

# ESTATE PLANNING WORKSHEET FOR MARRIED COUPLES

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

USING THIS ORGANIZER WILL ASSIST US IN DESIGNING AN ESTATE PLAN THAT MEETS YOUR GOALS AND ENABLE US TO SPEND OUR TIME TOGETHER EXPLORING YOUR GOALS AND AVAILABLE OPTIONS FOR ACHIEVING THEM INSTEAD OF JUST GATHERING INFORMATION. ALL DATA IS STRICTLY CONFIDENTIAL.

PLEASE RETURN THE COMPLETED WORKSHEET TO OUR OFFICE AT LEAST THREE WORKING DAYS PRIOR TO YOUR APPOINTMENT. YOU CAN RETURN IT VIA MAIL TO P.O. BOX 2368, KENSINGTON, MD 20891-2368, E-MAIL TO [JIMBONIH@COMCAST.NET](mailto:JIMBONIH@COMCAST.NET), OR FAX TO 240-331-9186.

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## PERSONAL INFORMATION

Husband's Legal Name \_\_\_\_\_  
(name most often used to title property and accounts)

Also Known As \_\_\_\_\_  
(other names used to title property and accounts)

Prefer to be called \_\_\_\_\_ Birth date \_\_\_\_\_ SS# \_\_\_\_\_ US Citizen? \_\_\_\_\_

Home Address \_\_\_\_\_ City \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_\_ Zip \_\_\_\_\_

Home Telephone \_\_\_\_\_ County of Residence \_\_\_\_\_ Business Telephone \_\_\_\_\_

Employer \_\_\_\_\_ Position \_\_\_\_\_

Business Address \_\_\_\_\_ City \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_\_ Zip \_\_\_\_\_

E-mail Address \_\_\_\_\_  It is okay to communicate with me via my E-mail address.

Married: Date of Marriage \_\_\_\_\_  Divorced  Widowed  Single

Wife's Legal Name \_\_\_\_\_  
(name most often used to title property and accounts)

Also Known As \_\_\_\_\_  
(other names used to title property and accounts)

Prefer to be called \_\_\_\_\_ Birth date \_\_\_\_\_ SS# \_\_\_\_\_ US Citizen? \_\_\_\_\_

Home Address \_\_\_\_\_ City \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_\_ Zip \_\_\_\_\_

Home Telephone \_\_\_\_\_ County of Residence \_\_\_\_\_ Business Telephone \_\_\_\_\_

Employer \_\_\_\_\_ Position \_\_\_\_\_

Business Address \_\_\_\_\_ City \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_\_ Zip \_\_\_\_\_

## **CHILDREN AND/OR OTHER FAMILY MEMBERS**

*(Use full legal name. Use "JT" if both spouses are the parents, "H" if husband is the parent, "W" if wife is the parent, "S" if a single parent.)*

Name	Birth date	Parent or Relationship
_____	_____	_____
Comments: _____		
_____	_____	_____
Comments: _____		
_____	_____	_____
Comments: _____		
_____	_____	_____
Comments: _____		

### YOUR ADVISORS

Name	Telephone
Personal Attorney _____	_____
Accountant _____	_____
Financial Advisor _____	_____
Life Insurance Agent _____	_____

### YOUR CONCERNS

Please rate the following as to how important they are to you:  
*(H high concern, S some concerned, L low concern, N/A no concern or not applicable)*

Description	Level of Concern
Desire to get affairs in order and create a comprehensive plan to manage affairs in case of death or disability.	_____
Providing for and protecting a spouse.	_____
Providing for and protecting children.	_____
Providing for and protecting grandchildren.	_____
Disinheriting a family member	_____
Providing for charities at the time of death.	_____
Plan for the transfer and survival of a family business.	_____
Avoiding or reducing your estate taxes.	_____
Avoiding probate.	_____
Reduce administration costs at time of your death	_____
Avoiding a guardianship (“living probate”) in case of a disability.	_____
Avoiding will contests or other disputes upon death.	_____
Protecting assets from lawsuits or creditors.	_____
Preserving the privacy of affairs in case of disability or at time of death from business competitors, predators, dishonest persons and curiosity seekers.	_____
Plan for a child with disabilities or special needs, such as medical or learning disabilities.	_____
Protecting children’s inheritance from the possibility of failed marriages.	_____
Protect children’s inheritance in the event of a surviving spouse’s remarriage.	_____
Provide that your death shall not be unnecessarily prolonged by artificial means or measures.	_____
Other Concerns (Please list below):	
_____	
_____	
_____	

