

LIFE EVENTS


DIVORCE WORKSHEETS

Ending a marriage comes with a lot of emotions, but also a lot of financial considerations. That's why you need to understand how divorce could impact your finances. Here are some financial matters to consider and advice on how to navigate them during this tough time.

Financial affidavit and property settlement

Each spouse must complete a financial affidavit. The document, which lists each spouse's income, expenses, assets and debts is filed in the court records. Here's the information you need to gather to fill yours out:

Income and expenses

Use the worksheet on page 2 to figure out your household budget on either a monthly or annual basis.

Assets

Use the worksheet on page 3 to put together an overall inventory of your property and determine which assets you own.

You'll also need to divide your marital property. States have different laws regarding property distribution.

It may be helpful to find out how your state determines what each of you will get if you take your divorce case before a judge. Then you can use that information as a guide for dividing your marital assets. Or you may want to look over your list and decide together who gets what. Some couples may want to try a trade approach, where one spouse agrees to take an item or items considered equal in value to those the other spouse chooses to keep.

Debts

In a divorce, joint debt is considered marital property. You should carefully determine which debts are individual and which you share.

You and your spouse may want to order credit reports to figure out who's responsible for which debts.

Key points

Here's how to help you figure out what each of you owns ("separate") versus what you own together ("marital"):

Separate property

- Items you brought into the marriage
- Items you inherited during the marriage
- Items you received as gifts during the marriage

Marital property

- Anything (except personal gifts or an inheritance) acquired during the marriage, no matter whose name it's in

- In some states, any increase in the value of separate property, no matter whose name it's in

Be sure to review this checklist with your financial advisor and lawyer to ensure an equitable property settlement.

This material should be used as helpful hints only. Each person's situation is different. You should consult your investment professional or other relevant professional before making any decisions.

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Income and expenses worksheet

Income	Spouse A	Spouse B
Sources (list)	\$	\$
	\$	\$
	\$	\$
	\$	\$
	\$	\$
Expenses		
Housing and utilities	\$	\$
Food and clothing	\$	\$
Medical care	\$	\$
Insurance	\$	\$
Religious affiliations/Charities	\$	\$
Entertainment	\$	\$
Child care/Tuition/Activities	\$	\$
Other (list)	\$	\$
	\$	\$
	\$	\$
	\$	\$
	\$	\$
	\$	\$

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Assets worksheet

Bank accounts	Value	Separate property (indicate owner)	Marital property (indicate owner)
Savings	\$		
Checking	\$		
CDs	\$		
Safety deposit box	\$		
Other (list)	\$		
	\$		
Investments			
Stocks	\$		
Bonds	\$		
Mutual funds	\$		
Life insurance (cash value)	\$		
Other (list)	\$		
	\$		
Retirement funds or corporate benefits			
401(k)	\$		
Defined contribution	\$		
IRAs	\$		
Pension	\$		
Stock options	\$		
Other (list)	\$		

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Assets worksheet

Property	Value	Separate property (indicate owner)	Marital property (indicate owner)
House	\$		
Second home	\$		
Land	\$		
Commercial real estate	\$		
Other (list)	\$		
	\$		
Household items			
Furniture	\$		
Clothing	\$		
Crystal	\$		
Silver	\$		
China	\$		
Jewelry	\$		
Books	\$		
Art	\$		
Collectibles	\$		
Electronics	\$		
DVDs/CDs/Records/Tapes	\$		
Tools	\$		
Other (list)	\$		

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Assets worksheet

Vehicles	Value	Separate property (indicate owner)	Marital property (indicate owner)
Automobile(s)	\$		
Boat	\$		
RV	\$		
Trailer	\$		
Motorcycle	\$		
Other (list)	\$		
	\$		
	\$		
Miscellaneous			
Memberships	\$		
Outstanding tax refunds	\$		
Business partnerships	\$		
Copyrights	\$		
Timeshares	\$		
Other (list)	\$		
	\$		
	\$		

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Debts worksheet

	Spouse A (indicate amount)	Spouse B (indicate amount)	Payment schedule
Mortgage ¹	\$	\$	
Car loan ¹	\$	\$	
Bank credit card(s)	\$	\$	
Store credit card(s)	\$	\$	
Personal loan(s)	\$	\$	
College loan(s) ²	\$	\$	
Children's medical/Dental ²	\$	\$	
Other (list)	\$	\$	
	\$	\$	

¹ Debt associated with an asset belongs to the owner of the asset.

² Debt related to caring for children is generally split between the two spouses.

After your divorce

Make sure to revise your legal documents and policies after your divorce to reflect your marital status change. Here are some items to review and potentially change or revise:

- Will
- Trusts
- Guardianship
- Insurance policies
- Income tax exemptions
- Retirement asset beneficiary

Resource

On the Internet

The American Bar Association

www.americanbar.org

Divorce is never easy, but the more you can prepare up front and get support from professionals you trust, the better off you'll be during the process.

Contact your financial advisor for more information or visit mfs.com.

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