

## WHAT IS RANKED-CHOICE VOTING?

Ranked-Choice Voting (also known as instant runoff voting) allows voters to rank a first, second and third choice candidate for a single office. This makes it possible to elect local officials by majority vote without the need for a separate run-off election.

## WHO IS ELECTED USING RCV?

Starting in November 2010, voters in Berkeley, Oakland and San Leandro used Ranked-Choice Voting to elect most local officials. Ranked-Choice Voting does not affect the election of County, State and Federal officials or the adoption of ballot measures.

## HOW DOES RCV WORK?

To start, all first choice votes are counted. Any candidate who receives more than 50% of the first choices is declared the winner. If no candidate receives more than 50% of the first choices, a process of eliminating candidates and transferring votes begins (second choice ranking counts only when a first choice candidate is eliminated):

- **Step One:** The candidate who received the fewest number of first choices is eliminated from the race.
- **Step Two:** Voters who selected the eliminated candidate as their first choice will have their vote transferred to their second choice.
- **Step Three:** All the votes are recounted.
- **Step Four:** If any candidate receives more than 50% of the votes, he or she is declared the winner. If no candidate receives more than 50% of the votes, the process of eliminating candidates and transferring votes is repeated until one candidate has a winning majority.



Registrar  
of  
Voters

## THE RANKED-CHOICE VOTING BALLOT

This brochure shows a sample Ranked-Choice Voting Ballot. To review the official ballot, please see your voter information pamphlet or go online to [www.acgov.org/rov](http://www.acgov.org/rov)

## HOW TO FIND OUT MORE

For more information on Ranked-Choice Voting, please contact the Registrar of Voters Office.

Alameda County  
Registrar of Voters  
1225 Fallon Street, Room G-1  
Oakland, CA 94612

English: (510) 272-6973

Spanish: (510) 272-6975

Chinese: (510) 208-9665

Tagalog: (510) 272-6952

Vietnamese: (510) 272-6956

TDD: (510) 208-4967

## VISIT OUR WEBSITE AT:

[www.acgov.org/rov/rcv](http://www.acgov.org/rov/rcv)

Ranked-Choice Voting  
Voting made easy.

# Ranked-Choice Voting

## “Voting Made Easy”



# How to Mark the Ranked-Choice Ballot

## First Column

Mark your **first choice** candidate by completing the arrow pointing to your choice.



## Second Column

To indicate a **second choice**, select a *different* candidate in the second column by completing the arrow pointing to your choice.



## Third Column

To indicate a **third choice**, select a *different* candidate in the third column by completing the arrow pointing to your choice.

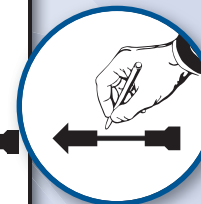


## Keep In Mind:

Your *second choice* will be counted only if your *first choice* candidate has been eliminated. Your *third choice* will be counted only if both your *first choice* and *second choice* candidates have been eliminated.

**If you select the same candidate in more than one column, your vote for that candidate will count **ONLY ONCE**.**

NONPARTISAN	NONPARTISAN	NONPARTISAN
CITY	CITY	CITY
FOR MAYOR	FOR MAYOR	FOR MAYOR
<b>1</b> FIRST CHOICE <small>Vote for One</small>	<b>2</b> SECOND CHOICE <small>Vote for One</small>	<b>3</b> THIRD CHOICE <small>Vote for One</small>
ELEANOR ROOSEVELT ← →	ELEANOR ROOSEVELT ← →	ELEANOR ROOSEVELT ← →
BOOKER T. WASHINGTON ← →	BOOKER T. WASHINGTON ← →	BOOKER T. WASHINGTON ← →
DIEGO RIVERA ← →	DIEGO RIVERA ← →	DIEGO RIVERA ← →
ARTHUR MILLER ← →	ARTHUR MILLER ← →	ARTHUR MILLER ← →
SHIRLEY HORN ← →	SHIRLEY HORN ← →	SHIRLEY HORN ← →
BRUCE LEE ← →	BRUCE LEE ← →	BRUCE LEE ← →
← →	← →	← →



**To Vote:**  
Connect the arrow as shown here.

## Write-In Candidates

If you wish to vote for a qualified write-in candidate for any of your three choices, write the person's name on the blank line provided and complete the arrow pointing to your choice.

