

# 10 Steps to Start Your Post Separation Journey



## CHECKLIST



McLaughlins  
Lawyers

Tick YES or NO to see what you need to do

Yes No

### Important documents

- Copy or locate important documents eg, birth certificates, passports, marriage certificate, bank statements etc.
- Decide who is going to keep the original

### Bills, Accounts and Passwords

- Update or change password and/or account information
- Decide who is going to pay for what bills, notify service providers of change in payments details, address etc

### Review accounts

- Whose name are they in and whether you now need to get your own account eg, mobile phone, health care plans etc?
- Is the other party a secondary card holder or are you a secondary credit card holder? Does the credit card need to be cancelled and/or discussed with the other party?
- You may need to create a new budget after separation - [Moneysmart.gov.au](http://Moneysmart.gov.au)

### Notifying the children's day care/pre school/school

- Discuss this with the other party and consider informing the school and guidance officer of the separation and any parenting orders or court orders. You may want to check with the school what their policy is around implementation of court orders.

### Child Support

- Consider the kind of agreement you are going to have:  
  - an informal assessment;
  - formal administrative assessment by the Child Support Agency;
  - a limited child support agreement; or
  - a binding child support agreement (requires each party to have a lawyer).
- Use this [Child support estimator](#) to help work out the amount of child support you might pay or receive, or visit the Australian Department of Human Services website.

### Motor vehicles

- Do vehicle registrations need to change as part of your overall property settlement? Are there any fines or unpaid registrations in respect of the vehicles?

### Family pet

- Discuss and agree arrangements for care of the pet, including any other issues such as vaccinations etc.

### Will and Enduring Power of Attorney

- Do you have a Will and is it up to date or do you need to change it? (even if you think you don't have any money, it is usually still important to have a Will)
- Do you have a power of attorney and is it up to date?
- Have you appointed a guardian for your child/ren?

### Superannuation

- Review your policies and note who the beneficiaries are - do you need to change the beneficiaries?
- Do you need to consider a binding death benefit nomination?

### Divorce

- If it has been 1 year since the date of separation you can make an application for divorce. Will it be a sole or joint application?

If you have ticked 'No' for any of the above boxes, call us on (07) 5591 5099 to see how we can help you