
New rules
Municipal and County
Council Elections 2003



KOMMUNAL- OG REGIONALDEPARTEMENTET

Important information about the election

- new rules for how to vote on Polling Day
- new rules for how to vote in absentia
- new rules for how to alter ballot papers

On Monday 15 September 2003 municipal and county council elections are taking place in Norway. Some municipalities will also hold elections on Sunday 14 September. When you vote, you participate in deciding what political parties and what persons will form a part of the municipal councils and the county councils

This year we have been given new and simpler rules for how to alter the ballot papers. The voters' alterations to the ballot papers will have more effect on who is elected, and the influence of the parties is reduced. It is important, therefore, that most people take this opportunity to alter the ballot paper.

New this year when you vote

Your municipality will decide where and when you may vote on Polling Day.

You may vote in any one of the polling stations in the municipality in which you are registered as a voter. This year not all voters will receive a voting card in the post as they have done for previous elections. This will be up to each individual municipality.

The ballot papers for the municipal council election are white and the ballot papers for the county council election are blue. Oslo does not have a county council election.

This is what you do:

- 1** Take the ballot paper of the party or group for which or who you want to vote in the municipal council election and the county council election respectively.
- 2** Make alterations to the ballot papers if you wish to give your vote to a candidate/s.
- 3** This year envelopes are not used. Fold the ballot papers in such a way that nobody can see what you have voted.
- 4** Go to a polling station official who will stamp the ballot papers.
- 5** Finally, put the stamped ballot papers in the ballot box personally.

Will you be voting in absentia?

You may vote in absentia in the period from Monday 11 August to Friday 12 September.

The system of voting at the Post Office has been discontinued. Your local authority will provide information as to where you may vote in absentia. If you are ill or disabled, you may apply to your local authority for an absent vote from home.

You may vote in absentia in any one municipality. If you vote in absentia outside the municipality where you are registered as a voter at the municipal council election - or outside your county at the county council election, you will receive one ballot paper. Here you will find the names of all the registered political parties but no names of candidates. Mark the party for which you want to vote or write the name of a local list.

You may not vote again on Polling Day if you have voted in absentia.

How to alter the ballot paper?

The ballot paper decides which party you vote for. If you want to vote for candidates, you must alter the ballot paper/give your vote to persons. It is no longer possible to delete candidates. Candidates shall be voted *in*, not *out*. Guidelines on how to make alterations are given on the ballot paper. Do not be afraid to make alterations! The ballot paper will not be rejected even if you make a mistake.

At the county council election you may

- *vote for candidates* listed on the ballot paper. In that case check off (by putting a cross, tick etc) in the space by the names of the candidates for whom you want to vote. You may vote for as many candidates as you want.

You may not vote for candidates from other parties/groups at the county council election.

At the municipal council election you may

- *vote for candidates* listed on the ballot paper. If so, check off (by putting a cross, tick etc) in the space by the name of the candidates for whom you want to vote.

If the name of some of the candidates are written in bold type, this means that the party/group has given priority to them over the other candidates and given them a so-called *voting supplement* which they get regardless of whether they receive personal votes or not.

You may vote for as many candidates as you want, whether they are entered in bold type or not.

- vote for candidates from other parties/groups. In that case, write the names of the candidates in a separate space on the ballot paper for your party.

Be aware, however, that if you do enter the names of such candidates, a part of your vote will be transferred to the other party/group. The value of your vote to the party/group you are voting for, will then be correspondingly reduced.

The number of candidates from other parties/groups that you may enter, is written on the ballot paper.

Fylkestingsvalget 2003

Framifrå Fylke

Fylkeslista

- Kari Korsnes, 1969
- Leif Grutle, 1935
- Marit Strøm, 1952
- Nina Karlsen, 1976
- Terje Guneriussen, 1962
- Mary Smith, 1964
- Arve Olufsen, 1979
- Hans Hansen, 1952
- Signe Martinsen, 1954
- Olav Jensen, 1981
- Sigurd Samuelsen, 1945
- Tony Lindquist, 1982

Kommunestyrevalget 2003

Dalen kommune

Bygdelista for Dalen

- Svein Johansen, 1980
- Maren Berg, 1952
- Lars Holm, 1962
- Nadia Kahn, 1970
- Stine Hansen, 1955
- Inger Østlie, 1974
- Eduardo Perez, 1941
- Hans Hansen, 1952

Personstemme til kandidater
på andre lister (slengere)
Skriv navnet her:

Anders Åc

Who will be elected?

Firstly, the polling officials will find out how many representatives the party or group will have in the municipal council or the county council by counting the votes. Secondly, the polling officials will count the votes for candidates to find out what candidates come first.

Who is qualified to vote?

- *Norwegian citizens* who have attained the age of 18 before the end of the election year, and who have at one time been registered as resident in Norway. If they are registered as resident abroad on the day of the election this is not important.
- *Citizens in other Nordic countries* who have attained the age of 18 before the end of the election year, if they were registered as resident in Norway by 31 May at the latest of the year of the election and are still resident in the country on the day of the election.
- *Other foreign citizens* who have attained the age of 18 before the end of the election year, if they have been entered in the population register as resident in Norway for three consecutive years prior to the day of the election.

To qualify as a voter a person must be entered in the electoral roll. You will be entered in the electoral roll of the municipality where you were registered as resident on 31 May of this year. If you have moved after this time, it is still the address you had on 31 May that will decide where you may vote.

Remember to bring some form of identification when you go to vote!

For more detailed information about the new system of voting, please contact your local authority or go to **www.valg.no**

The Internet address of your municipality is normally:
www.name of municipality.kommune.no

Good luck!

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