

Wills

Why make a Will?

Thinking about dying is not an easy thing. That's why many people put off making a will until it's too late. If you die without making a will, your estate may not go to the people you want it to go to.

By putting in place a legally valid will, you can safeguard your family's future and ensure that your money and property go to the relations, friends, and charities you choose. You may also save some tax.

Making a will forestalls any family arguments over who inherits what from your estate. You can also use your will to:

- appoint a guardian for your children should you die before they reach the age of 18, and provide financial support for that guardian
- state whether you wish be buried or cremated.

What happens if you don't make a will?

Many people assume that if they die intestate – that is, without making a will – all their assets will automatically pass to their spouse or children. This is not always the case.

- Your spouse may not inherit all of your estate. Some of it may go to your children (if any) or other family members.
- If you and your partner are not married, your partner may not get anything.
- If you are separated, your ex-spouse may be entitled to claim part or even all of your estate.
- If you haven't appointed guardians to care for your children in the event of your death, it will be up to the court to do so. Their choice may be very different from yours.

Why instruct Montague Lambert?

To ensure that your wishes are carried out to the letter when you die, you must make a will that is effective, valid and thorough. Montague Lambert is experienced in dealing with wills for clients of all types with estates of all sizes. By entrusting the preparation of your will to us, you can:

- be confident that your will accurately reflects your wishes
- be sure that it is legally valid and cancels any previous versions
- benefit from our full tax advice and planning service
- draw on our specialist knowledge of property, trust and inheritance tax law to ensure that your estate passes to the right people in the most effective way
- have your will stored safely with us at no extra charge.

To instruct us, please fill in our simple [online form](#) or [email our wills and probate specialist Eilish Adams](#).

How often should you make a fresh will?

You should always make a new will after marriage or divorce.

You should consider making a new will if you:

- win the lottery or otherwise come into money
- go bankrupt or nearly bust
- start a family
- become a grandparent
- are affected by a change in the tax rules
- fall out with someone named in the will.

Will reviews

If you made your will more than three years ago you might need to revise it because of changes in the law or your family circumstances.

If you made your will with us, or if you are a current client of ours, you can take advantage of our free will review service.