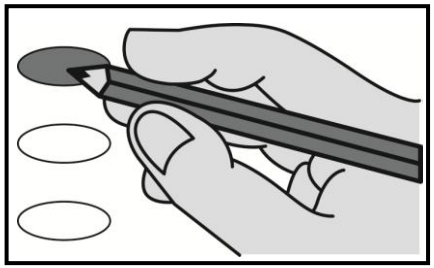
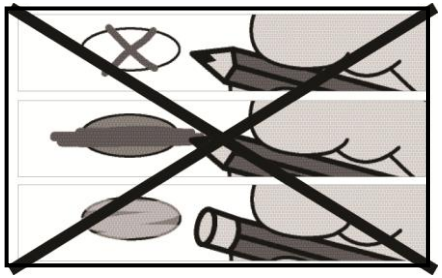
1. **Read and mark your ballot carefully.**

   Use only the following marking device(s): _____

   Fill in each oval completely next to your choice. Do not use an **X** or a ✓. Ballots that are not marked correctly cannot be counted.





   Each office title lists the number of candidates for which you may vote. Do not mark more ovals than that number. You may choose to vote for fewer candidates, or you may skip any race.

   If you mark too many ovals in a race, the votes for that race cannot be counted. The other correctly marked races will be counted.

   You may override your straight party vote for any office by filling in the oval(s) next to the name(s) of the candidate(s) you choose. Your straight party vote will not count for that office.

   To cast a write-in vote for a person whose name is not on the ballot, write the name on the write-in line below the candidates' names and fill in the oval in front of the name you wrote.

2. **Review your ballot.**

   Do not erase, cross out mistakes, or make any mark that would identify your ballot later. If you make a mistake, place all voting materials in the return envelope. Write "SPOILED BALLOT" on the return envelope. Mail or deliver the envelope to the county auditor and request a replacement ballot.

3. **Place the voted ballot in the secrecy envelope.**

4. **Place the secrecy envelope containing your voted ballot inside the affidavit envelope.**

5. **Seal the affidavit envelope.**

   The affidavit envelope must be sealed for your ballot to count.

6. **Sign the affidavit envelope.**

   The affidavit envelope must be signed for your ballot to count.

7. **Place the affidavit envelope inside the return envelope and seal the return envelope.**

8. **Return your ballot by one of the following methods:**

   - By Mail

     Postage is already paid. Your ballot must be postmarked on or before the postmark deadline: _____ or it cannot be counted.

     Postmarks are not guaranteed, so mail your absentee ballot early enough that it arrives before election day.

     Even if postmarked on time, mailed ballots must also be received in the county auditor's office by the receipt deadline: _____. Ballots received after the receipt deadline cannot be counted.

   - Personal Delivery

     You may deliver your ballot to the county auditor's office before the polls close on election day. Polls close at: _____. Voted absentee ballots cannot be delivered to the polling place on election day.

Designating Someone to Return Your Ballot

You may designate someone else to deliver or mail the ballot for you. If you choose to have someone else return your voted ballot, you may ask that person to give you a receipt.

If the person is mailing your ballot for you, it must be sent no later than 72 hours after it is picked up. The ballot must be postmarked on or before the postmark deadline and received in the county auditor's office by:

_____

If the person is personally delivering your ballot to the county auditor's office, it must be delivered before the polls close on election day and no later than 72 hours after it is picked up.

Keep the receipt for your own records. If you use a different receipt than the one below, be sure it includes all of the same information.

RECEIPT FOR ABSENTEE BALLOT

Election Name and Date:_____

Name of Designee:_____

Political Party, Candidate, or Committee (if any):_____

Designee's Phone Number:_____

By signing below, I swear or affirm that I will mail or deliver the absentee ballot by the deadline and within 72 hours of receiving the ballot.

Designee's Signature:_____

Date and Time:_____

State of Iowa
Absentee Voting Instructions
General Election

1. Read these instructions before you mark the ballot.
2. If you need help marking your ballot due to a physical disability or inability to read, you may choose any person to help you except your employer, your employer's agent, or an officer/agent of your union.
3. Check the status of your ballot at www.sos.iowa.gov.
4. Contact your county auditor if you have any questions.

County Auditor Contact Information

County Auditor: _____

Phone: _____ Fax: _____

Email: _____

Address: _____