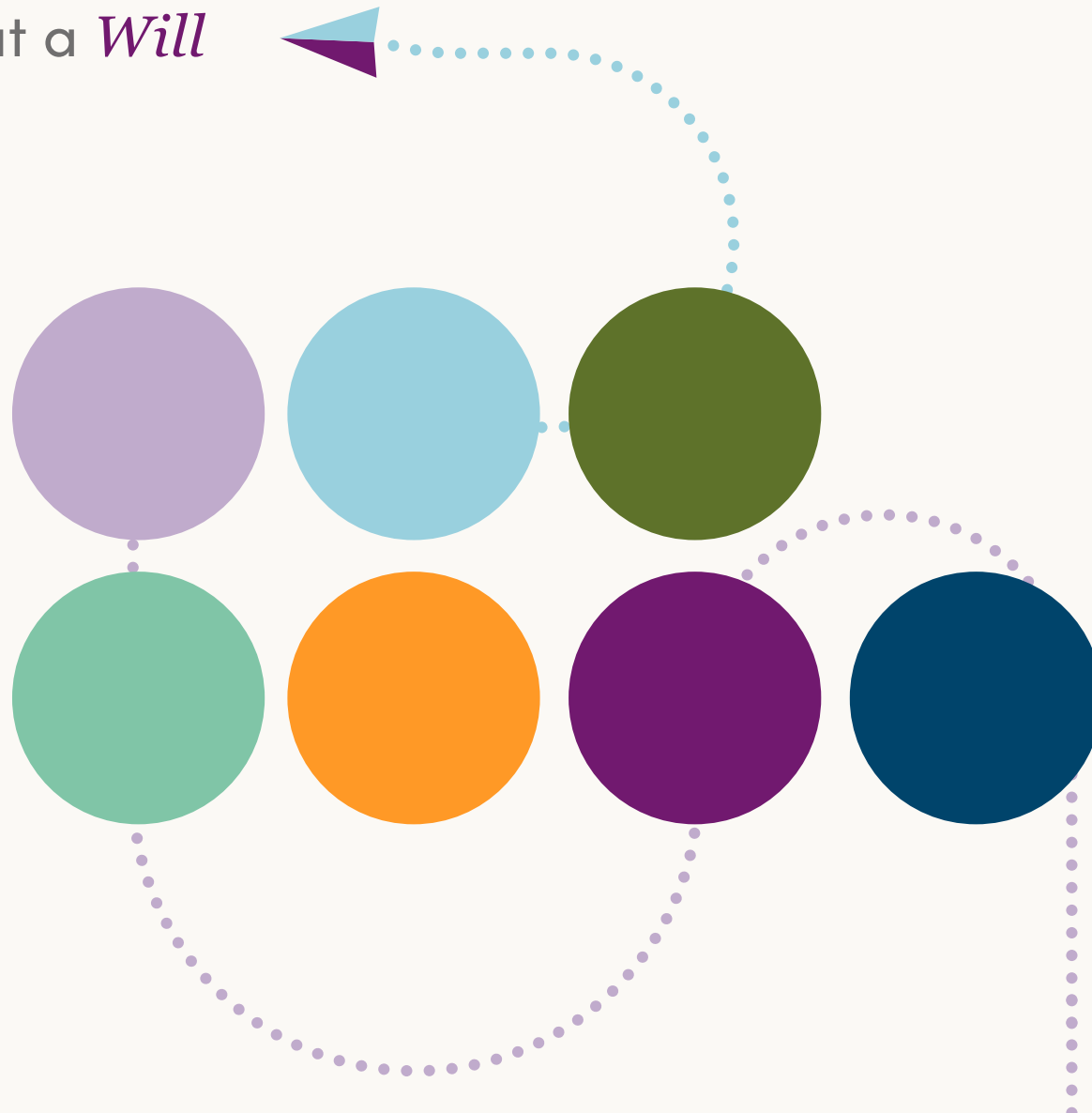


lindsays

Seven key times in life
to think about a *Will*





Now is a good time to get started

Making a Will is a simple thing you can do for your family, and probably easier than you think. In addition, it's almost certainly cheaper than dealing with the consequences of NOT having a Will.

