

Improving the Olympics discussion

What aspects of the Olympics most need improving?

What do you think about Olympic mascots?

How could Olympic mascots be improved?

Discuss these ideas:

- Use a pre-existing character
- Give the contract to a company with experience of designing characters, e.g. Sanrio or Nintendo, and let them decide
- Let the local mayor decide
- Let the local councillors decide
- Allow members of the public to send in their own designs
- Allow designers from all over the world to take part in a competition
- Allow one famous designer to choose the design rather than deciding by committee
- Have a public vote
- Have a public vote in rounds with the designers explaining their ideas and improving on their efforts, like a kind of American Idol for designers
- Employ one famous designer and let them do what they like
- Let a panel of different experts (e.g. a designer, an architect and an artist) decide
- Use an update of a good previous Olympic character
- Have more rounds in the competition, e.g. top 100, then top 10, then top 3
- Give the contract to a famous children's book illustrator and let them decide
- Let school children design it

How could you improve the Olympics more generally?

Discuss these ideas:

- Ban cities from holding the Olympics more than once
- Change continent in a fixed pattern, e.g. always Asia (including Australasia) then Europe then the Americas then Africa then back to Asia
- Award it to a country rather than a city
- Have the games more often
- Have the games less often
- Make it less commercial, e.g. less obvious advertising
- Have more sports
- Have fewer sports
- Have sports that appeal more to young people, e.g. adventure sports like skydiving
- Eliminate old-fashioned sports like horse riding
- Allow to public to vote on more things, e.g. who should light the Olympic flame