## IMPORTANT FAMILY QUESTIONS

(Please check "Yes" or "No" for your answer)	Yes	No
Are you (or your spouse) receiving social security, disability, or other governmental benefits? <i>Describe</i> _____		
Are you (or your spouse) making payments pursuant to a divorce or property settlement order? <i>Please furnish a copy</i>		
If married have you and your spouse signed a pre- or post-marriage contract? <i>Please furnish a copy</i>		
Have you (or your spouse) been widowed? <i>If a federal estate tax return or a state death tax return was filed, please furnish a copy</i>		
Have you (or your spouse) ever filed federal or state gift tax returns? <i>Please furnish copies of these returns</i>		
Have (you or your spouse) completed previous will, trust, or estate planning? <i>Please furnish copies of these documents</i>		
Do you support any charitable organizations now that you wish to make provisions for at the time of your death? <i>If so, please explain below.</i>		
Are there any other charitable organizations you wish to make provisions for at the time of your death? <i>If so, please explain below.</i>		
If married, have you lived in any of the following states while married to each other? <i>Arizona, California, Idaho, Louisiana, Nevada, New Mexico, Texas, Washington, or Wisconsin</i>		
Are you (or your spouse) currently the beneficiary of anyone else's trust? <i>If so, please explain below.</i>		
Do any of your children have special educational, medical, or physical needs?		
Do any of your children receive governmental support or benefits?		
Do you provide primary or other major financial support to adult children or others?		

## ADDITIONAL RELEVANT INFORMATION

### PROPERTY INFORMATION

**General Headings**

This *Property Information* checklist is designed to help you list all the property you own and what it is worth. If you do not own property under a particular heading, just leave that section blank. Under certain headings you may own more property than can be listed on this checklist. If so, use **extra sheets** of paper to list your additional property.

**Type**

Immediately after the heading for each kind of property is a brief explanation of what property you should list under that heading.

**“Owner” of Property**

How you own your property is **extremely important** for purposes of properly designing and implementing your estate plan. For each property please indicate how the property is titled. When doing so, please use the following abbreviations:

Owner of Property	Use
If married, Husband’s name alone, with no other person	H
If married, Wife’s name alone, with no other person	W
If married, Joint Tenancy with spouse	JTS
Joint Tenancy with someone other than a spouse, i.e. a child, parent, etc.	JTO
If you cannot determine how the property is owned	?

### REAL PROPERTY

**TYPE:** Any interest in real estate including your family residence, vacation home, time share, vacant land, etc.

General Description and/or Address	Owner	Market Value	Loan Balance
	<i>Total</i>		

## FURNITURE AND PERSONAL EFFECTS

**TYPE:** List separately only major personal effects such as, jewelry, collections, antiques, furs, and all other valuable non-business personal property (*indicate type below and give a lump sum value for miscellaneous less valuable items.*).

Type or Description	Owner	Market Value
Miscellaneous Furniture and Household Effects (Total)		
	<i>Total</i>	

## AUTOMOBILES, BOATS AND RVs

**TYPE:** For each motor vehicle, boat, RV, etc. please list the following: description, how titled, market value and encumbrance:

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## BANK & SAVINGS ACCOUNTS

**TYPE:** Checking Account "CA", Savings Account "SA", Certificates of Deposit "CD", Money Market "MM" (*indicate type below*). Do not include IRA's or 401(k)'s here

Name of Institution and account number	Type	Owner	Amount
		<i>Total</i>	

Note: If Account is in your name (or your spouse's name) for the benefit of a minor, please specify and give minor's name.





## SUMMARY OF VALUES

ASSETS	Amount*		
	Husband	Wife	Total Value
Real Property			
Furniture and Personal Effects			
Automobiles, Boats and RV's			
Bank and Savings Accounts			
Stocks and Bonds			
Life Insurance and Annuities			
Retirement Plans			
Business Interests			
Money owed to your			
Anticipated Inheritance, Etc.			
Other Assets			
<b>Total Assets:</b>			

*Joint Property values enter 1/2 in husband's column and 1/2 in wife's column.*

## PLAN DESIGN INFORMATION

**PERSONS TO ACT FOR YOU:**

**GUARDIAN FOR MINOR CHILDREN:** If you have any children under the age of 18, list in order of preference who you wish to be guardian.

Name and Address	Relationship

**INITIAL TRUSTEE(S):** Usually the Maker will be the Trustee of his or her own trust. Often, both spouses, jointly. Allows you to continue to jointly control your assets as before.

Name and Address	Relationship

**DISABILITY TRUSTEE:** If you were unable to make decisions for yourself, who would you want to make decisions for you with regard to your property and assets?

**FOR HUSBAND**

Name and Address

Relationship

_____	_____
_____	_____
_____	_____

**FOR WIFE**

Name and Address

Relationship

_____	_____
_____	_____
_____	_____

**DEATH TRUSTEE:** After your death, who do you want carrying out your instructions, for distribution to and, if desired, management of property for your beneficiaries?

