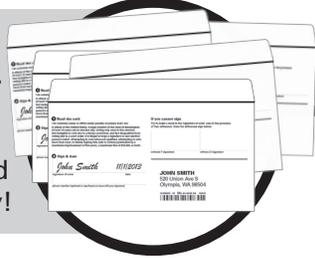


COUNTING YOUR BALLOT

1 Your county receives your ballot

Deposit your ballot in an official drop box by 8 p.m. on Election Day, or return your ballot by mail - but make sure it's postmarked no later than Election Day!



2 Your ballot is sorted

Election staff scan the envelope bar code to find your signature in the state database.



3 Your signature is verified

The signature on your ballot is compared to the signature on your voter registration record. If the signature matches, you are credited for voting to ensure only one ballot is counted for you.



If the signature doesn't match or is missing, election staff will contact you before your ballot is processed.



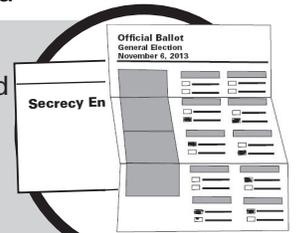
4 Envelopes are separated

The return envelope is opened and the security envelope is removed. The envelopes are separated to ensure the secrecy of your vote.



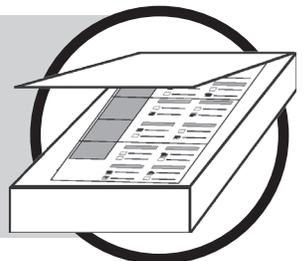
5 Your ballot is reviewed

Election staff review every ballot to verify voters followed the instructions. If a ballot can't be read by the scanner, the votes are copied onto a new ballot.



6 Your ballot is counted

Starting at 8 p.m. on Election Day all ballots are counted. Ballots will be counted over the next several days.



**IN THE 2012
General Election**

3,172,939

ballots were counted in Washington State

For more information visit vote.wa.gov