



Why do I need a Will?

We cannot take a glimpse into the future but having a Will is one way of preparing for it. While there are many reasons, we have given you 10 reasons why you should protect what you've worked hard for.

1. Drafting a Will is a serious and important undertaking since a Will is probably the most important document you will sign in your lifetime.
2. A Will is in effect a person's final instructions to his/her executor on how to handle the assets accumulated during his/her lifetime, and contains arrangements regarding, inter alia, the distribution of the person's estate and the well-being of the deceased's next of kin.
3. A Will is the only method by which a person can ensure that his/her assets, including items of monetary or sentimental value, are properly protected and distributed in accordance with his/her wishes.
4. A Will can have a great influence on the well-being of the persons that you care about, and when you draft a Will you ensure that your next of kin will be looked after when you are no longer there for them.
5. If you have children who are still minors you can nominate guardians of your choice in your Will.
6. Should a person without a Will die while he/she still has minor children, their share of the inheritance must be deposited in the Guardian Fund until they come of age.
7. By nominating an experienced executor in a Will a person who is still grieving over the loss of a loved one is relieved of the burden of complying with the requirements of the Master of the High Court.
8. Uncomfortable situations where heirs quarrel over who gets what can easily be avoided if a Will is drawn up.
9. Should you die without a valid Will your estate will devolve in accordance with a formula prescribed by the Intestate Succession Act, Act 81 of 1987, which can lead to impractical and inflexible results that are far removed from your intentions.
10. The absence of a valid Will can lead to a delay in the administration of an estate and can also bring about increased costs.

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Structuring. Tax and investment implications. Drafting of wills. Formation of trusts. Trust tax and fiduciary management
Deceased estate property transfers. Independent trusteeships. Estates and estate planning and structuring.
Drafting of wills. Formation of trusts. Trust tax and fiduciary management services. Executorships.

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