

# Writing your will.



# Wills

**A clear and up-to-date will can give you peace of mind that the financial wellbeing of your loved ones is planned for after you are gone.**



## What is a will?

A will is a legal document that lists how you want your assets distributed after you die. Your assets are your property and belongings that have value like a house, car and bank accounts. When you die, your assets are called your estate.

In your will you can also include:

- who you want to look after your children until they turn 18
- what you want to happen at your funeral
- if you want money donated to charities and causes that you care about.

A will also allows you to appoint an executor – the person or organisation responsible for following the instructions in your will and distributing your assets.

## What happens if you die without a will?

If you die without a will, you die ‘intestate’. Being intestate means that the law of the state or territory you live in will decide how your assets are managed and distributed.

The law will not take into account your wishes for who you want your assets to go to.

Creating a will and updating it regularly means you can control which family members, friends or charities will receive a benefit from your estate after you die.

## Why choose us to help you write your will?

- We write more wills than any other organisation in Victoria
- We understand the complexities of the law relating to wills and estates
- You get high quality guidance and expertise
- You can safely store your will for free in the Victorian Wills and Powers of Attorney Registry.

**www**



You can view all fees and charges on our website  
**[statetrustees.com.au/fees](http://statetrustees.com.au/fees)**

## Your will options

There are two ways we can help you prepare your will:

### 1. Face-to-face with a professional will writer

A standard will appointment takes around one hour. During the appointment, our will writers will step you through each section of your will including your beneficiaries, executor, powers of attorney, gifting, trusts and charitable giving. They will answer your questions and make sure your will accurately reflects your wishes.



Book your appointment online or call us on **1300 138 672**.

We can also help you prepare your Powers of Attorney (including Medical Treatment Decision Maker Authority) at the same appointment.

### 2. Write your own with the State Trustees Online Will

The Online Will is a good option for those with straightforward circumstances. It is an easy step-by-step process.

The Online Will guides you through completing your will by asking you a series of questions online. You are able to save and edit your will before completing it within 90 days and your completed will is then emailed to you for signing.

## Safely storing your will

After you have written or updated your will, you should store the original in a safe place. We manage the Victorian Wills and Powers of Attorney Registry as a safe place to store your will and powers of attorney documents. Over 80,000 Victorians choose to store their documents with us.

Make sure your executor knows where to find your documents when they need to.



For more information about the Victorian Wills and Powers of Attorney Registry, call us on **1300 138 672** or visit us at [statetrustees.com.au/register](https://statetrustees.com.au/register)





# Contact us

Talk to us about how we can help you feel confident that your financial and legal affairs are in good order.

www



You can make an appointment or find more information on our website: **statetrustees.com.au**

## Call us



### Telephone

1300 138 672  
8.30am – 5.00pm  
Monday – Friday

## Write to us



### Mailing address

GPO BOX 1461,  
Melbourne,  
Victoria, 3001

## Visit us (By appointment)



### Footscray

1 McNab Avenue,  
Footscray,  
Victoria 3011

### Dandenong

Shop 4,  
157 Lonsdale St  
(corner of Foster St)  
Dandenong,  
Victoria 3175

### Bendigo

41 Edward Street,  
Bendigo,  
Victoria 3550

## Connect with us



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