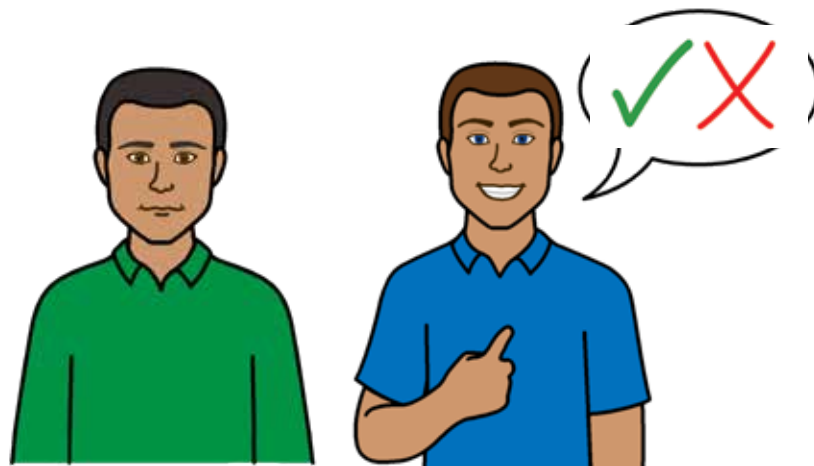




*Speak-up*  
ADVOCACY GUIDE  
SOLVING EVERYDAY  
ISSUES AND BEING YOUR  
OWN BEST ADVOCATE



**Does someone help you make decisions?**

**Ask them for help to speak up**

**ADA Australia**



**Easy English**

## Hard words



This book has some hard words.

The first time we write a hard word

- the word is in **blue**
  
- we write what the hard word means.

## You can get help with this book



You can get someone to help you

- read this book
  
- know what this book is about



- find more information.



## About this book

This book is written by Aged and Disability Advocacy Australia or ADA Australia.



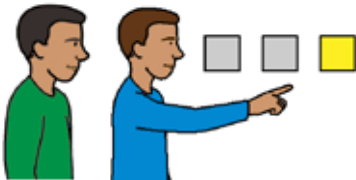
ADA Australia gives support to

- people with disability

and



- older people.



This book is about

- people who help you make decisions

and



- how to ask them to help you speak up when there is a problem.

## Who to ask for help

Someone you trust can help you make decisions.

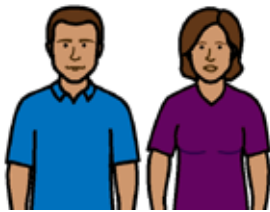
For example

- family



or

- a close friend.



You can have a **formal decision maker**.



A formal decision maker is someone who helps you make legal decisions.

A formal decision maker can be

- a **guardian**.
  - a guardian will help you make personal and health care decisions.



- an **administrator**.
  - an administrator will help you make decisions about money.





A formal decision maker can also be an **enduring power of attorney**.

An enduring power of attorney is someone who helps you make decisions about

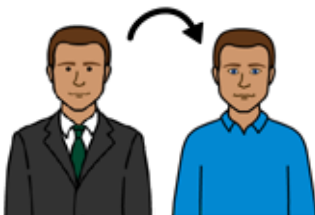
- money

or

- your health

or

- both things.



A formal decision maker can be given to you by the **Queensland Civil and Administrative Tribunal** or QCAT.

QCAT is an independent group that helps to fix problems and make decisions for people.



[www.qcat.qld.gov.au/matter-types/guardianship-for-adults-matters](http://www.qcat.qld.gov.au/matter-types/guardianship-for-adults-matters)



The different ways you can find out if you have been given a formal decision maker are

- your disability support service tells you



- your family or friend tells you



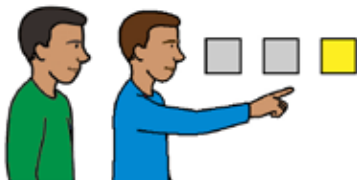
- you get a letter from QCAT



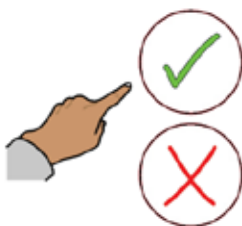
- you have an enduring power of attorney letter.



You can talk to the person who helps you make decisions.



They should talk to you about what you want when you make decisions.



They can help you fix a problem.

## More information



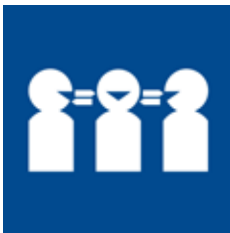
For more information or if you need more help contact ADA Australia.



Call 1800 818 338



Website [www.adaaustralia.com.au/speak-up](http://www.adaaustralia.com.au/speak-up)



### Help in languages other than English

Translating and Interpreting Service

Call 131 450



### If you need help to speak or listen

Use the National Relay Service or NRS.

Call 1800 555 677

Website

[communications.gov.au/accesshub/nrs](http://communications.gov.au/accesshub/nrs)

This guide is funded by the Australian Government Department of Social Services. Go to [www.dss.gov.au](http://www.dss.gov.au) for more information.

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To contact Scope call 1300 472 673 or visit [www.scopeaust.org.au](http://www.scopeaust.org.au)

To see the original contact ADA Australia.

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