

Questions to Ask Your Lawyer

Planning a trip to see a lawyer?

Here are some key questions you should consider asking:

1. What is a 'divorce' in Australia?

2. What is a 'separation'?

3. From what 'date' are we actually separated and how is that decided?

4. What are my legal rights in the separation or divorce?

5. What does a fair and equitable outcome mean?

6. What do my partner and I have to disclose to each other?

7. What does a 'pool of assets' mean?

8. What is included in the pool of assets?

9. What part of the pool of assets am I entitled to?

10. What part of the pool of assets will my partner be entitled to?

11. How is my contribution to the relationship assessed?

12. Why does my contribution matter?

13. Am I entitled to payments from my partner in the future and for how long?

14. What are the kids entitled to and for how long?

15. How does the law make decisions about custody of the child or children?

16. How will you communicate with my ex partner's lawyer?

17. Who will you communicate with during this process?

18. What is mediation?

19. How does mediation work?

20. What does mediation cost?

21. If and when are we likely to enter mediation?

22. Are there mediators we can suggest to the other party to reach agreement?

23. What is the timeframe for this separation/divorce if we can't reach agreement and go to court?

24. What will be the cost of going to court?

25. What are the best local services I can use to help my family and I get through this?

26. What are the precise next steps after this meeting?

27. How can we ensure informal agreements reached during the separation process will be complied with?

28. What is the paperwork necessary to finalise the relationship?

29. What paperwork do we need to finalise the parenting plans?

30. What paperwork do we need to finalise the property plan?

