

Divorce Paperwork Starter Checklist

What to gather before your first attorney meeting.

Divorce paperwork feels impossible at first — there's so much to track, and everything feels urgent. The truth is, getting organized before you meet with an attorney saves you time, money, and stress. This checklist covers the key documents you'll want to collect early. You don't need everything today — just start where you can.

Financial Documents

The foundation of any divorce proceeding.

- Tax returns (last 3 years)** — Federal and state, including all schedules
- Bank statements (all accounts)** — Joint and individual — checking, savings, money market
- Investment account statements** — Brokerage accounts, stocks, bonds, mutual funds
- Retirement account statements** — 401(k), IRA, pension — both spouses
- Debt records** — Credit cards, loans, medical debt, student loans — balances and monthly payments

Property Documents

Everything you own and owe on together.

- Property deed or title** — For your home, rental properties, or land
- Mortgage statement** — Current balance, monthly payment, and lender info
- