



Why do I need to make a Will?

What information do I need to provide to my Lawyer?



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DO I REALLY NEED A WILL?

Sometimes it's hard to figure out if you *really* need a will. Here are some reasons why you should get one:

- To make your wishes clear, reduce stress for your family at a stressful time and to ensure that there are no unnecessary delays and expenses that may reduce the value of your estate;
- If you do not have a Will your property will be distributed according to legislation which may result in people you do not want inheriting from your estate and it can cause additional conflict amongst family members if they do not get on well;
- Using a lawyer will ensure that your Will is legal and binding and tailor made to your situation, correctly details your wishes and is a document that can be upheld after your passing;
- A lawyer can assist you to appoint your own Executor who will administer your estate after your passing. A trustee company or lawyer can act as executor of your estate, but there will be fees charged to your estate to do so.

- You should review your Will every 3-5 years or if there is a significant change in your life, such as in family structure or change in financial circumstances.

DID YOU KNOW?

Divorce or marriage will revoke a Will. In both instances Wills can be made specifically in contemplation of either a divorce or marriage, in which case those events won't revoke the Will.

We've gone ahead and created a checklist to assist you in ensuring you are prepared for your initial appointment. See the next page!





What do I need to bring?



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- Any Will you may have made previously
- Copies of any trust deeds, including family trusts and self-managed superannuation funds
- Names and addresses of your proposed executors and beneficiaries (including correct spelling of full names and address details)
- Details of your interests in any companies or businesses

Details of your Assets & Liabilities:

- Real estate/mortgage (that you own or guarantee)
- Other assets or liabilities (including overseas interests)
- Trusts
- Household contents
- Business holdings
- Superannuation
- Funds in sole or joint accounts
- Shares
- Collectables
- Motor vehicles
- Personal loans
- Digital Currency (such as bitcoin, etc.)

When thinking about the beneficiaries to your estate you will need to decide:

- Who, When and How they will inherit your estate;
- Specific sums/items you wish to leave to specific people, charitable organisations
- Should a trust be established for a vulnerable or spendthrift beneficiary

Other matters for you to consider are:

- Do you wish to be cremated or buried;
- If you have infant children who would you want to be their guardian;
- Do you want to have your organs donated;
- Do you require an Enduring Power of Attorney or Enduring Power of Guardianship?