### Names

- Upper House
  - 15 members
  - Apsley
  - Derwent
  - Elwick
  - Hobart
  - Huon
  - Launceston
  - Mersey
  - Montgomery
  - Murchison
  - Nelson
  - Pembroke
  - Rosevears
  - Rumney
  - Western Tiers
  - Windemere

- Lower House
  - 25 members
  - Bass
  - Braddon
  - Denison
  - Franklin
  - Lyons

### Number of Members

- Upper House: 15
- Lower House: 25

### Divisions (Electorates)

#### Upper House
- 15 members per electorate

#### Lower House
- 5 members per electorate

### Election Cycles

- 6 year periodic cycle in May every year
  - 3 members are elected one year
  - 2 members are elected the next year
  - This is repeated three times, and then the cycle begins again

### Scrutiny System

- Absolute Majority – more than ½ of the total number of formal votes (50% + 1 vote)

### Ballot Papers

- Single Column Ballot paper
  - Robson Rotation used to create different versions of the ballot paper by rotating the candidate names in each column

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### Voting

- Instructions: Number all the boxes
  - A By-election is held to fill a vacancy

### Expenditure limits for candidates

- $13,000 as at 2011, increases by $500 every year

### Interesting Electoral Rules

- No campaign expenditure limits
  - A recount of ballot papers from the last election is used to fill a vacancy
Notes for Teachers

**Tasmanian Parliament**
Legislative Council + House of Assembly + the Governor of Tasmania (representing the Queen).

**Tasmanian Government**
The party (or coalition of parties) who hold the majority of seats in the House of Assembly form government. This government comprises a subset of the House of Assembly Ministers + a subset of the Legislative Council Ministers.

**Cabinet or Executive Government**
Premier + appointed Ministers.

**Green + Red**
Historically significant colours used to symbolise the lower and upper houses of bicameral (2 house) parliaments, stemming from the Westminster parliamentary system. The original meanings could form the basis of an interesting research project.

**Recount**
Redistributing the ballot papers that elected the vacating member the seat at the last election. The preferences marked on these ballot papers are used to distribute these as votes to the candidates that were unsuccessful at the last election. The Absolute Majority system is used to continue the distribution and counting until one of the previously unsuccessful candidates is successful quota. In other parts of Australia, a recount means a ‘recheck of votes’ to confirm a close result following polling day.

**Going Deeper**
Interesting investigations could springboard from examining this chart, including:

- Why are there so many differences in electoral processes between the 2 houses?
- Changes in the sizes of the houses over time.
- Why is Robson Rotation used?
- Investigate previous Tasmanian Premiers and Leaders of Opposition.
- Compare and contrast the Westminster systems of parliament in use around the world.

**More Detail**
Tasmanian Electoral Commission’s website ([www.tec.tas.gov.au](http://www.tec.tas.gov.au)), including:

- My Reps – a tool for finding out what electorate you live in + who represents you at the moment
- Divisions – maps + the history behind names + more
- Robson Rotation discussion paper
- Glossary of electoral terms
- Hare-Clark in detail

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