

# Thank You for **VOTING**

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THE MADDENING,  
ENLIGHTENING, INSPIRING TRUTH  
ABOUT VOTING IN AMERICA

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# THANK YOU FOR VOTING: A CHECKLIST

Below is a list of everything you need to do to be able to vote, some steps to take to be a confident and informed voter, and a few extra actions that will strengthen your own impact by making sure your friends and family vote. You might even consider volunteering for a candidate, ballot initiative campaign, or issue group.

## TODAY

- ☐ Register to vote.
  - VOTE411.org, Vote.org, or TurboVote.org will help you register and follow the proper procedures for your state.
- ☐ Choose five friends to join you to vote. Set up a text chain and promise to hold each other accountable.
- ☐ Learn what choosing a particular party means in your state. Some states have closed primaries—only those registered to vote for that party will be able to vote in that party's primary elections.
- ☐ If you're already registered, confirm that your registration is up-to-date; if you've moved since you registered or updated, provide your correct address.
- ☐ Check what ID (if any) your state requires you to bring with you in order to vote.
  - USA.gov can connect you to your state's info, and VOTE411.org is also a good resource.
- ☐ If you don't already have proper ID, make a plan to get one.
  - VoteRiders.org is an organization that helps people obtain IDs.

- ☐ Sign up for election-related text alerts at [TurboVote.org](https://TurboVote.org).
  - Your state, county, or city may offer a similar service. You'll get texts for registration deadlines, reminders of upcoming elections, and Election Day reminders to vote, all specific to you and your community.
- ☐ Mark your calendar with this year's elections, including local, state, and national races, and any primary elections to choose party candidates. (Don't rely solely on reminders!)
  - [USA.gov](https://USA.gov) will connect you to your state and local sites. [VOTE411.org](https://VOTE411.org) and [Ballotpedia.org](https://Ballotpedia.org) are also good resources for dates and races in upcoming elections.
- ☐ Check the dates for candidate debates for local, state, and national races. Consider inviting friends to watch the debates with you.
- ☐ Ask your employer if they provide time off to vote, and check state laws, too.
- ☐ Ask your employer if they have a plan to encourage employees to vote. If they do, offer to help get the word out. If they don't, consider leading the effort.
- ☐ If you'd like to volunteer to get out the vote for any candidate or ballot initiative campaign, contact that campaign, your county or state party association, or prominent party organizations for information.

#### **40 DAYS BEFORE AN ELECTION**

- ☐ Confirm that your registration is active and up-to-date. If you haven't registered, make sure to do so before your state deadline. (State cutoffs vary, but all states allow registration at least up to thirty days before federal elections.)
- ☐ Check [VOTE411](https://VOTE411.org), [Ballotpedia](https://Ballotpedia.org), and your state or local election websites, which should have updated information on what's on your ballot.

- ☐ Read news stories from a variety of sources about the candidates and issues to help you make informed votes.
- ☐ Review candidates' websites, and those of issues-based organizations and political organizations you trust.
- ☐ Text your five friends these steps.

### **30 DAYS BEFORE AN ELECTION**

- ☐ Check VOTE411 or your state or local election information for the voting options in your state and county.
- ☐ Do you have the option to vote by mail?
  - If you're voting by mail, keep an eye out for your ballot, know when it must be mailed back, and make sure it's postmarked by the correct date.
- ☐ If in-person voting is standard, will you be in town on Election Day? If not, check the rules of voting absentee or early.
- ☐ Does your state have early voting? If so, check the early voting period and your polling location, which might be different from your usual polling place.
- ☐ Make a plan for when and how you'll vote, including what time and how you'll get there, and put it on your calendar. Set an alert to remind you.
- ☐ Text your five friends these steps.
- ☐ Make a plan to meet up with friends to vote if you share a polling place, or to meet after to celebrate having done your civic duty.

### **10 DAYS BEFORE AN ELECTION**

- ☐ Do any additional research you need to help you make an informed choice.
- ☐ Host a "ballot party" to go over your ballot with friends, and work together to research any of the races you're uncertain about.

- ☐ Confirm your voting plan.
- ☐ Check if there are any #VoteTogether Election Day parties in your area.
- ☐ Ask a child or teenager you're close with to join you to vote.
- ☐ Text your five friends these steps.
- ☐ Share your voting plans and ask them theirs.

#### **THE DAY BEFORE**

- ☐ Confirm your polling location.
- ☐ Confirm that you have your proper ID, if necessary.
- ☐ Check the weather and plan accordingly.
- ☐ Text your five friends these steps.

#### **ELECTION DAY (OR YOUR VOTING DAY)**

- ☐ VOTE!
- ☐ Text your five friends to vote!
- ☐ Brag! Tell your friends you voted! Post photos on social media.

## THANK YOU FOR VOTING: TELL YOUR FRIENDS

Choose five people you're going to make sure vote. Remind them of the steps along the way. Tag them below (the analog way—write it down!), then post the picture on social media, and tag them there, too. Include @thankyouforvoting on Instagram and #thankyouforvoting on Twitter.

Dear

@\_\_\_\_\_

@\_\_\_\_\_

@\_\_\_\_\_

@\_\_\_\_\_

@\_\_\_\_\_

Let's make our voices heard on Election Day. I pledge to you that I'm going to vote in the next election. Will you pledge to vote, too? Thank you for voting!

Sincerely,

@\_\_\_\_\_