

Making Your Will

Why is a Will Necessary?

A Will is a statement of your wishes following your death. It allows you to decide how your property is to be divided and who will deal with your estate after your death. If you do not have a Will, you die 'intestate' and the state will determine how your property and possessions are divided and who is to arrange everything.

I have nothing to leave

Add up the value of your home, your car, premium bonds, life policies and savings – you will be surprised how wealthy you are.

I want it to go to my partner. Do I still need a Will?

Yes. The law contained in the intestacy rules is complex. If you leave a large estate, your spouse will have to share your property with your children in a particular way.

We are not married. Does this make a difference?

Yes. The intestacy rules do not recognise a co-habitee as a person entitled to your property.

I am too young!!

Tragically, people die at all ages. Make a Will while you are still able to do so.

How do I provide for my children?

In your will you can appoint Guardians to look after your children while they are under 18. We can help you create a Trust in your Will for the benefit of your children. This will ensure that your money is looked after properly after your death and that funds are available for your children's care when they are old enough to look after your legacy wisely.

Gifts to charity or friends

These can only be made by Will. We can help with the wording of legacies to ensure that nothing is left out.

Do I need to update my Will?

You should consider whether or not a new Will is necessary every 3 – 5 years, particularly if your situation changes. This may be because you marry, have children, inherit money from someone's estate, become a home owner or you go through a relationship breakdown.

No-one wants to leave their savings to the tax man!

We can explain the intricacies of inheritance tax law and discuss ways of avoiding the tax bill.

Why use a solicitor?

Your Will is an important legal document. Commonly used words and expressions can have different meaning in law. We can help you through the maze of jargon and use the right words to ensure your wishes are carried out. We can make sure your Will is properly signed and witnessed so that it is valid, and can advise you on including more detailed provisions relating to your home and your personal possessions and heirlooms.

How much will it cost?

If you are over the age of 70, a single parent, or disabled you may be entitled to Legal Help. We can advise you about this. Otherwise, we will explain the costs at your first meeting with us.

What should I do now?

Simply contact the Wills and Probate team:

- by telephone on 0115 9888777 to arrange an initial appointment. If you have difficulty attending any of our offices then home or hospital visits can be arranged.
- visit www.fraserbrown.com for further information on Wills, Probate, Trusts, Inheritance Tax and other legal services.
- or fill in, clip and return the attached coupon. We will then contact you.

Please contact me, I would like advice on making a Will

Your name:

Your address:

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Post code:

Your phone number: Home: Work:

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Please return to:
The Wills and Probate Team
84 Friar Lane
Nottingham
NG1 6ED



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