We'd be happy to discuss our fees with you and tell you about discounts available for having multiple docs prepared at the same time.

Our lawyers offer expert advice across all areas of law important to people and businesses throughout Scotland.

For you and your family our experienced private client team can help with all your needs from wills, power of attorney and trusts to executries and guardianships.



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When's the 'right' age to make a *Will*?

Any age. It helps you protect your loved ones and your assets, and you don't have to be old or rich to need one.

Here are seven key stages in life when you should think about making (or updating) a Will.

1



Buying a home

Why take risks with your biggest asset? A Will lets you decide who to leave it to, rather than it being controlled by Scottish inheritance law. If you buy with a partner or friend, a Will is especially important because they don't have automatic rights to inherit.

Relationship changes

A life change such as cohabitation, marriage, civil partnership, separation or divorce is a time to make sure your assets will go where you want them to. An up-to-date Will can protect the people you care about.



2

3



Having a child

Making a Will is an important way to do the right thing for your children. As well as protecting their financial interests, you can make other provisions such as naming guardians.

4



Having or owning a business

Like your home, a business may well be a major asset (or potential asset). A Will (and Power of Attorney) helps give clarity about who you want to run it in future as well as protecting against the loss of valuable tax reliefs.

A second marriage or family

Since inheritance rules don't always match the realities of modern family life, a well-made Will can help you provide for children from different marriages, stepchildren and former or current partners, as well as helping avoid family disputes.



5

6



Retirement

Stepping back from work is a sensible time to think about inheritance and tax planning. A Power of Attorney and a Living Will (see overleaf) can also be part of retirement 'good housekeeping'.

Changes to inheritance tax or rules

Not knowing about this area could leave your family paying tax unnecessarily on your estate or facing unexpected legal issues. Making a Will (and having it checked occasionally) could prevent this.



7

A Power of Attorney can also protect your family

As with Wills, many people think that Powers of Attorney are just for the old or infirm. This isn't the case, they too can be valuable at any stage of life.

A Power of Attorney (PoA) is a legal document giving one or more people authority to make decisions on your behalf. These could relate to health and welfare, property and finances, or both.

If you think of a PoA as being similar to an insurance policy, it's easier to see why they're so useful. For example, if you were out of action for any reason, a PoA would enable a trusted relative or friend to take care of your interests.

A Living Will adds extra clarity

Clients often ask us whether a Living Will (or 'advanced directive') is the same as a PoA. It isn't.

A Living Will sets out what medical treatment or care you would prefer if you lose capacity and can't communicate yourself. Unlike a PoA, it doesn't appoint someone else to make these decisions for you.

It's another simple way to make life easier for family and friends if something happens to you - helping to prevent the stress of disagreements or uncertainty about your wishes.



BEWARE THE PERILS OF DIY DOCUMENTS

Going online provides the answers for many things, from shopping to social life. But not all online solutions work out so well. Online DIY Wills and Powers of Attorney all too often lead to families facing hefty bills, delays or disputes because the document turns out to be invalid, poorly worded or not tailored to your circumstances.

“Lindsays is ‘a well-organised, modern firm with a good reputation’. The lawyers are ‘pragmatic and focused on doing high-quality work.’”

Chambers UK

“The team works very smoothly in that there is always someone to acknowledge an email or phone message, which gives peace of mind.”

Legal 500

“Lindsays ‘provides excellent client experience and the lawyers are very knowledgeable.’”

Chambers UK

“What sets Lindsays apart from some other firms is that they are all just really nice, normal people who are able to engage with their clients in a professional but personable manner, giving the client confidence that they are in good hands.”

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