



How To:



# Avoid the Most Common Estate Planning Mistakes

Start Here:

**Poor planning – or not planning at all –** can mean your family will spend more time and money to settle your estate. Here's how you can easily avoid some of the most common mistakes.

## Make a Plan

If you create your Will yourself, consider finding an attorney who'll review for a fixed fee.



**CREATE A WILL, POWER OF ATTORNEY & ADVANCE HEALTHCARE DIRECTIVE**



**MAKE SURE DOCUMENTS ARE DRAFTED APPROPRIATELY**



**SIGN & NOTARIZE DOCUMENTS**

## Update Regularly

**REVIEW YOUR DOCUMENTS ANNUALLY**



Update Documents if You...



**GET MARRIED**



**GET DIVORCED**



**START A FAMILY**



**REMEMBER:**

**UPDATE BENEFICIARY FORMS**

The info in your beneficiary form will be followed, regardless of what your Will says.

## Helpful Tips

Don't Forget...



**TALK ABOUT IT!**

No matter what your plan is, make sure to let your family know where your documents are and how to reach your attorney.



- ✓ **Consider Legal Insurance**  
Offered by companies like ARAG®, legal insurance allows people to contact a credentialed Network Attorney and complete estate planning documents more easily and affordably than they could on their own.
- ✓ **Consider an Attorney to Avoid Estate Taxes**  
Make sure your family, not the state, gets what you leave behind.
- ✓ **Make Sure Your Living Trust is Funded**  
If you create a living trust, it's important to retitle assets in the name of the trust.
- ✓ **Title Assets Appropriately**  
Is the deed to your home properly titled? If someone will inherit the home, you might save money by adding their name to the title while you're living.
- ✓ **Consider Long-Term Care**  
You'll likely need to receive or provide care. What impact will that have on your estate?

To find out more...

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