

Plan with confidence



Your guide to making a Will

A Will isn't just a formality. It's the only way to make sure your wishes are followed after you're gone. At its simplest, a Will gives you control. **You decide who benefits, what they receive, and when.**

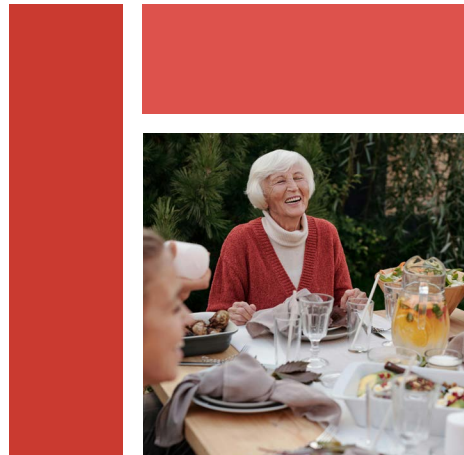
Not sure where to start? This guide walks you through what to consider when making your Will.

How much will it cost?

Executors handle your affairs and carry out your wishes after your death. They must be over 18 and not bankrupt. Choose people you trust, often family or close friends. If you appoint one executor, consider appointing a reserve.

You can name a professional executor, but this commits your estate to their fees. It's usually only recommended for complex or contentious estates. Your executors can appoint a professional later if needed.

Pavilion Row can act as professional executor if you choose.



Appointing Guardians

Guardianship usually only applies if both parents die while a child is under 18. Step-parents don't have automatic parental responsibility unless they've adopted the child or have a legal order.

If your guardian is also an executor and trustee, consider appointing another trustee for financial balance.

Review guardians regularly, as your child's needs change. Choose someone who feels right for now as it can be updated later if needed.

Excluding somebody in your Will

Certain people may be able to claim against your estate if they are not adequately provided for, including your spouse, cohabiting partner, children (including adopted and stepchildren), and anyone financially dependent on you.

You can still choose how your estate is distributed, but if someone may be left out or receive less, it's important to clearly record your reasons to minimise the success of any claim.

Speak to your adviser, we can guide you, keep detailed notes to support your decisions if they're ever challenged, and may also recommend a separate letter explaining your wishes.



Specific gifts

Specific gifts of cash or items of value can be gifted in your Will to individuals or a Charity.

For smaller personal items (e.g. jewellery or artwork), it may be easier to create a separate list for your executors. This can be updated anytime without changing your Will. Your Will should refer to this list, but it is not legally binding.

Residue

The residue is what's left of your estate after all gifts, debts, and taxes have been paid.

You should also consider naming substitute (backup) beneficiaries in case your main beneficiaries die before you or at the same time. These are often other family members or charities.

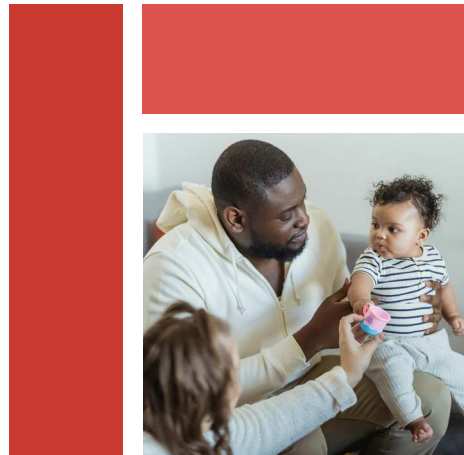
Residue is usually left as a percentage of your estate.

Including funeral wishes

Requests can be recorded in your Will but note they are not legally binding. We recommend that you also make your friends and relatives aware of your wishes, particularly if they are detailed or complicated.

Dealing with foreign property

Your Will can take account of any “moveable” worldwide assets but for any “immoveable” assets abroad, e.g. property, you are advised to make a foreign Will. It is important for us to know if you have a Will in another country so we can ensure your UK Will does not revoke it.



Inheritance tax (IHT)

No Inheritance Tax (IHT) is payable on gifts to spouses or charities. Otherwise, tax is charged at 40% on estates above the tax-free allowance. If 10% or more of your estate is left to charity, the rate may reduce to 36%. There are also some reliefs available, such as Business Property Relief (BPR). Your adviser can estimate any tax due and help structure your Will in a tax-efficient way including how to minimise tax for unmarried couples.

Will Trusts planning

Based on your objectives Trust planning may be appropriate. Typical examples of the used including:

1. Blended families for protecting assets for children on second death
2. IHT planning
3. Protection of business assets
4. Disabled beneficiary
5. Where there are concerns over divorce or bankruptcy of a beneficiary
6. Other vulnerable beneficiaries

Your adviser will discuss incorporating trust planning if appropriate.

What's next?

Complete our Will questionnaire as best you can. Once received, we'll arrange a call with one of our advisers.

Start with your objectives, they'll shape your Will and help us guide you effectively.

A few questions we often hear

Why am I completing a Will questionnaire?

It gives us the key information we need to advise you properly and draft a Will that fits your circumstances. Completing it upfront helps you think through your wishes and allows us to tailor our advice. Making the process quicker and more focused.

It's not formal or final. It simply gives us a starting point, so we can discuss your options and create a Will that works for you.

Why do you need to know details regarding your assets?

We need an overview to advise you on IHT and ensure that your desired gifts in your Will can be distributed as intended. They only need to be rough values.

What is the fee?

Our fees are available at www.pavilionrow.com/wills. The package you need will depend on the planning required in your Will.

Your adviser will confirm the cost during your call. All fees are fixed and include advice calls, draft revisions until you're satisfied, secure lifetime storage, and validity checks.

Do I really need to speak to a professional to do my Will?

A Will isn't just about having a valid document. It needs to work in practice and achieve what you intend. A professional knows the right questions to ask, helps you avoid common mistakes, and ensures your Will is structured properly so your estate can be distributed as planned.

You benefit from regulated advice and a duty of care, so your Will is prepared and executed correctly. Using a professional gives you confidence that the document will stand up when it matters.

Why Pavilion Row?

Pavilion is an award-winning, regulated law firm with over 15 years' experience. Our advisers are qualified solicitors and lawyers and also undertaken additional training with STEP, the professional body in this area of law. Giving confidence that you are receiving the best possible advice.

For clients introduced through our financial partners, we work closely with your financial adviser to ensure your Will supports your wider financial plans. Reducing the risk of family conflicts, improving tax efficiency, and making sure your wishes will work in practice.

Links to other useful documents



[Our questionnaire](#)

[More about Trusts](#)

[IHT Overview](#)



Please call or email us if you have any questions.