

Movable Votes

Get your hands on **4** great voting rules.
See fair-share tallies organize voters.
Vote fast on **budgets**, **policies** and **projects**.



A tally board has

- ❁ A **card** for each voter,
- ❁ A **column** for each option,
- ❁ A **finish** line for the favorites.



Instant Runoff Voting Elects 1 Winner.

For a tabletop tally by **Instant Runoff Voting**:

- The **finish line** marks the height of half the cards +1. That is how many votes a candidate needs to win.
- **Eliminate** the weakest candidate if no one wins. Draw names from a hat to break ties.
- **Move** your card if your candidate loses. This is a CVD “movable vote.”
- Repeat until one candidate reaches the **finish line!**

The **chart** below shows four columns on a tally board. The rule **eliminated** Anna as she was the weakest in first-rank votes. So voter **JJ** **moved** his card. Then Bianca **lost**, so **BB** and **GG** **moved** their cards.

By organizing voters, Instant Runoff Voting **avoids**: Spoiler candidates *and* the lesser-of-two-evils choice; Costly runoffs *and* winners-without-mandates.

IRV elects **leaders** in London, Sidney, San Francisco... It elects student leaders at Duke, Rice, MIT, UCLA...

Questions on Instant Runoff Voting

1. How can your group use this voting rule?
2. A card that moves is no bigger than any other: T, F
3. Your 2nd choice vote can't hurt your 1st choice: T, F
4. Only one candidate can reach 50% + 1 vote: T, F

Cards Tally IRV Election	Anna Eliminated 1 st	Bianca Eliminated 2 nd	Celia IRV Winner	Diana Runner up
	Finish Line	Finish Line	Finish Line	Finish Line
1. The weakest candidate, Anna, was eliminated .			B B	
So voter JJ moved his card.			J J	G G
2. Then Bianca was eliminated .		Bibi moves her card.	T T	Z Z
So BB and GG moved their cards.		B B	K K	D D
3. Five voters lift Celia to the finish line !	J J	G G	C C	V V

Choice Voting Elects 3 Reps.

For a 3-seat election by **Choice Voting**:

- 🇺🇸 The **finish line** is set at $1/4$ of the cards + one.
Do not give a card to a candidate who has finished.
- 🇺🇸 Eliminate the weakest candidates one at a time.
- 🇺🇸 Move your cards until three candidates win!

CV is **used in** many Australian and Irish elections, at Princeton, Harvard, Berkeley, Oxford and Cambridge, in some unions and in the Church of England.

It gives each group their **fair share** of council seats
It elects more **women** and **minority** candidates.
It increases **choices** for voters and **turnout** of voters.
It increases the **effective votes**, those which elect reps.

Questions on Choice Voting

1. What total percent must three CV reps win?
2. What percent do you need to win one of five seats?
3. Only three candidates can win 25% + one vote: T, F
4. Who could use Choice Voting?

Answers:

IRV: ____, True, True, True. **CV**: $3/4$, $1/6$, True.

Fair-Share Budgets: no, no, yes, your option, many.

Pairwise: center, yes, yes, no, balanced, no. 4

Movable Money Votes Buy Public Goods.

For Fair-share Spending by **Movable Money Votes**:

- ✚ Let's say we each put in \$1 to buy some items.
You get two 25¢ voting **cards** and a 50¢ card.
- ✚ We say an item needs modest support from 8 of us to prove it is a public good worth public money.
So the **finish line** marks the height of 8 cards.
- ✚ You may put only one of your cards in a column.
So you can't dump all your cards on a private item.
Tip: Give your **double card** to your favorite.
This way 4 eager voters can fund a low-cost item.
- ✚ A costly item must fill several **columns**. A column here holds \$2, so a \$4 item must fill two columns.
- ✚ When an item wins, the banker hides its cards. We **drop** any item that costs more than all the cards left.
Then one at a time, we drop the least popular item, with the lowest level of cards in its columns.
- ✚ **Move** your card from a loser to your next choice.
Tip: You may save a threatened favorite by briefly **withholding** your cards from lower-choice items.

We **stop** when all items still on the table are paid up.
Only a few items can win, but all voters can win!

1. Should we let each voter or rep fund private items?
2. Did your second choice hurt your first choice?
3. Should people who pay more taxes get more power
a) to spend public money? b) to set public laws? 5

and Set Budgets

Each **funding level** is like another project. It needs enough **cards** to fill it up.

The **column** for “\$3 OJ” starts at the bottom. Its **finish line** is at the tally board's \$3 level. The column for “\$5 OJ” is blocked off up to \$3. Its finish line is at \$5; so it needs only \$2 in cards. A supporter must put a card in the lower level first.

One at a time, the weak ones lose and the money **moves** – to help favorites still in the running.

7. Should we let each member fund private items?
8. Should people who pay more taxes or dues get more power to spend public money?
9. Should a member's votes be visible to others?
10. Did your second choice hurt your first choice?
11. Who could use Fair-share Spending?

Each funding level of an **agency** is like a project. But an agency starts with [80]% of its recent budgets. So a voter cannot give it nothing and “take a free ride.”

Pairwise Tally Centers a Policy.

- ✳ Flag C stands at our center, by the median voter. Three flags surround C, about 5' from it.
- ✳ Pairwise asks: “Are you closer to flag A than flag B? If so, please raise 1 hand.” Then A against C, etc. We put each total in the **Pairwise table** below.
- ✳ The winner must top every rival, **one-against-one**.

against	A	B	C	D
for A	—	2	2	3
for B	5	—	2	3
for C	5	5	—	4
for D	4	4	3	—

- ✳ A pole stands at our center, by the median voters. It holds a short **Red** ribbon and a long **Blue** one.
- ✳ If the **Red** ribbon gets to you, the **Red** policy gets your vote with its narrow appeal.
- ✳ But if the **Red** cannot touch you, the **wide appeal** of the **Blue** policy gets your vote. Which one wins?

If the poles are places for a heater in an icy cold room:

- Do we put it at the center or in the biggest group?
- Do we turn on its fan to spread the heat wide?

- Do voters on the fringes have any influence?
- Did the middle voter enact any policy alone?
- Did Pairwise favor a balanced or a one-sided policy?
- Should a first-choice vote count more?

Full-Choice Ballots

Only small groups can use cards for actual voting. Larger groups use paper ballots tallied by computer.

Old-fashioned ballots oversimplify most questions. They let us mark only one option “yes”, leaving all others “no”. This often promotes false dichotomies leading to polarization and unnecessary conflict.

Full-choice ballots reduce those negative effects. They let a voter rank his 1st choice, 2nd choice, 3rd etc. Ranks often reveal the dichotomies, “us versus them” or left versus right, hide moderate points of view.

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2

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These rules strengthen votes and thus mandates. They organize voters and lift the number supporting

- ✦ a **Chairperson** from a plurality to a majority,
- ✦ a **Council** from a plurality to over three quarters,
- ✦ a **Budget** from a few power blocs to all members
- ✦ a **Policy** from a one-sided to an over-all majority.

Learn more at AccurateDemocracy.com.

Then build support in your school, club or town with ***FairVote***, **The Center for Voting and Democracy**