



The Laws of Intestacy (England & Wales)

Are you married/in a Registered Civil Partnership?

YES

NO

Spouse/Civil Partner gets everything

NO

Is your net estate worth more than £250,000 excluding personal chattels?

Do you have a Child or Children?

YES

Shared between them equally

YES

NO

Spouse/Civil Partner gets £250,000 plus personal chattels, plus half of the remainder. The balance goes to Children

YES

Do you have a Child or Children?

Do you have a Parent or Parents still alive?

YES

Shared between them equally

NO

NO

Spouse/Civil Partner gets first £450,000 plus personal chattels, plus half the balance absolutely. The other half of the balance goes to the Parent or Parents absolutely

YES

Do you have a Parent or Parents still alive?

Do you have Brothers and Sisters or if they are deceased do they have Children still alive?

YES

Shared between living Brothers* and Sisters* and any deceased Siblings' Children (your Nieces and Nephews)

NO

NO

Spouse/Civil Partner gets first £450,000 plus personal chattels, plus half the balance absolutely. The other half of the balance is shared equally among Brothers and Sisters

YES

Do you have Brothers and Sisters?

Do you have a Grandparent or Grandparents still alive?

YES

Shared equally among them

NO

NO

Everything goes to Spouse/Civil Partner

Do you have Uncles and Aunts or if they are deceased do they have children still living?

YES

Shared between living Aunts* and Uncles* and any deceased Aunts/Uncle's Children (your Cousins)

NO

Everything goes to the Crown. This means that a Government department known as the 'BONA VACANTIA' department takes it

*Rules for Half-Brothers and Sisters are different and legal advice should be sought.
*Rules for Half-Aunts and Uncles are different and legal advice should be sought.