

5 Reasons You Need a Living Trust

1. *A Living Trust is **less expensive** than going through probate.*

For example, if an estate has a market value of \$750,000, the probate court can assess up to **\$36,000** in *executor's fees and attorney's fees*. What is more, that amount will be based on the market value – even if there is a large mortgage on the main asset (the home)!

2. *Setting up a Living Trust is **faster** than going through probate.*

Unlike a Living Trust (which can take effect immediately), it can take **9 to 15 months** to go through the probate process in California.

3. *A Living Trust will protect your family's **privacy**.*

Unlike a will (which must be filed in probate court), a Living Trust is a *private document* that is **not** filed in court – protecting your family's privacy.

4. A Living Trust ensures that you – not a crowded court – will decide who will manage your affairs if you become **incapacitated**.

5. Unlike a will, it is **easy to update** a Living Trust.

3 Reasons Why Your Living Trust Needs an Experienced Attorney

1. *Unlike an online “bot”, an attorney will **not** generate a “one size fits all” plan.*

By asking the right questions, an experienced attorney can ensure that the Living Trust will work for you and your family.

2. *If the Living Trust is **not properly funded**, your estate may wind up in the “worst of all worlds” – being stuck in probate with a “stale” trust.*

You must “fund” a Living Trust by placing all eligible assets and property under the Living Trust. An experienced attorney will work with you to ensure **all** of your assets and property are included in the Living Trust.

3. *If the Living Trust is not properly worded, your **out-of-state property** might wind up in probate court in 2 or more states.*

An experienced attorney will work with you to make sure “no property is left behind.”