

# Getting organised before you die

Dying Matters

It can seem hard to think about death. But making plans for after your death can help your family and friends. Making plans for after your death can help you too.

We have listed below some things it can be helpful to do.



## Write a Will

In a Will you write what you want to happen to your money when you die. You can write what you want to happen to your things too. And you can write what you want to happen at your funeral.

It can cause problems if you do not write a Will. Your money and things may not be given out to who you want. They will be given out based on legal rules.

Writing a simple Will is easy. You can buy a kit that explains how to do it. Banks, shops and supermarkets sell the kits.

A solicitor should check your Will after you write it. They will make sure you have not missed anything.

A solicitor is a person who helps people with legal issues.



## Plan your funeral

There are lots of options when you plan your funeral. It can help to write down what you want. You can give what you write to your family or friends. Or you can give what you write to a funeral director. Or you can put what you write in your Will.

A funeral director helps to organise and run funerals.

You can also talk to friends and family about what you want at your funeral. People often feel better after they talk.

You can find more information on planning a funeral at [hospiceuk.org/arrange-a-funeral](https://www.hospiceuk.org/arrange-a-funeral)

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## Plan your care

It can help to plan what you want to happen if you get very ill. You can think about what care you would like. And where you want to be cared for. And if there are treatments you do not want.

Planning can help to think about what is most important to you.

You should write down your plans and give them to someone you trust. A doctor or nurse can give you a form to write your plans down. It is called an advance care planning form.



## Think about organ donation

Your organs are things like your kidneys and liver. You can donate your organs to other people when you die. Your organs could be used to help people who are ill and need a transplant.

There are different laws about this in England, Northern Ireland, Scotland and Wales. The NHS has a website to tell you about the laws near you. The website is [organdonation.nhs.uk](https://www.organdonation.nhs.uk)



## Think about technology

Many of us have personal information online. This includes on social media and websites. We have information on our phones and tablets too. Often it is protected by passwords.

It is good to decide what you want to happen to your information when you die. And you should choose who you want to take action for you. You can get more help at [digitallegacyassociation.org](https://www.digitallegacyassociation.org)



## Telling friends and family

You should let your friends and family know about your plans. Especially if you want them to help with your plans.

You should also keep your plans somewhere safe. And let your friends and family know where they are.

Dying Matters is a campaign run by

