

A practical, step-by-step checklist to help you prepare for life as an empty nester!

You've helped them take their first steps as a baby, and now they've walked across the stage at graduation, but as parents, we know our jobs are a lifetime position. Of course, we still worry about our kids and their futures, but when was the last time you thought about your future and how it will impact your now-grown children. and someday, grandchildren? Now's the time for some fine-tuning of your will and estate plan.

Don't know what to do first?

Contact us today!



First things first, Do you know where your will is?

Life happens, and sometimes even important documents can be misplaced. You need to draft a new one as soon as possible if that is the case. In any case, make sure you have all of your legacy-building documents in one place, in a protected and easily accessible place. Tell someone you trust where these documents can be found, or let your estate manager know if you feel more comfortable with that.

When was the last time you updated your will?

You should be doing this no matter what stage of life you're in, but a lot has probably changed since your kids were in diapers. Have you purchased additional property? ProTip: if you have purchased a property in another country, make sure you have two different wills for each country.

Do you need to omit or re-word guardianship language since you have grown kids? Have you had a falling out with loved ones or friends who were previously in your will? Do you need to change beneficiaries or trustees? ProTip: this is especially crucial if any of your beneficiaries have passed away or have developed substance abuse or mental health impairment.

Our estate planners can help you with any of these changes.

NOTES			

Planning · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · ·	NOTES
for grandkids:	, NOTES
If you're at this stage, don't forget to add your grandchildren	
as beneficiaries.	
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Managing mara	• •
Managing more	
considerable assets:	•
	• • •
You've worked hard to build your wealth, and now it's time to consider	
all of your options, for example, adding charitable giving or trustees.	•
We can help with all of those decisions when it comes to managing	• •
larger assets.	
Implementing · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · ·	
retirement planning:	
Your money has been working hard for you all these years. Meeting	
with your financial advisor can help you make the best decisions for	•
your money as you advance.	

Discuss with your spouse and	• •	NOTES
children long-term care plans:	• •	
	• •	
We know it's difficult to think about, but be prepared to discuss your	• •	
wishes with your family in the event of a serious illness or age-related	• •	
decline. For most people they can get affordable long-term-care	• •	
insurance after the age of 60, but the sooner you plan for the more	• •	
affordable the coverage will be. If that seems like a long time off, we	• •	
agree and we hope you'll never need it, however planning for home or	•	
nursing care now, when you don't need it could end up saving you	•	
money in the long run.		
	• •	
	• •	
Legacy		
	• •	
planning:		
*		
You likely have a lot of people who love and depend on you. Have you	• •	
thought about what kind of legacy you'd like to leave your family after		
you've gone? Some people feel uncomfortable considering this, but		
think of your legacy as a gift you're leaving behind. Building your * * * * * * * * * * * * *		
your funeral, and even a website to leave your family.		
your ramoral, and even a website to leave your rammy.		
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Funeral	•	• •	NOTES
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planning:	•		
If you included funeral planning instructions earlier in your life, you may			
want to revise and update your final wishes. Now that you've grown		•	
wiser, you may not want the same things as when you first drafted your	•	•	
last will in testament. A skilled and knowledgeable legacy planner can	•	•	
guide you through the process of pre-planning your funeral.	•		
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Talk to your adult children	•	•	
-	•	•	
about estate planning:	•		
	•		
Ensure that part of the legacy you leave is educating the next	•		
generation on the importance of wills and estate planning at any age.			
	•	•	
	•	•	
We hope this checklist helps keep things organized now that you are	•	•	
empty nesters. Please contact the Wills & Wellness attorneys to discuss	•		
what actions need to take place to develop a Will and Estate Plan.	•		
Please contact Kim Ruddell kim@willsandwellness.com in order to	•		
schedule an appointment or call 720-266-8190 .			