**FOR HUSBAND**

Name and Address

Relationship

_____	_____
_____	_____
_____	_____

**FOR WIFE**

Name and Address

Relationship

_____	_____
_____	_____
_____	_____

**POWER OF ATTORNEY:** If you were unable to make financial decisions for yourself, who would you want to make those decisions for you?

**HUSBAND'S AGENT**

Name

Relationship

Instructions or Guidelines

_____	_____	_____
_____	_____	_____
_____	_____	_____

**WIFE'S AGENT**

Name

Relationship

Instructions or Guidelines

_____	_____	_____
_____	_____	_____
_____	_____	_____

Do you want to authorize your Financial Agent to make gifts on your behalf during any period of time you are incapacitated?

Husband:  Yes  No

Wife: Yes  No

Gifting Power Details: \_\_\_\_\_

**LIVING WILL:** Do you want to provide that the moment of your death not be unnecessarily prolonged by artificial means or measures? \_\_\_\_\_ Do you want to provide that your organs and tissues should be made available for transplant purposes? \_\_\_\_\_

**HEALTH CARE:** If you were unable to make decisions for yourself, who would you want to make decisions for you with regard to your medical treatment?

**HUSBAND'S AGENT**

Name	Relationship	Instructions or Guidelines
_____	_____	_____
_____	_____	_____
_____	_____	_____

**WIFE'S AGENT**

Name	Relationship	Instructions or Guidelines
_____	_____	_____
_____	_____	_____
_____	_____	_____

Do you want to authorize your Medical Agent to take whatever steps are necessary to keep you in a personal residence rather than nursing home? Husband:  Yes  No Wife: Yes  No

Do you want to provide that upon certification by 2 physicians of need for psychological or substance treatment, Agent may arrange for voluntary admission? Husband:  Yes  No Wife: Yes  No

In making distributions during any period of time the client is incapacitated, the successor Trustee shall give primary consideration to:

- Disabled spouse, the needs of others.       Disabled spouse and other spouse, and then needs of others
- Disabled spouse needs and the needs of others equally.

**DISTRIBUTIONS OF PERSONAL PROPERTY AND SPECIFIC GIFTS**

**USE OF PERSONAL PROPERTY MEMORANDUM:** Do you want to provide that your personal property will be distributed pursuant to a written list you may prepare later?  Yes  No

Any property not listed on the memorandum should be distributed to:

- FOR HUSBAND:**
- Spouse, then children equally.       Children
  - Spouse, then to balance of trust.       To the balance of the trust.
  - Spouse, then other named individuals.       Other named individuals. List on next line.

- FOR WIFE:**
- Spouse, then children equally.       Children
  - Spouse, then to balance of trust.       To the balance of the trust.
  - Spouse, then other named individuals.       Other named individuals. List on next line.



**DESIGN OF MARITAL SHARE:**

**OUTRIGHT:** We want to leave property outright to the surviving spouse. We recognize that this offers no protection from creditors, or predators. Allows surviving spouse to leave property to whomever he or she wants. Also allows a new spouse to possibly make claim on property in case of death or divorce

**GENERAL APPOINTMENT TRUST:** All income and principal are available to the surviving spouse upon demand. The surviving spouse is free to do as he or she pleases. This would include the ability to remove all property in the Marital Share from the trust.

**ALL INCOME – PRINCIPAL FOR NEEDS:** All income is distributed to surviving spouse; principal is available for his or her needs (health, education and maintenance).

**ONLY INCOME:** Only income is distributed to surviving spouse. Principal is not available to the surviving spouse.

**DESIGN OF FAMILY SHARE:**

**ALL INCOME – PRINCIPAL FOR NEEDS:** All income is distributed to surviving spouse; principal is available for needs (health, education and maintenance).

Are descendants permissible beneficiaries of principal? \_\_\_\_\_

**INCOME AND PRINCIPAL FOR NEEDS:** All income and principal is available for needs. Income may be accumulated and not distributed.

Are descendants permissible beneficiaries of income and/or principal? \_\_\_\_\_

**ONLY INCOME:** Only income is distributed to surviving spouse. Principal is not available to the surviving spouse.

**WHO IS RESPONSIBLE FOR DETERMINING LIFETIME DISTRIBUTIONS:** Is surviving spouse the sole trustee with a right to appoint cotrustee (surviving spouse then determines the management and distributions for his or her needs)? Do you wish to name someone to be the cotrustee with the surviving spouse? \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

**LIMITED POWER OF APPOINTMENT:** Do you want the surviving spouse to be able to modify the way property is to be distributed upon his or her death? \_\_\_\_\_

If so to whom may the surviving spouse distribute your property?

- Your descendants
- Your descendants and their spouses
- Your descendants and charities
- Your descendants, their spouses and charities
- Anyone, no limitations



