

PRENUPTIAL AGREEMENTS



Planning a wedding?

Planning a wedding is an exciting time - and also a time when you start thinking about your long-term future. You're probably looking forward to a long and happy marriage but it's also natural to wonder what unexpected twists and turns life might bring.



That's why, when planning a wedding or civil partnership, it's a good idea to prepare for every eventuality. After all, none of us can accurately predict where life may take us in 10 or 20 years' time. With a Prenuptial Agreement in place, you and your partner can enter into marriage safe in the knowledge that you'll both know where you stand if you do choose to end your marriage in the future. There is no need to be rich or famous to protect your assets.

Who should consider a Prenuptial **Agreement?**

- You have assets such as a home, stocks or shares, inheritance or retirement funds
- You are a business owner
- You have children and / or grandchildren from a previous marriage
- One of you is wealthier than the other
- One of you will be supporting the other through higher education
- You are undertaking a qualification which could lead to a potentially lucrative career
- You have loved ones who require care
- Your business is successful now or is predicted to be in the future

The benefits of a Prenuptial Agreement are:

- Protecting family property and possessions intended to be passed down through generations
- Protecting the needs of children
- Helping those entering a marriage for a second time
- · Agreeing financial expectations before a marriage

Approaching the subject

Asking for a Prenup certainly doesn't mean that you expect your marriage to fail - and it doesn't have to detract from the romance and excitement of your special day. With the help of our friendly and experienced solicitors, putting an agreement in place is a straightforward and sensible way to protect your future. And once it's in place, you can get on with planning and enjoying your wedding day and your life together as a happily married couple.

Prenuptial Agreements, set out in writing what should happen to each person's assets and finances if the marriage breaks down. It gives you both the opportunity to agree in advance what is fair - rather than one of you losing a large chunk of your assets in the event of a divorce.

At QualitySolicitors Large & Gibson we've created agreements for many couples and our expertise provides the peace of mind that everything has been done correctly. With a proper agreement in place, your wishes are more likely to be accepted by the courts in the event of a divorce - which could save you thousands or even millions of pounds in the future.

It is best to draft the agreement well in advance of your wedding day. This gives plenty time to get the agreement right and it will be looked on more favourably by the courts than an agreement that has been put together at the last minute.

The key elements of a Prenuptial Agreement

- Signed in advance the document should be signed at least 3 weeks before the wedding to avoid the appearance of coercion.
- Honesty both parties must fully disclose their assets. If it turns out that either party has hidden an asset the agreement may fail under scrutiny of the Court.
- Is it fair? a valid Prenuptial Agreement should be fair. The Court will always perform a discretionary review of agreements upon divorce and will seek to ensure fairness.
- Formality beware of online Prenuptial Agreements with no need for a Solicitor. These could be invalid as both parties need to be fully advised as to the terms and consequences of the agreement.

Next Steps

The first step is to call us. You'll speak with a friendly legal assistant who will take your details and put you in touch with one of our expert lawyers. We offer **Free First Advice** over the phone.

We also offer a 45 minute one to one, face to face advice service without obligation. We call this our £99 Ask the Legal Expert service. To find out more:

- Pick up an Ask the Legal Expert guides in our reception area or call us to find out more
- Or visit www.qualitysolicitors.com/largeandgibson
- Or contact us on 023 9229 6296 or reception@largeandgibson.co.uk

Why QualitySolicitors Large & Gibson?

With QualitySolicitors Large & Gibson, creating a Prenuptial Agreement is straightforward and hassle-free. Our team will explain the process clearly and answer any questions you may have. We offer free, initial over-the-phone advice, so you can find out about the process, timescales and costs with no obligations.



Contact us

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