



The Coroners' Courts
Support Service

Here for you

FACTSHEET: HOW TO MAKE A CODICIL

If you wish to update or amend your Will, it may not be necessary to make a completely new one – changes can often be made by means of a Codicil. This can be a less expensive and a simpler way to make minor adjustments to a Will such as changing Executors or adding legacies such as to the Coroners' Courts Support Service. If you wish to add a legacy (however large or small) a short Codicil may well be all that is required.

A Codicil is simply like an appendix to a Will. The Codicil cross-refers to the original Will and gives details of the amendments or additions you want to make to it. The Codicil must then be executed in the same way as for the Will – ie signed with two witnesses (although the witnesses do not need to be the same people as the witnesses on the Will). The Codicil should then be kept with the original Will, and copies should be given to anyone who is holding a copy of the Will.

Form of Codicil

I [full name] of [address]

Declare this to be a Codicil to my Will dated [insert date in words]

Specify the changes or additions of legacies

Signed:

Dated:

[In the presence of two independent witnesses who have signed and dated the Codicil in the presence of each other and of the person making the Codicil]

Disclaimer

We are giving information relating to what a Codicil is and not advising people on whether they need one and we are not able to offer legal advice on making a Will or adding a Codicil to the Will. We recommend taking legal advice on such matters. For a list of legal professionals, we recommend looking at the law society website

<https://solicitors.lawsociety.org.uk/>