

When a motion is on the floor, what if I ...

Want to **defer debate till later in the same meeting**? Use “I move to **lay this motion on the table** so that we can [do this other thing].” After concluding other business, use “I move to take the motion from the table” to resume dealing with the motion that was deferred.

Want to **defer debate and voting to another meeting**? Use “I move to **postpone** until [a meeting on this date].”

Want **more notice, broader notice, or generally better information** to enable better consideration of the topic? Use “I move to **postpone** until [a meeting on this date]” with your request.

Want **focused deliberation** before a topic comes back to the meeting? Use “I move to **refer this motion** to [an existing committee or one to be created].”

Want to **get specific information** related to the topic or information about **how to use the tools** of parliamentary process? Use “**Point of information!**” NB: raising a point of information can jump the queue, and does not require a vote.

Want to question **whether a rule is being followed**? Use “**Point of order!**” (Works exactly like “point of information”: you can interrupt the queue.). The chair and the parliamentarian will decide the question raised.

Want to **go directly to a vote**? Use “I move the **previous question.**” Non-debatable, requires a 2/3 majority to pass.

Want to **do away with a motion I myself made**? Use “I move to **withdraw** my motion.”

Want to **do away with a motion someone else has made**? Use “I move to **postpone the motion indefinitely.**” The same motion can be reintroduced at a future meeting if circumstances require.

Want to **prevent any discussion of a motion**? Use “I **object to consideration** of the question” *before debate begins* — raise your hand to be recognized after the motion is seconded. Non-debatable, requires a 2/3 majority to pass.