

# Divorce Planning Checklist

There's a way to make your divorce planning feel empowering instead of overwhelming, if you prepare thoughtfully every step of the way.

Track your progress by filling out this interactive checklist as you go

## Crucial First Steps

- Establish Your Needs, Wants, & Goals
- Assess your cash flow & spending during the divorce
  - Create a plan for your monthly budget
  - Review your savings and personal assets
- Gather ALL of your financial information
  - Pull your credit report
  - Income taxes & tax returns
  - Proof of spouses employment income
  - W-2 & 10-99
- Begin your search for your divorce experts
  - Financial Advisor
  - Mediator
  - Attorney
  - Certified Public Accountant (CPA)

## Next Steps

- Remove sentimental or emotionally valuable items from the house such as jewelry, art, heirlooms, or family photos.
- Evaluate your existing health insurance
  - If under your spouse's plan, do you need to negotiate your COBRA account?
  - How do you pay deductibles?
- For confidentiality, get a P.O. box and have your mail redirected
- Change your account passwords (everything from Instagram & Facebook to Netflix & Amazon)
- If you have children, establish parent responsibilities
  - Parenting schedule: create an annual calendar to remember dates and responsibilities
  - Set guidelines for co-parenting
  - Who's name is on school records?
  - Who gets notified in case of an emergency?
  - Who will cover healthcare?
  - How will education be paid for?
- Update Beneficiary Designations
  - Your estate plan and will
  - Investment Assets
  - Insurance (401K, IRA, Life Insurance)