOTING

STEP 1 | REGISTER & PLAN

Every good thing starts with a plan. Let's make yours!
Fill out the voter card below.

MY VOTER PLAN

- ☐ I've checked my voter registration.
- ☐ I've checked my state's voting information and deadlines.

I plan to vote... (circle one)

by mail/absentee

in person

Are you a principled voter? Consider the following steps to evaluate your own voting process:

- 1** Try to understand an issue in all of its complexities. Why might good, well-informed people feel differently than you? What evidence might change your mind?
- 2** Will your vote harm others or leave them behind? Make sure you are not voting for just your own interests.
- 3** Will your vote preserve and protect our democracy?
- 4** Consider the character of each candidate. Would you want someone with their traits to be your next boss or the principal of your child's school? Should you hire them for government service?

Democracy is a group project, so bring along your friends and community.

Post your completed **voter card** to social media and a blank one for others to use.

*Pro tip: On Halloween, pass candy to the kids and **blank voter plan cards** to their adults!*

Now you know how to vote — time to decide who and what you're voting for. Most Americans vote exclusively for candidates from the same party. But outsourcing your vote to political parties (with no consideration for how they behave!) creates an accountability black hole. Don't reward bad behavior with your vote.



What kind of voter are you?

Take this quiz to find out!

STEP 2 | ACTIVATE & PERSUADE

Casting your own vote is important, but speaking out in support of principled candidates and issues is how to make a real impact in politics. People can, and do, change their opinions when presented with new information from a trusted friend. How can we help our communities and friends be informed and prepared voters?

VOTER PREP PARTIES

Voter prep parties are a fun way to increase your community's political power and get informed on local issues that often get overlooked. MWEG's [voter prep materials](#) have everything you need to throw a party that even your most politically apprehensive friends will enjoy.

Gather friends and neighbors to crowd source info about what's on the ballot and enjoy each other's company. Maybe your October is already packed full of festivities? No problem. Pull out that ballot during:

- ◆ halftime of this week's big football game
- ◆ your monthly book group
- ◆ game night this weekend
- ◆ your annual Halloween party
- ◆ the end of a baby shower

Keep it cool and casual and invite your friends to chat more about it later. You'll be surprised how grateful they'll be that you brought it up.

SPEAK UP

If your conversation feels like a debate, you've already lost. Creating an environment that motivates someone to change their own mind leads to deeper and longer-lasting change. Whether online or in person, when we lead with a genuine interest in exchanging ideas and perspectives, we set the stage for self-persuasion.

Who should I invite?

**These parties are for everyone!
Know anyone who feels like this?**

APATHY

The election doesn't affect me anyway.

DISDAIN

Politics is drama! Leave me out.

CONFUSION

With so many complex and conflicting stories, what is true anymore?

EXHAUSTION

I've got so much going on already — I'm saving my energy for more joyful things.

Voter prep parties combine belonging, fun, and ballots 101 to meet everyone's needs.

Tips for Speaking Up

- ◆ *Share personal stories and why an issue is important to you.*
- ◆ *Focus on your candidate's strengths rather than comparisons or attacks of their opponents.*
- ◆ *Ask your friends if they have any questions about the candidates, and provide them with meaningful answers.*
- ◆ *On social media, post a short video about how you have worked to become a principled voter. Share the steps you've used to evaluate your vote, and tag us [@mormonweg](#).*

MY ACTIVATION PLAN

- ☐ I will host a voter prep party or talk about what's on the ballot with friends.
- ☐ I will have a persuasive conversation about politics with a friend.
- ☐ I will post on social media about a policy or candidate I support.
- ☐ I will volunteer with a campaign for a candidate or cause I support.
(Pro tip: Look to local candidates for the most bang for your buck.)



STEP 3 | GET OUT THE VOTE

All of your preparation leads to this point. Remember that high voter turnout means high accountability for our elected officials.

Some people are more likely than others to experience difficulty voting. Think of anyone you know who...

- ◆ has young children and may need childcare to vote in person
- ◆ has a disability that might require support
- ◆ may need language translation services
- ◆ is a new citizen or first-time voter
- ◆ is housing insecure or lacks time or resources to vote easily
- ◆ is in the hospital, a residential treatment center, or nursing home

Reach out and see if you can do anything to help them vote!

Just to wrap up...

- ✓ **Check your voter plan** and remind your friends about important dates as the election approaches.
- ✓ **Offer rides** to people who need them in your area through a local organization.

- ✓ **Vote!** You've done all the preparation, so head to the ballot box with hope.
- ✓ **Share.** Talk to your friends about your experience, the importance of voting, and why you have confidence in our elections.

CELEBRATE!

Informed and engaged communities are essential to a strong democracy, so take a moment to celebrate! No matter how the election ends, you can be proud of the work you've done to help build a community of principled citizens.