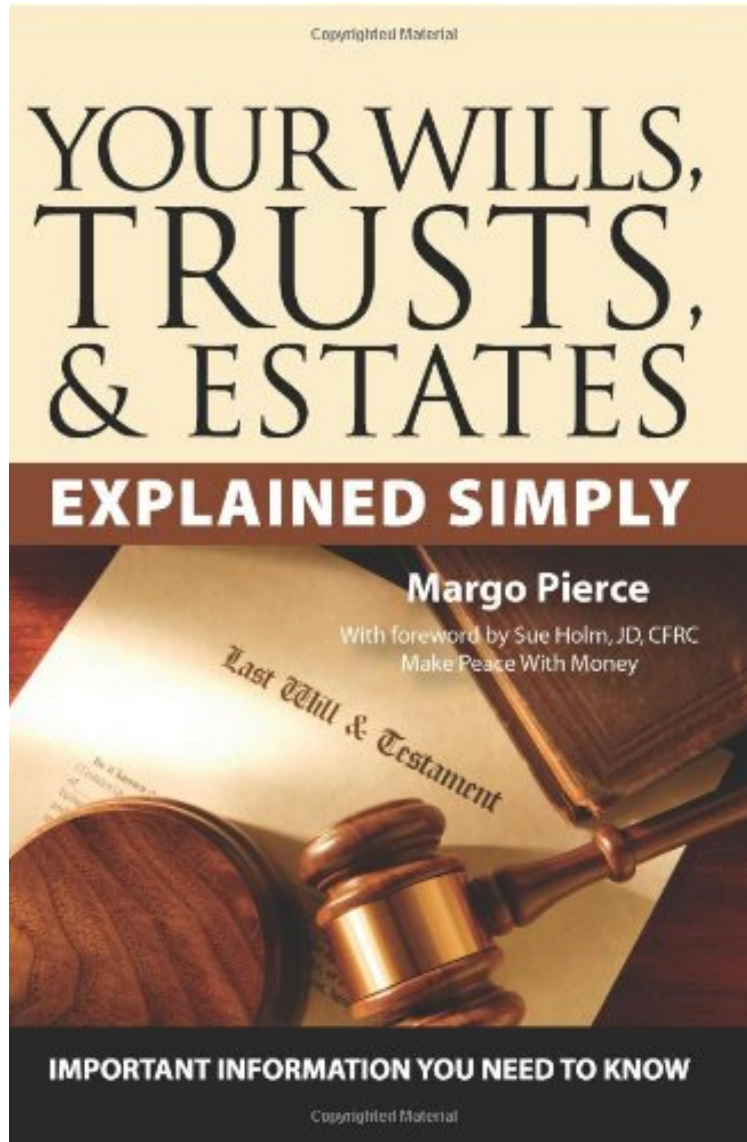


(Download pdf) The Complete Guide to Wills, Trusts, Estates: What You Need to Know Explained Simply

# The Complete Guide to Wills, Trusts, Estates: What You Need to Know Explained Simply

Margo Pierce

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**Margo Pierce : The Complete Guide to Wills, Trusts, Estates: What You Need to Know Explained Simply** before purchasing it in order to gage whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised The Complete Guide to Wills, Trusts, Estates: What You Need to Know Explained Simply:

1 of 1 people found the following review helpful. Straightforward adviceBy Steve VincentCan't say that I ever

WANTED to think about what would happen after my death, but when a friend referred me to this book I changed my tune. The very first chapter talks about how to get started, and not by collecting documents and finding a lawyer. It's all about looking at your priorities in life and how you feel about death. Hardly an accountants approach to finances....The first step is to look at your thoughts about money, dying and all the things that keep most people from making a will or doing anything else related to death and taxes, including me. There's a section called a "Case Study" that features Pat Beaugard, an executive coach and trainer, who explains how to begin looking at all the baggage tied to death and taxes and more. It all might sound touchy-feely/new-agey but it's really looking at practical things - what matters most and why? These don't seem like financial planning issues, but they are because they influence the choices I make every day. If I want the things I worked hard for all my life to be used the way I want them to be used after I'm gone, then I have to do what I can to make that happen. The one thing that was weird about this book is that it talked about how it's important that everyone - especially people who are younger - think about estate planning, but almost the pictures in the book are of old/older people. Whoever chose the pictures obviously didn't bother to read the book beforehand. You could read a book about estate planning written by a financial planner, but that won't give you the same perspective this book does. It reads like someone who had to actually do this wrote it, not some over-paid suit. Now I'm going to sound like a commercial, but if you don't have a will or haven't thought about what will happen to your house or checking account after you die, get this book and read it cover-to-cover. 0 of 0 people found the following review helpful. Financial Expertise for the Layperson By Editor Greg If I died today my children would have to go live with their aunt. Considering that they are all now in their 20's this might cause some difficulty for their spouses and children. This convinced me that it's probably time to update my 19-year-old-will. Like many people, I have a will, but there are a lot of things I don't have related to estate planning - a medical power of attorney, a DNR order, disability insurance, etc. But I didn't realize how unprepared I was until I read *The Complete Guide to Wills, Trusts, Estates: What You Need to Know Explained Simply* by Margo Pierce. She explains everything from the obvious to the complex in terms anyone can understand. You don't need to have a dictionary at your elbow while reading - beyond a comprehensive glossary, Pierce uses examples from everyday life that make it possible to see the value of doing estate planning and the benefits it can have for anyone. "Estate planning" doesn't mean you have to own 124 acres of land, some horses and a boat to have an "estate." It's about making sure the things you worked hard to earn in this life are given those you want to have them after you aren't around to call the shots any more. Thinking about funeral arrangements seem rather macabre to you? Then "host" one last blast for your family and friends; planning for this by setting aside the money and arrangements will make it happen in a fun way that transforms morbidity into merriment. But don't take my word for it, read the book for yourself to find out how to plan your own estate.... 1 of 1 people found the following review helpful. READ THIS By Brett Bedell OK, the old guy sitting in front of a cozy fire with his newspaper, reading glasses and a smile on his face didn't inspire me to write a review of this book. This is the first and probably the last review I'll do this because I just don't get excited about books. The reason I'm doing it now is because this book was a big help. All the legal mumbo-jumbo and technical financial terms were explained so that I could understand them. The reminders to get professional legal advice and talking to a qualified financial planner were obviously about not doing anything stupid, but what this did was give me a place to start. I learned WHAT I need to do and who to ASK, so that I can get it done right the first time. Some of the other books I've tried to read - some that are supposed to be written for "dummies" - sound like financial geeks trying to be every-day-folk with a sense of humor. They fail because they still get too complicated. This book was obviously written by someone who knows how to explain complicated topics for the rest of us. Read this, it's worth the time.

