



# DIVORCE GUIDE



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# Divorce

## HOW TO START

**To obtain a divorce there is one ground and that is that the marriage has irretrievably broken down.**

**To be eligible for a divorce you will need to have been married for a least 12 months and live in England or Wales for a least 12 months.**



# The Process

## DIVORCE APPLICATION

**You will need to decide who will issue the divorce proceedings or whether you will make the application jointly. The person(s) who issues the Divorce Application will be known as the Applicant(s). The Applicant(s) will complete a Divorce Application which will then be issued by the court.**

**When the court issues the Divorce Application it will arrange to send a copy of the Divorce Application to the other party, known as the Respondent. The Respondent will have 7 days to respond to the Divorce Application.**



# The Process

## CONDITION ORDER

Once the Respondent has responded to the the court has a 20 week period before the application can be made for the Conditional Order.

At this stage the divorce documentation will be considered by a Judge who will then decide if the Applicant(s) is entitled to a divorce.

If the Judge decides that the Applicant(s) has established that the marriage has irretrievably broken down then a date will be set for the Conditional Order.



# The Process

## FINAL ORDER

The Applicant(s) has to wait six weeks and one day after the date of the Conditional Order before they are first eligible to apply for the Final Order.

If the Applicant does not apply for the Final Order and 4 months have passed since the date of the Conditional Order, the Respondent is able to apply for the Final Order.

The Final Order brings the divorce proceedings to an end and once granted either party is then free to remarry.



## **CONTACT US**

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