

Why make a Will?



Forrester Sylvester Mackett

SOLICITORS

What matters to you matters to us



What happens if I die without making a Will?



Are you married or in a civil partnership?

NO



Do you have Children*?

NO

YES

YES



Do you have Children*?

NO

YES

Everything is shared equally between your Children**†

Your spouse or civil partner will receive everything

Your spouse or civil partner will receive:

- Personal possessions;
- The first £270,000, together with interest from the date of death; *and*
- One half of anything that remains

Your Children**† will receive:

- The other half of anything that remains

Please note that this information is provided as a guide, and summarises the laws that determine distribution of an estate with no Last Will and Testament in 2020. This page incorporates updates to the Inheritance and Trustees' Powers Act 2014, which came into effect in October 2014.

* The term Children includes illegitimate and adopted children, but not step-children.

† If a child or a brother or sister die before you leaving children, then their children inherit in their place.



Do you have living parents?

YES

Everything is shared equally between your parents

Everything is shared equally between your siblings, or their children if they have already died. If there are no full siblings, everything is shared between your half siblings, or their children if they have already died.

Everything is shared equally between your grandparents

The estate is shared equally between your aunts or uncles. If an aunt or uncle has already died, their children inherit in their place. If there are no aunts or uncles, everything is shared between half aunts or uncles, or their children if they have already died.



Do you have any siblings?

NO

YES

NO



Do you have any living grandparents?

YES

NO



Do you have any living aunts or uncles?

YES

NO

Everything passes to The Crown

Your Will - So important and so easy

Making a Will these days is easier than you may think and if you've been putting it off because it seems daunting or expensive, then you could be making a mistake.

Writing a Will gives you peace of mind that your wishes will be respected after you die and, by making those wishes clear, you can save your loved ones any additional stress at what is likely to be a difficult time.

Without a Will the laws of intestacy (as illustrated in the flowchart overleaf) will determine what and who will receive your estate on your death. In some cases this may be unfair and inappropriate.

We can help you to put your affairs in order and set out your wishes in regard to:

- Choosing responsible executors
- Providing for your spouse or partner
- Care and financial provision for your children
- Protecting business interests
- Protecting family heirlooms from distant relatives
- Gifts to friends and family
- Leaving a legacy to charity
- Your funeral wishes.

From simple to more complex estates, we can make the process of making a Will straightforward and cost effective.



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