



When it comes to estate planning, Americans fall into one of two categories: either they have a plan, or they do not. And for those who have a plan, they need to keep in mind that all plans are not created equally.

We invite you to take our quiz below to assess how well you are doing with your plan.

You can rate your score using this scale:



1 = "I am in great shape."

2 = "I am doing ok, but there are a few details I need to tend to."

3 = "I should make an appointment with an attorney today."

Circle the number that reflects your situation after each item.

- | | | | |
|--|-------|--|-------|
| 1. Will or Living Trust: I have my estate plan in place, and it was created by an attorney. | 1 2 3 | 6. Personal Property: I have designated the recipients of items and heirlooms that are dear to me. | 1 2 3 |
| 2. Review: I review my plan once a year and contact my attorney if changes need to be made. | 1 2 3 | 7. Power of Attorney: I have assigned both a durable power of attorney and a power of attorney for health care, and these people are aware of the assignments. | 1 2 3 |
| 3. Executor/Trustee: I have named an executor/trustee and a successor executor/trustee. | 1 2 3 | 8. Beneficiary Designations: I have completed the appropriate forms to name beneficiaries for my bank accounts, IRAs, life insurance, etc. | 1 2 3 |
| 4. Access: My executor/trustee is aware of the location of my plan. | 1 2 3 | 9. Charitable Bequests: I have designated gifts to the charities I care about most deeply. | 1 2 3 |
| 5. Family/Loved Ones: I have discussed my plan with those whom I love so that they understand the reasons behind the bequests I have made. | 1 2 3 | 10. "Ethical Will": I have written a letter to those I love, sharing favorite memories, important events in my life, and people who made a difference to me. | 1 2 3 |

Total Score: _____

RATING

1-15 Well done; you understand the importance of good planning and take the appropriate measures to ensure your plan is current.

16-25 Overall, you are doing okay, but there are a few areas of your plan that need a tune-up; consider scheduling an appointment with your attorney in the near future.

26-30 It's time to get serious about your planning; schedule an appointment with an attorney as soon as possible.