

— PROUD TO BE CANADIAN —
**CANADIAN CITIZENSHIP
PRACTICE TEST**

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UPDATED FOR
2026



— **UNDERSTANDING** —
CANADA'S
GOVERNMENT —

 **A SIMPLE GUIDE TO HOW CANADA IS GOVERNED** 



CONSTITUTIONAL MONARCHY

Canada has a King as
its Head of State.



PARLIAMENTARY DEMOCRACY

Canadians vote and choose
their representatives.



THREE LEVELS OF GOVERNMENT

Federal, provincial/territorial,
and municipal.



RIGHTS & RESPONSIBILITIES

Rights are protected.
Responsibilities are respected.



DEMOCRACY IN ACTION

Elections, laws, and services
that support all Canadians.



**COMPLETE
STUDY GUIDE**

Covers all
key topics



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QUESTIONS**

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Understanding Canada's Government

A Simple Guide to How Canada Is Governed

Understanding Canada's government is an important part of preparing for the Canadian citizenship test. The government protects the rights and freedoms of Canadians, creates laws, and provides many of the services people rely on every day.

This guide explains the main parts of Canada's government in simple language.

CA Canada Is a Constitutional Monarchy

Canada is a **constitutional monarchy**.

This means:

- Canada has a **King** as the Head of State.
- The King acts according to the Constitution and Canadian laws.
- Most day-to-day government decisions are made by elected officials.

The King is represented in Canada by the **Governor General**.



Canada Is a Parliamentary Democracy

Canada is also a **parliamentary democracy**.

This means:

- Canadians vote in elections.
- Citizens choose representatives to speak on their behalf.
- The political party that wins the confidence of the House of Commons usually forms the government.

Democracy allows Canadians to participate in choosing their leaders.

The King

The King is Canada's **Head of State**.

The Crown is an important symbol of Canada's history, traditions, and constitutional system.

The King does not make everyday political decisions but has important constitutional responsibilities carried out in Canada by the Governor General.

The Governor General

The Governor General represents the King in Canada.

Some responsibilities include:

- Giving Royal Assent to bills passed by Parliament
- Opening and closing sessions of Parliament
- Performing ceremonial duties
- Representing Canada at important national events

The Prime Minister

The Prime Minister is the **Head of Government**.

The Prime Minister:

- Leads the federal government
- Chooses Cabinet ministers
- Helps develop government policies
- Works with Parliament to introduce and pass laws

The Prime Minister is usually the leader of the political party that forms the government.

Parliament

Canada's Parliament has **three parts**:

The King

Represents the Crown.

The Senate

Reviews proposed laws and studies important national issues.

The House of Commons

Members of Parliament (MPs) debate and vote on proposed laws and represent the people in their electoral districts.

Elections

Canadian citizens aged **18 and older** have the right to vote in federal elections if they meet the legal requirements.

Voting allows Canadians to choose the people who will represent them in Parliament.

Elections are conducted by secret ballot to protect every voter's privacy.



Three Levels of Government

Canada has **three levels of government**.

Federal Government

Responsible for matters that affect the entire country.

Examples include:

- National defence
- Citizenship and immigration
- International relations
- Currency
- Federal taxes

Provincial and Territorial Governments

Responsible for services within each province or territory.

Examples include:

- Education
- Health care
- Provincial highways
- Natural resources
- Provincial laws

Municipal Governments

Responsible for local communities.

Examples include:

- Public transportation
- Local roads & Local libraries
- Fire services & Waste collection
- Parks and recreation

Why Government Matters

Canada's government helps:

- Protect rights and freedoms
- Maintain public safety
- Provide public services
- Support economic growth
- Promote democracy

Government decisions affect many parts of everyday life.

Government Vocabulary

Here are some important terms to know:

Term	Meaning
Constitution	Canada's fundamental legal framework
Democracy	Government in which citizens choose their representatives
Parliament	Canada's federal law-making body
Cabinet	Ministers who help manage the federal government
Election	The process of choosing representatives
Member of Parliament (MP)	An elected representative in the House of Commons
Governor General	The King's representative in Canada

Study Tips

When studying government:

- ✓ Learn the responsibilities of each level of government.
- ✓ Understand the roles of the King, Governor General, Prime Minister, Senate, and House of Commons.
- ✓ Practice with government-related questions regularly.
- ✓ Review the information several times before your test.

Quick Review

Remember these key facts:

- ✓ Canada is a constitutional monarchy.
 - ✓ Canada is a parliamentary democracy.
 - ✓ Parliament consists of the King, the Senate, and the House of Commons.
 - ✓ Canadians elect Members of Parliament.
 - ✓ There are three levels of government: federal, provincial/territorial, and municipal.
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Ready to Practice?

Government questions are a major part of the Canadian citizenship test. Test your knowledge with realistic practice questions and build your confidence before exam day.

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Official Resources

- **[Government of Canada – Canadian Citizenship](#)**
- **[Official *Discover Canada* Study Guide](#)**