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Why Making a Will is So Important



the Wills and Estates
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access - you should make a Will if:

- you would like to direct what happens to your assets and belongings after you die. This will help your loved ones in bereavement and may prevent disputes. Your Will can be written together with the Will of your spouse or partner.
- you would like to name the Executor(s) who will administer your Estate.
- you have children under the age of 18 years, to appoint Guardian(s) to look after them in the event of your death.
- the value of your assets exceeds the Inheritance Tax threshold. This is currently £312,000 rising to £325,000 in 2009. A Will could save the payment of Inheritance Tax, and form part of your tax planning.

access - what happens if you don't have a Will and die Intestate?

Then the Law will dictate who will receive your assets and belongings. This may not be how you would wish them to be distributed. For example, if you have children, what your spouse or partner may inherit may be limited.

access - our team

We have the qualified staff to help you prepare your Will. They have many years of experience together with up to date knowledge, to ensure you leave our office with complete peace of mind. After your death, the team can also help your Executor(s) administer the estate.

access - Executor(s) of your Will

In your Will you will need to appoint an Executor. There can be more than one Executor and these are usually a family member, friend or solicitor. The role of your Executor(s) is to ensure the wishes contained in your Will are carried out.

access - what we need to know to draw up your Will

- who you wish to be your Executor(s)
- if you are married or single
- if you have children, the names of those you would wish to appoint as their Guardian(s)
- the value and whereabouts of your assets
- how you want your assets to be distributed for example, between family, friends or charities

access - our Wills and Estates service

To make an appointment please contact:

Geoff Laws (for Chester le Street, Stanley, Gateshead and Newcastle offices)

Tel: 0191 389 5109

Email: geoff.laws@gordon-brown.co.uk

Les Murray (for Sunderland and Houghton le Spring offices)

Tel: 0191 565 5056

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