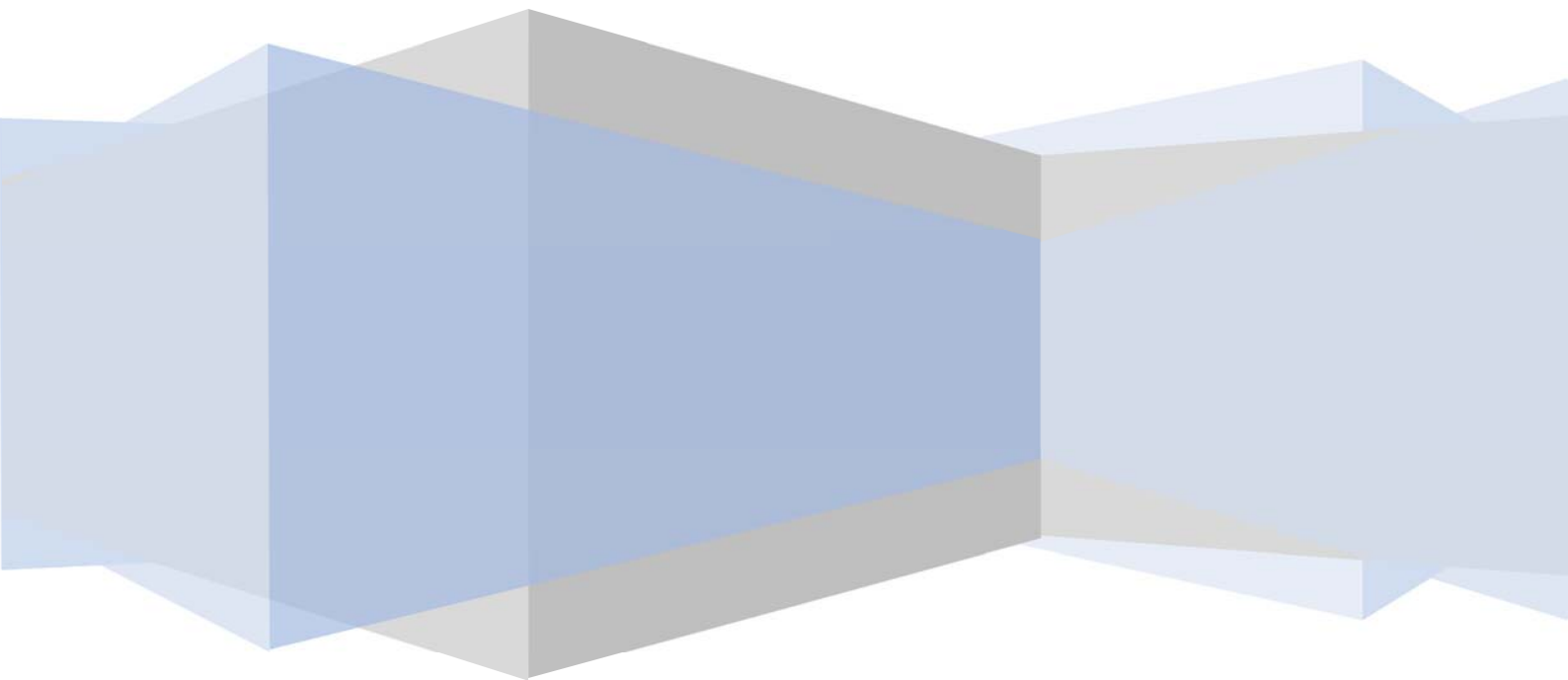


Download a Will

Planning Your Will

A Guide to Planning your Will. The things you should consider before writing a Will



Planning Your Will

What is a Will?

A Will is a legal written document that details an individual's wishes regarding the disposal of their property and belongings after their death. The individual making the Will is referred to as the "Testator" if they are male or as the "Testatrix" if they are female.

Executors

When you start to think about a Will, your first consideration is who you would want to act as your "Executor(s)". You can nominate a minimum of one Executor and a maximum of four; since this is such an important role, great care and thought should be given to who you would like to Act. Very often in the case of a married couple each spouse would nominate the surviving spouse to be their Executor, though you may wish to nominate a friend or member(s) of your family to act as your Executors.

Tick box below - select one box only	
<input type="checkbox"/>	I wish my Spouse/Partner to act Solely as my Executor
<input type="checkbox"/>	I wish my Spouse/Partner to act Jointly with another Executor
<input type="checkbox"/>	I wish Another Person or Professional to act as my Executor

Executor Name	Address	Relationship to you

Guardians

If you have children under the age of 18, your Will should also clearly document who you wish to act as “Guardians” for your children after your death. The Guardians role is to assume full "Parental Responsibility" for any minor (under the age of 18) children you may have, and your Will should also clearly state at what age any minor should inherit (normally from the ages of 18 to 25).

Guardian Name	Address	Relationship to you

Funeral Arrangements

Having established Executors and Guardians, you should next think about any specific funeral arrangements that you would like to take place after death - for example wishes to be buried or cremated. Whilst your funeral wishes are not technically binding on your next of kin or Executors, a clear statement of your wishes set down in your Will can certainly provide guidance as to what you wanted to happen to your body after your death.

Buried / Cremated	Specific Instructions

Notes:

Beneficiaries

Persons nominated in your Will that you would like to inherit your property after your death are known as you "Beneficiaries". You need to decide who you would like to inherit what, at what age and in what shares.

Specific Gifts

You should also consider if you would like to make any specific gifts after your death, such as "I give my Jewellery to..." or a gift to a specific Charity, or an amount of money to a friend or relation. You might decide that you only wanted a specific gift to take place in the event of second death, particularly if you are married or in a Civil Partnership.

Instead of naming specific Gifts in your Will, you may prefer for your Will to indicate the existence of a pre-prepared list of Gifts, known as a "Memorandum of Wishes". This pre-prepared list could be kept with your Will and as it is written by you, it would give you the ability to make changes to it yourself as your life changes, without the need to amend your Will.

Specific Gift	Beneficiary Name	Age to inherit (if a minor)

Notes:

Gifts of Residue (Second Level)

Should all the beneficiaries named above die before you or at the same time you may wish to consider "Second level" of "Residue" beneficiaries.

It is important to be aware, that should you die, and that all your named beneficiaries have predeceased you, even though you have written a Will, you would then be deemed to have died "Intestate" in the eyes of the Law, so unwittingly, all your worldly goods could pass to the Crown!

The clear message here is that however unlikely it may be to contemplate that all your beneficiaries should die before you, you should always nominate a "disaster" type beneficiary like a Charity for example so at least there is always someone who can inherit your Estate who needs the money more than the Crown!

Beneficiary Name	Relationship to you?	At What Age to inherit?	% Share	If that person dies before you should their share go to their children?

Notes: