



# State of Maine Instructions for Voters: Marking a Ranked-choice Voting Contest



- Make only one choice per column
- Do not skip columns
- Rank as many or as few candidates as you would like

## How Your Ballot Will Be Counted

- On election night, the local election officials will count the 1st choices on all the ballots and report the results to the Secretary of State
- If no candidate wins a majority of the 1st choice votes, the ballots or memory devices containing the results will be brought to the counting facility in Augusta, to complete the RCV counting process
- Your vote counts for your 1st choice as long as the candidate has not been defeated (because of having the least votes in any round)
- If your 1st choice candidate is defeated, your 2nd choice will be counted, and so on



Governor	1st Choice	2nd Choice	3rd Choice	4th Choice	5th Choice	6th Choice	7th Choice	8th Choice
Duck, Donald	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Flintstone, Fred	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Grainger, Hermione	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Mouse, Michael	●	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Man, Spider	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Man, Super	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Woman, Wonder	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Write-in	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0

Governor	1st Choice	2nd Choice	3rd Choice	4th Choice	5th Choice	6th Choice	7th Choice	8th Choice
Duck, Donald	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Flintstone, Fred	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Grainger, Hermione	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Mouse, Michael	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	0
Man, Spider	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Man, Super	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Woman, Wonder	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Write-in	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0

Governor	1st Choice	2nd Choice	3rd Choice	4th Choice	5th Choice	6th Choice	7th Choice	8th Choice
Duck, Donald	0	●	0	0	0	0	0	0
Flintstone, Fred	0	0	0	0	0	●	0	0
Grainger, Hermione	●	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Mouse, Michael	0	0	0	0	0	0	●	0
Man, Spider	0	0	0	0	●	0	0	0
Man, Super	0	0	●	0	0	0	0	0
Woman, Wonder	0	0	0	●	0	0	0	0
Write-in <i>Bear, Smokey</i>	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	●

Governor	1st Choice	2nd Choice	3rd Choice	4th Choice	5th Choice	6th Choice	7th Choice	8th Choice
Duck, Donald	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Flintstone, Fred	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Grainger, Hermione	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Mouse, Michael	0	0	●	0	0	0	0	0
Man, Spider	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Man, Super	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Woman, Wonder	●	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Write-in	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0



- Select your 1st choice candidate and fill in the oval next to that candidate's name in the 1st choice column
- You do **not** have to rank all the candidates - your ballot will be counted even if you only rank 1 candidate for an office
- Marking all the rankings for the same candidate is counted the same as a single 1st choice vote for this candidate, as in the example above
- If you have a 2nd choice candidate, fill in the oval next to that candidate's name in the 2nd choice column
- You may rank other candidates in the same manner until you have ranked all the candidates you would like
- If you skip a single ranking, the ranking after the single skipped ranking will be moved up and counted during the RCV counting process



Governor	1st Choice	2nd Choice	3rd Choice	4th Choice	5th Choice	6th Choice	7th Choice	8th Choice
Duck, Donald	●	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Flintstone, Fred	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Grainger, Hermione	0	●	0	0	0	0	0	0
Mouse, Michael	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Man, Spider	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Man, Super	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Woman, Wonder	●	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Write-in	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0

Governor	1st Choice	2nd Choice	3rd Choice	4th Choice	5th Choice	6th Choice	7th Choice	8th Choice
Duck, Donald	●	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Flintstone, Fred	0	0	0	●	0	0	0	0
Grainger, Hermione	0	0	0	0	●	0	0	0
Mouse, Michael	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Man, Spider	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Man, Super	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Woman, Wonder	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Write-in	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0

Governor	1st Choice	2nd Choice	3rd Choice	4th Choice	5th Choice	6th Choice	7th Choice	8th Choice
Duck, Donald	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Flintstone, Fred	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Grainger, Hermione	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Mouse, Michael	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Man, Spider	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Man, Super	0	●	0	0	0	0	0	0
Woman, Wonder	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Write-in	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0

- Do **not** rank more than one candidate for the same ranking choice (in the same column)
- This is called an “over-vote” because 2 candidates have been ranked the same
- It is not possible to know which candidate the voter really wants, so the over-vote and later rankings cannot be counted
- If you skip two rankings in a row, rankings after the two skipped rankings will not be counted
- If you skip a 1st choice ranking, your vote will be counted as a blank on Election Night
- The 2nd choice will be moved up and counted as the 1st choice during the RCV counting process