



# THE IMPORTANCE OF MAKING A WILL

By Helen Russell



*James L. Russell & Son*  
SOLICITORS AND NOTARY PUBLIC

**Probate & Estate**

---

**Matrimonial &  
Family Law**

---

**Conveyancing**

---

**Criminal Law**

---

**Tax Law**

---

**Notary Services**

**JAMES L. RUSSELL  
& SON**

55 High Street  
Ballymena  
County Antrim  
BT43 6DT

Telephone: 028 2565 2154

[www.jameslrussell.com](http://www.jameslrussell.com)

## For most people, the idea of making a Will is something they do not want to think about as;

- It can be very emotional
- The prospect of making one seems difficult

## The reasons why making a Will are important ranges from;

- Gives the person control and their own say over their affairs
- Gives family and friends peace of mind

## If you do not make a Will it could mean;

- That your estate could go to people who you never intended to benefit
- That your estate could pay considerably more in Inheritance Tax

A Will is a very flexible document and can be easily set up.

A Will can be changed as many times as you need should your circumstances change.

A Will is a very private document and no one can see your Will until you pass away.

## The main things to consider are;

1. **EXECUTORS** – these are the people who deal with your estate after you pass away. Ideally these should be business minded family or friends or professional advisers such as Solicitors. Our suggestion is to appoint two.
2. **GENERAL OR SPECIFIC** – in relation to the contents of your Will. You may wish to give certain things to certain people (i.e. I leave my daughter my engagement ring) OR you may wish to give all your estate to a certain person (i.e. I leave all my estate to my nephew) or split between certain people (i.e. I leave all my estate to be split equally between my friend Henry and MacMillan Cancer).

It is a good idea to prepare a list of assets and liabilities so that when you consult with a Solicitor they can advise you on any tax saving steps if applicable.

It is not difficult to make a Will.

Solicitors often offer home visits and the price can range from £50.00.