
The Legal Stuff:

THINGS TO CONSIDER

Signing a Relationship Agreement can help couples create financial predictability if one partner should die or should their relationship end.

You will decide together if a written document is what you need. Your lawyer can help you make that decision.

Here are some questions to think about:

Assets and Debts:

Do you own a property or other assets of financial value right now?

☐ Yes ☐ No

If you are already living together, did you own property or other assets of financial value prior to living together?

☐ Yes ☐ No

Are your assets in your name alone, owned with your partner, or owned by you with someone else?

- ☐ Owned by me
- ☐ Owned by me and my partner
- ☐ Owned by me and someone else

Have you received an inheritance or do you expect to receive one in the future?

☐ Yes ☐ No

Are any of these assets in another province, state or country ?

☐ Yes ☐ No

Do you have detailed knowledge of each other's current asset situation?

☐ Yes ☐ No

Do you have detailed knowledge of each other's current debt situation?

☐ Yes ☐ No

Are you comfortable talking about assets and money with your partner?

☐ Yes ☐ No

Are you comfortable talking about debt with your partner?

☐ Yes ☐ No

Business Assets:

Are you setting up or running a business?

- ☐ Yes, setting up a business
- ☐ Yes, running up a business
- ☐ No, I don't have a business

Are you running the business together with your partner?

☐ Yes ☐ No

Are other extended family members involved in your business?

☐ Yes ☐ No

If your business includes extended family, are there any family or cultural expectations to take into account?

☐ Yes ☐ No

Do you have a "succession plan" for your business?

☐ Yes ☐ No

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THINGS TO CONSIDER CONTINUED

Money Personality:

What do you see as your *similar* attitudes or beliefs about how you make and use money?

What do you see as your *different* attitudes or beliefs about how you make and use money?

What are your *similar* attitudes or beliefs about debt?

What do you see as your *different* attitudes or beliefs about debt?

Referring back to page 19, how would you describe your "Money Personality"?

How would you describe your partner's "Money Personality"?

How much would you like to know about your partner's financial situation – now and in the future?

How would you feel if your partner made a big financial decision without consulting you?

What is your approach to charitable giving – spending money on causes that matter to you?

How would you feel if your partner earned more (or less) income than you?

What if your partner reduced or stopped working to pursue something important to them?

How will you handle bank accounts, given your similarities and differences?

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THINGS TO CONSIDER CONTINUED

Culture - Religion:

What are your similar values about religion or culture?

What are your different values about religion or culture?

Is there anything about your religion or culture that you might shape or affect decisions about your future together?

Parenting and Family:

Do you have children together? ☐ Yes ☐ No

Are you planning to have children together? ☐ Yes ☐ No ☐ Not sure

Do either of you have children from a previous relationship? ☐ Yes ☐ No

Are you blending your family - raising step-children together? ☐ Yes ☐ No

Do you have adult children? ☐ Yes ☐ No

If you have adult children, are they living independently? ☐ Yes ☐ No

Do any of your children have special needs that will affect their ability to be independent as adults? ☐ Yes ☐ No

If you have children, what similarities do you and your partner share in relation to parenting?

If you have children, what differences do you and your partner have in relation to parenting?

Do you see the need to explain to your children any aspects of the Relationship Agreement you reach with your partner?

Do you foresee that one of you will reduce their paid work obligations to be more available to children? ☐ Yes ☐ No

Do either of you have any legal obligations to another person (i.e. children from another relationship, former spouses, etc.)? ☐ Yes ☐ No

Are there any extended family expectations (spoken or unspoken) that might affect your relationship and your plans for your future? ☐ Yes ☐ No

Do you have similar values about how you might support your parents in old age? ☐ Yes ☐ No

Do you have similar attitudes towards the involvement of extended family members in your day-to-day life? ☐ Yes ☐ No

Does your extended family have involvement in your financial affairs? ☐ Yes ☐ No