

## MY EXECUTOR: DOES IT HAVE TO BE MY LAWYER?

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In drafting a Will, one of the most important decisions a Will Maker needs to make is who to appoint as their Executor. The Executor has the unenviable task of determining what your Estate consists of, calling in all Estate assets and overseeing distribution of those assets to the beneficiaries. This can take time and be complex, depending on the type of assets that you own. Often the appointment of a professional such as a solicitor, accountant or authorised trustee company as the Executor is appropriate. The use of such professionals as Executor has obvious cost, which will be borne by your Estate, and paid from Estate funds before distribution of the balance of the Estate to your beneficiaries.

So how do you know when to use a professional Executor? As a rough guide, if you have any of the following, the use of a professional Executor may be appropriate:

- Business
- Farm
- Company
- Trust
- Self Managed Superannuation Fund
- Partnership
- Difficult family relationships
- No close family member or friend who is appropriate to act as your Executor

If your Estate is simple and none of these situations apply, then the appointment of a trusted family member or friend may be appropriate for the administration of your Estate and may also save your Estate (and beneficiaries) money.

This is general information only, and does not constitute specific legal advice. If you would like further information in relation to this matter or other legal matters please contact our office at [reception@hhg.com.au](mailto:reception@hhg.com.au)



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