



A will is the best way

A WILL is an important legal document. It helps ensure the right people are provided for when you pass away and ensures your assets are distributed according to your wishes.

If you own property and possessions or have control over property and possessions, you should have a will.

If you don't have a will, your assets will be distributed among your closest relations according to a fixed legal formula that differs from state to state.

As a consequence, your close family members might end up with less than you intended, or your assets could even go to someone you didn't plan to leave anything to.

A trustee organisation, solicitor or financial planner can help you prepare a will for about \$180 an hour.

You can also prepare your own will by using a will kit.

However, by doing it yourself you run a greater risk of your wishes being successfully challenged or misinterpreted. Receiving

professional will advice is also important.

It provides you with the opportunity to talk with an expert about your available options and consider all the necessary information.

If you already have a will, it's important to make sure that your will is updated to reflect any changes in circumstance, such as marriages, separations, births, deaths, retirement or even purchases of major assets.

Outdated wills often have nasty consequences, including assets being left to unintended benefici-

aries, such as estranged partners.

When you're ready to write your will or update your existing will, there are many important things to consider.

It's often surprising how complex all this can be, especially trying to anticipate the needs of your family and the possible disputes that may arise.

For further information or contact details, view the State Trustees in Victoria website at statetrustees.com.au



As you wish: A will makes your intentions clear.