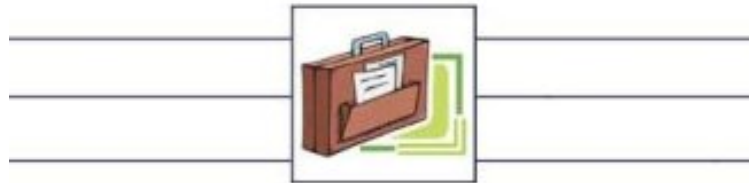


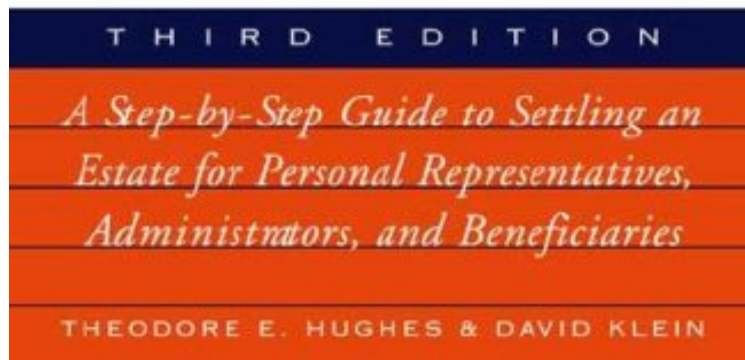
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The Executor's Handbook: A Step-By-Step Guide to Settling an Estate for Executors, Administrators, and Beneficiaries

Theodore E. Hughes, David Klein
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The Executor's Handbook



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Theodore E. Hughes, David Klein : **The Executor's Handbook: A Step-By-Step Guide to Settling an Estate for Executors, Administrators, and Beneficiaries** before purchasing it in order to gage whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised The Executor's Handbook: A Step-By-Step Guide to Settling an Estate for Executors, Administrators, and Beneficiaries:

2 of 2 people found the following review helpful. Yes, It Can Be Done Without a Lawyer! By Rick I speak from the experience of having successfully probated my mother's estate--without a law degree--using only this book and another called "The Executor's Guide: Settling a Loved One's Estate or Trust" by Mary Randolph, as well as a CPA. It can be done! Here is an undisputable fact for you to consider: fees erode an estate. The price of purchasing two books through is substantially less than the \$255 per hour I paid out the last time I used a lawyer back in 2006. Here is my key to success: nobody must complain. The case was assigned as unsupervised, informal administration. This meant that I would not have to go in front of a judge unless someone complained to the court. If I could keep the law clerks and the court's compliance department happy, then I just had to make sure that I paid all of the creditors and kept the beneficiaries happy. Success seemed possible! Above all, make sure that you pay the court their fees on time! I actually did this, but I waited until the last day. For some reason, the paperwork did not rattle its way through the system quickly, and I got a letter from the court stating that I was delinquent. They later admitted over the phone that everything was ok. The tone of a delinquency letter from the court is the exact opposite of a Valentine's Day card. It is designed to make an impression on you. I do not think that you will enjoy reading it! I do expect to be an executor again, and whether I will try to get through probate myself without a lawyer will depend upon the complexity of the situation, including how amicable are the beneficiaries and whether all the creditors will get their money. This book has much excellent general advice to executors--even if they do use a lawyer--so it will still be of use. I am very grateful to this book for helping guide me through the entire experience. A lawyer that I know who writes wills thinks that I accomplished something significant, as does another person who is working to become a paralegal. If you accept the challenge to get through probate without a lawyer, it will take energy and focus to continue living your own life while you finish out the financial affairs of a loved one and learn enough of the law to satisfy the court. This book can definitely help you do that.

5 of 5 people found the following review helpful. You Will Need This Book, Sooner or Later By Jerry I h At least once in your life, and probably more, you will need this book. I do not say this often, but you must buy this book and keep it on your bookshelf. At some point in your life, you will either write a will, be a beneficiary of someone who has died, or be appointed as the executor of an estate for someone close to you who has died. This book will be your experienced companion telling you what is happening and what you are required by law to do. The advantage of this book over others is that it gives you a solid procedure to follow in administering and closing an estate for someone who has died. My father died with such a small estate and an IRS bill to boot, that a formal or informal probate was not necessary: I used the 'transfer by affidavit' procedure. Even still, my official 'to do list' occupied an entire printed page. This book will lead you through this process. My main criticism is the chapter on taxes. It has much info about Estate taxes, but is woefully inadequate about the nuts and bolts of dealing with the IRS: take the author's warning seriously, that the vast majority of your time and effort in dealing with an estate has to do with the IRS. You will need to: **get an EIN for the estate** file form 1041 for the estate**file form 56**file all back tax forms 1040**file, if necessary, a final 1040 for the year of death**apply for accelerated determination of final taxes and release of liability for the executor Because I had no access to my father's info, I had to file 4868 for an extension of 1040 until I could get a handle on my dad's financial affairs. My duty as personal representative is not over yet, so stay tuned for further details. Nevertheless, I have already found this book to indispensable that I cannot do without.

16 of 17 people found the following review helpful. A great book for new executors By Texas Rose I got this book because I have been appointed the executor for my father, and I needed to know what was expected of me and what he and I needed to talk about. So this book has been a great help in getting our conversation started. However, this should not be the only source of information. The main thing I learned from this book was that being an executor is more complicated than I thought, and much of the work needs to be done BEFORE the person dies! There are so many conversations about money, belongings, people, wishes and desires that need to be discussed, and this does not even begin to include all the medical questions one might need to cover!!! So, if you are being asked to be an executor prior to the death of a person, GREAT, because you can now use this book - and others - to sit down and make some plans.

Settling an estate after a loved one has passed on can be a difficult and complicated experience if you don't have the right information. "The Executor's Handbook, Third Edition" acts as a step-by-step guide to settling an estate for personal representatives, administrators, and beneficiaries. It provides all the information necessary to understand the role of executor, to determine if you are the right person for the job, and to carry out the various functions. From the provisions of a will to key legal terms to liquidating assets, this volume explains all the aspects of an executor's duties. All information in this edition has been thoroughly updated and revised to cover the latest rules and procedures on this topic. Updates include the Economic Growth and Tax Relief Reconciliation Act of 2001, which revised federal gift and estate tax law, as well as all state law tables. New and updated coverage includes: 401(K) and other retirement accounts; executor's fees and liabilities; long-term care insurance and Medicaid; new funeral and burial regulations; transfer of family businesses; transfer-on-death registrations and deeds; and, much more.

"Highly recommended..." - Library Journal" About the Author Theodore E. Hughes is a retired Michigan state assistant

attorney general and a lawyer who specializes in wills, trusts, and estate planning. David Klein was professor emeritus of social sciences at Michigan State University.