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What is a Will?





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A Will is a formal document setting out your wishes as to what is to happen to your assets after you die and appointing people called Executors who put those wishes into effect.



Maples Solicitors LLP

Why make a Will?

Virtually every adult should make a Will for the following reasons:-

You decide who is to receive what when you die. If you do not make a Will then there are rules as to who will inherit your assets and those people may not be the people you would choose.

This is particularly important if you and your

partner are not married, if you have stepchildren, if you have no children, if you do not have close relatives, if you no longer live with your spouse/partner or if you have close relatives you do not get on with.

You can make gifts to friends and/or charities.

You can state when beneficiaries (especially children) are to inherit. If you do not make a Will, they would be able to take assets on reaching eighteen years which many consider too young.

You appoint Executors.

You can appoint guardians for your infant children.





You can make sure dependants, such as disabled children, are looked after financially.

You can arrange the gifts in a tax efficient way.

You can make sure that those the law says you must provide for (people who are financially dependent upon you) are provided for thus avoiding expensive litigation when you die.

If appropriate, you can provide for assets to be held in trust so that, for example, someone has the income during his/her lifetime but stipulating who will get the capital when he/she dies.

You can state your wishes as to your funeral arrangements.

