dying without a will in England and Wales.



If you die without having made a will you are said to have died intestate. This means that, instead of your possessions and property being shared out in a way that you would have chosen, there are a set of rules which dictate how your property is distributed.

It is of particular importance to keep your will updated when your circumstances change such as separation from a partner, new children or grandchildren and divorce. Marriage will automatically revoke your existing will.

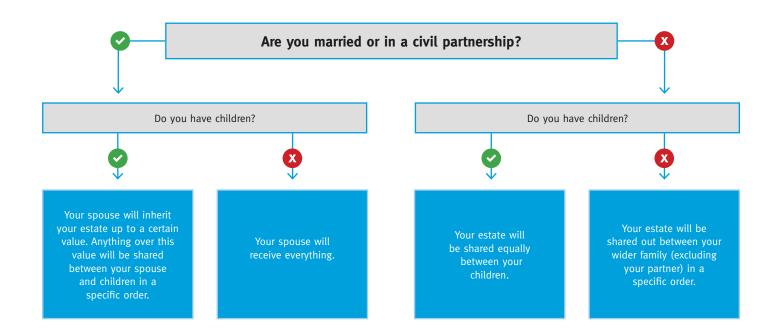
Should you be unmarried and wanted your partner or your partner's children to benefit from your estate you would need to have a will in place. Likewise, if you wanted to protect your estate from estranged family or a previous spouse you would need a will in place.

To make a valid will:

- It must be in writing, signed by you and witnessed by two people
- You must be 18 years old or over and have the mental capacity to make the will
- You must have made the will voluntarily and without pressure from anyone else

Next steps:

- Watch the Chapter 1 video
 'Using a will to put your plans in place'.
- To understand the inheritance values and specific order your estate would be divided should you not have a will in place please visit https://www.gov.uk/inherits-someonedies-without-will



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