

Preparing for the National Nominating Convention

As your party's nominee, you will facilitate making the decisions of who will do what in your campaign. Next to each task below, write the names of the people in your political party who will complete that task either before or during the national nominating convention for your party.

Create a Banner Make a large banner for the convention. The banner should include the year of the convention, the name of the political party, a slogan, and any other appropriate creative touches. Hang the banner in an appropriate location or hold it up on stage during the convention.

Create Signs Make signs in support of the presidential candidate, the vice presidential candidate, and your political party. Typical signs seen at conventions include such slogans as "New York Loves Hillary Clinton" or "America Is Reagan Country." Slogans used on signs should not repeat the slogan created for chanting during the convention. Signs should have appropriate creative touches and use a lot of red, white, and blue. Make enough signs so that everyone in your party, except the candidates, has one to carry during the convention.

Choose Music Choose one song or create a short compilation of songs that will serve as your candidates' background music. The music should include a catchy theme song that can be used again and again at campaign appearances. Music cannot have any inappropriate lyrics.

Write a Slogan Create a slogan that can be used as a chant for your party during the convention. The slogan should be something that will get people excited about your party and your candidate. Teach the rest of your party how to chant the slogan prior to the convention. At the convention, enthusiastically lead the chanting of the slogan during the appropriate times.

Choose a Master of Ceremonies Choose an MC to write brief introductions for the keynote speaker and the presidential candidate. Introductions should be about 15 seconds long and should heavily praise the speakers (they are great people, the best thing to

happen to your party, and so on). The MC is also responsible for keeping the crowd excited and for cueing standing ovations (at least five of them) during introductions and speeches at the convention.

Choose a Keynote Speaker Choose someone to write and deliver a keynote address during the convention. The keynote speaker's address should glorify your political party, criticize the opposing party or candidates, and predict victory for your candidates in November. Coordinate the speech with the presidential nominee so that the two speeches are not repetitive. The keynote needs to be delivered eloquently and should last for one minute or less.

Choose the Vice President This is ultimately the presidential nominee's choice, but he or she may wish to consult other party members about the choice. The vice presidential candidate can be a former presidential candidate or anyone in the party who will increase the likelihood of the presidential nominee being elected. You may wish to keep this decision a secret (make sure you ask your vice presidential nominee ahead of time) until you make the announcement at the convention. Or you might want to tell other members of your party so that they can use this information in creating signs, banners, and slogans.

Write a Presidential Acceptance Speech Write and deliver a speech accepting the nomination for the office of president of the United States. The speech should briefly highlight the reasons you are the right person for the office, thank other candidates who ran against you for their current support, praise the merits of party harmony, and outline no fewer than three issues that you feel most strongly about. Your speech should predict victory in November. The speech should end by announcing your vice presidential running mate and should briefly highlight one or two important qualities of that person. The candidate needs to participate in writing this speech and needs to eloquently deliver the speech during the convention. The speech should last for one minute or less.