

Things to arrange before your death.

Preparation is Key!

This time is much easier for everyone if you can prepare in advance. Firstly, make sure you know where to find important documents. They may be stored with a lawyer, at a secure document storage facility, or in a safe place in the house.

One of the main things to remember as you move closer to your passing is to get a last will and testimate made you can do this though any solicitor of your choice this document will state

- A power of attorney 'someone you trust to help look after your will and help follow though all your last wishes
- Your last wishes
- What happens to your belongings once you pass and who they go to
- Your funeral arrangements
- What happens to your estate
- Your wishes of who the guardian to your children would be
- Clear instructions for any charity donations you wish to make
- A last message left to your family or friends

Arranging your pre death care for when its close to the time of your passing is also important. Weather your care is given by a family member looking after you or a hospice of your choice. Making sure you have a plan in place for the time leading up to your passing is vital.

Below we will add a list of important documents and information to remember and keep ready.



Key Documents needed as well as things to remember

- The Name of your appointed funeral director
- A copy of your will
- Any instructions about the distribution of personal belongings not covered in the Will
- Your birth certificate
- Important documents such as land titles and mortgage details
- A list, including contact details, of organisations and people to notify if anything happens
- Instructions on where all your property and investments are and who to contact about them
- Information about any online accounts you have (e.g. social media accounts etc)
- Details of your life insurance policies and or other insurance policies you may have
- Any other documents that may be important to your family, e.g. the original manuscript of a book you have written
- Any wishes relating to funeral arrangements

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Funeral Directors

Some things your family will need to do once you die.

A doctor must sign a certificate that confirms the death. Funeral arrangements cannot be completed until the doctor has signed and issued this certificate, formally known as an MCCD 'Medical certificate of cause of death'. The funeral company can then take the person who has died into their care.

The funeral director in charge of the funeral arrangements generally will collect all the information needed for registering the death and hand these documents to the required crematorium. The funeral director may also help with things such as obituary's 'news paper notices' flowers limo's and hearse ordering and religious services as well as any other planning that is involved with a funeral service.

If a funeral director is not involved with the funeral arrangements, the person who manages the final arrangements for the deceased is responsible for registering the death. A family member or a funeral director needs to register the death, including obtaining a medical certificate or Coroner's Authorisation (before the body is buried), organise the funeral and notify the other family members and close friends of the deceased.