

## We are commonly asked 'What does it cost to prepare a simple will?'

The answer is: "It all depends on the circumstances"

What you might think to be a 'simple will' may turn out not to be so. Generally speaking, even 'simple wills' take two hours preparation including meeting with you to take instructions, preparing the will, making any amendments and attending to have the wills signed. Solicitors charge at an hourly rate<sup>i</sup> - usually \$484 per hour. At that rate, even simple wills would cost at least \$968.00. However, we recognise that this is far more expensive than most people can afford or are prepared to pay and we endeavor to prepare wills at a lesser cost.

This document is a guide to the likely cost of preparing your wills.

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### Level 1 Will – A "simple will"

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Details	Price
<p>A "simple" will is one where you leave your estate to your partner, or if they die before you, to your children.</p> <p>The following issues (<i>there may be others</i>) take the situation outside of 'simple':</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>- Testamentary capacity (if there is any doubt whether you have the capacity to make a will)</li><li>- Blended family situation (either you or your partner have children from previous relationships)</li><li>- Omitting a child or other person from your will</li><li>- You have a Discretionary or Unit Trust, business or private company</li><li>- You wish to establish a testamentary trust (so as to protect, for example, against the failure of a beneficiary's marriage, drug dependent beneficiary etc)</li><li>- Assets overseas</li></ul>	<p><b>\$550.00<sup>ii</sup> Single Will</b> <b>\$880.00 Mirror Wills</b></p> <p><b>Pensioners:</b> <b>From \$400.00</b> <b>From \$550 for mirror wills</b></p>

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### Level 2 Will – Wills involving blended families<sup>iii</sup> or other complexity

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Details	Price
<p>If the Will is more complicated <sup>iv</sup>, for instance it involves one or more of the matters set out in the preceding table, then it will involve additional time in preparing your will. These wills usually cannot be prepared at the first meeting and will need to be sent out to you for review.</p>	<p><b>\$750.00 Single Will</b> <b>\$990.00 Mirror Wills</b></p> <p><b>Pensioners:</b> <b>\$550.00 Single Will</b> <b>\$770.00 Mirror Wills</b></p>

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### Level 3 Will - more complex will, involving trusts

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Details	Price
Typically this will involve either a “protective trust” (where one or more of the beneficiaries is under some disability e.g. drug/alcohol dependent) or a “blended family” situation whereby a life estate is created (a life estate permits your partner to live in a property owned by you both as tenants in common until their death or remarriage. The property then falls back into your estate and passes, for example, to your children):	<b>\$990.00 Single Will</b> <b>\$1,550.00 Mirror Wills</b>

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### Level 4 Will – complex will

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Details	Price
<p>These wills are typically required where;</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>- you have substantial assets and/or assets held through a company structure or a discretionary family trust;</li><li>- you require testamentary trusts to be established;</li><li>- You may require a Business Succession Agreement (“Buy/Sell” Agreement) - e.g. where you operate a business in partnership with a third party;</li><li>- In a blended family situation, where a decision is made to change a property from being held as joint tenants to tenants in common with the intention that “your half” of the property goes to your children and your “partners half” goes to their children.</li><li>- You require “mutual wills” i.e. whereby you and your spouse/partner enter into an agreement to make your will in a certain way and not to change it if one of you dies (the intention being that both yours and your partner’s children will ultimately inherit from your estates).</li></ul>	<b>Commencing from:</b> <b>\$880.00 Single Will</b> <b>\$1,430.00 Mirror Wills<sup>v</sup></b>

Please note an additional charge of approximately \$300.00 could be payable should you require a home/out of office visit.

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<sup>i</sup> See Solicitors Remuneration Order 2021 –presently \$495.00 per hour inclusive of GST

<sup>ii</sup> All prices quoted include GST

<sup>iii</sup> A “blended family” situation arises where either you or your partner have children from previous relationships.

<sup>iv</sup> At your first interview, your solicitor will tell you what level of will you require and the estimated costs. If you do not wish to proceed with the preparation of any will a fee of **\$200.00** applies.

<sup>v</sup> An hourly rate of \$440.00 per hour inclusive of GST applies

## Enduring Powers of Attorney Enduring Powers of Guardianship

Details	Price
<p>Straightforward Enduring Powers of Attorney and Enduring Powers of Guardianship can often be completed prior to and signed during the initial consultation.</p> <p>If subsequent work is required, it will be charged at our standard hourly legal rate.* The following issues will take your EPA or EPG outside of a 'simple' document:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Your legal capacity is in issue</li> <li>- English is not your first language</li> <li>- You require us to lodge your EPA at Landgate</li> <li>- You require a solicitor to attend at your home or at hospital</li> </ul> <p>Additional incidental charges for disbursements and other out-of-pocket expenses incurred on your behalf may also be payable (e.g. Landgate fees, home visits).</p> <p>In the event at your first appointment you do not wish to proceed with your EPA and/or EPG, a cancellation fee of \$50.00 per document will apply.</p> <p><b>Lodging your Enduring Power of Attorney at Landgate</b> Landgate lodgment fee : \$181.30 per EPA Administration fee : \$200.00</p>	<p><b><u>When prepared with your will/s</u></b>  <b>\$110.00 EPA</b>  <b>\$110.00 EPG</b></p> <p><b><u>Commencing from:</u> *</b>  <b>\$330.00 Single EPA</b>  <b>\$330.00 Single EPG</b>  <b>\$440.00 Single EPA <u>and</u> EPG</b></p> <p><b>Pensioner Single EPA/EPG:</b>  <b>From \$200.00</b></p> <p><b>\$550.00 Couple EPAs</b>  <b>\$550.00 Couple EPGs</b>  <b>\$660.00 Couple EPA <u>and</u> EPG</b></p> <p><b>\$381.30 Single EPA</b>  <b>\$562.60 Couple EPAs</b></p>