Most people find thinking about the possibility of disability or death extremely unpleasant; however, planning for these occurrences in advance will reduce potential stress later in life. With the help of this new book, you can take the guesswork out of planning and finally understand the complex processes. *The Complete Guide to Wills, Trusts, Estates* will provide you with all the information you need to choose, set up, and execute a will, trust, or estate. You will learn the terminology, including such words as beneficiary, probate, trustor, trustee, assets, guardianship, and executor. You will also learn about trust agreements, trust property, settlement costs, life insurance, durable power of attorney, marital deductions, gift splitting, survivorship deeds, gift tax issues, generation skipping transfer tax, tax deferred accounts, and advance directives. Furthermore, you will learn how to protect your financial privacy, how to plan for long-term care, how to reduce or eliminate taxes, and how to choose beneficiaries and executors. By reading this book, you will understand the differences among living trusts, 529 plans, limited term trusts, life insurance trusts, estate freeze trusts, qualified personal residence trusts (QPRT), privacy trusts, A/B trusts, qualified terminable interest property trusts (QTIP), child's trusts, and irrevocable trusts. You will know which will, be it holographic, nuncupative, self-proving, statutory, simple, joint, living, mutual, ethical, electronic, or video, fits your needs. In addition, you will be provided with estate planning strategies in easy to understand language that will make the task seem much less burdensome. Whether you are writing your will, establishing a trust, or planning your estate for the first time or you are updating or revising your previous plans, *The Complete Guide to Wills, Trusts, Estates* will give you all the tools and knowledge you need to decide where your assets will go when you die and to whom. Atlantic Publishing is a small,

independent publishing company based in Ocala, Florida. Founded over twenty years ago in the company presidents garage, Atlantic Publishing has grown to become a renowned resource for non-fiction books. Today, over 450 titles are in print covering subjects such as small business, healthy living, management, finance, careers, and real estate. Atlantic Publishing prides itself on producing award winning, high-quality manuals that give readers up-to-date, pertinent information, real-world examples, and case studies with expert advice. Every book has resources, contact information, and web sites of the products or companies discussed. This Atlantic Publishing eBook was professionally written, edited, fact checked, proofed and designed. The print version of this book is 288 pages and you receive exactly the same content. Over the years our books have won dozens of book awards for content, cover design and interior design including the prestigious Benjamin Franklin award for excellence in publishing. We are proud of the high quality of our books and hope you will enjoy this eBook version.

While death and taxes are inevitable, most of us would rather not talk about or plan for this situation. Similarly, we would rather not talk about money or religion. Yet, all of these topics must be considered, discussed, and included in an effective estate plan. In her book, *Your Wills, Trusts, Estates Explained Simply*, Margo Pierce simplifies the concepts and questions involved in estate planning and explains the various documents and procedures in an easy-to-understand style. While there are many estate planning guides on the market, this guide is particularly helpful in both content and presentation. The book is complete with a glossary and worksheets to inventory your estate, help set your priorities, and specify bequests. *Your Wills, Trusts, Estates* includes a worksheet to help you plan your memorial service (if any) and checklists to help you choose various professionals you may need while planning your estate, including Estate Planners, Executors or Trustees, and Guardians. To make the work of planning your estate more achievable and interesting, the book profiles a number of professionals who may be involved in your estate planning process. In addition to providing vital information and considerations for each profession, these case studies remind readers that they need not (and in fact should not) plan their estate alone. There are many good, qualified professionals available to help. The profiles also help readers decide which professionals they need in order to complete their own unique estate plan. By using specific examples and stories, *Your Wills, Trusts, Estates* helps readers think through a variety of issues involved in estate planning, including the long-term results of gifts, the lifestyles of both the giver and recipient, and the tax consequences of gifts. If a reader is overwhelmed by the prospect of sitting down and creating a comprehensive estate plan, this book can be used to set estate planning priorities and break the process down to manageable and achievable tasks. To help ensure that the plan actually gets completed, the book includes a summary sheet on which you can record deadlines you set for completing the various documents, as well as the completion dates. Because your estate can change throughout your life, the book includes a worksheet to help you ensure that you maintain your estate plan. Planning your estate may be something that you have been putting off for years. With the help of author Margo Pierce and her book *Your Wills, Trusts, Estates*, planning your estate does not have to be the grueling task you have been dreading. With the resources provided within, you can now plan your estate in order to make sure your wishes will be carried out and your loved ones will be taken care of. --Sue Holm, JD., CFRC