UNIVERSAL BALLOT TEMPLATE

The IEC has developed a voting aid, called the Universal Ballot Template (UBT) to assist persons with disabilities and special needs to have an independent and secret vote during elections. When the ballot paper is inserted into the template, each window aligns to a particular candidate or party and the voter is free to make his or her secret and independent mark accurately.

Who can use the UBT?



- Blind, partially-sighted people and low-vision users;
- The elderly and people who are dyslexic;
- People with low literacy; and
- People with motor and nervous conditions that do not allow for a steady hand.

How would you cast your vote using the UBT?

After receiving the ballot paper at the voting station, you must **place the ballot paper in the UBT as follows:**



- Each ballot paper has a circular hole in the bottom left corner to help with correct positioning of the ballot paper into the UBT;
- Insert the ballot paper into the template from the open area on the left of the UBT;
- Ensure that the top edge of the ballot paper rests against the top edge of the template;
- Check the correct positioning of the ballot by feeling the top right corner of the ballot paper through the cut-out triangle on the right corner the UBT; and
- Ensure that the marking squares on the ballot are aligned with the UBT windows.

Casting of the vote:



- The types of ballot used in the election will be explained to you;
- The names of parties on the ballot will be read out to you in the order they appear on the ballot;
- Ensure that you clearly understand the numerical sequence in which the parties appear;
- Identify the number corresponding to the party of your choice;
- Mark your ballot with a cross on your preferred party in private;
- Remove the ballot from the UBT and fold in private; and
- You will then be directed or assisted to deposit your ballot into the ballot box. Repeat the process for the other ballot (if any).

UBT can be used in National, Provincial and Municipal Elections as well as By-elections.

Contact the Electoral Commission

