



## Will-making Jargon Buster

**Administrator:** Someone appointed by the state to deal with a person's assets if they have left no will.

**Beneficiary:** An individual or organisation who receives a gift in a will.

**Bequest:** A gift left in a will.

**Codicil:** A document that adds to or changes an existing will.

**Chattels and moveables:** All your personal possessions, including your car and large furniture.

**Estate:** All a person's possessions, money and property that they have when they die.

**Executor:** A person appointed in a will to carry out the wishes in it.

**Intestacy rules:** If you die without making a will, your estate passes under these rules where the state deals with your assets.

**Intestate:** If you die without making a will, you are intestate.

**Legacy:** A gift left in a will.

**Life interest:** a two stage legacy, where the first beneficiary is allowed to use an asset (like a house) during their lifetime and after their death the asset passes to the second beneficiary.

**Pecuniary legacy:** a gift of a set amount of money.

**Probate:** the legal procedure that decides if someone has left a valid will.

**Residue:** the sum left from an estate when all debts, charges and gifts are deducted.

**Residuary legacy:** a gift of all or part of what is left over in an estate after other gifts have been distributed and bills paid.

**Specific legacy:** a gift of a particular item (like jewellery).

**Testator (male) or testatrix (female):** the person making the will.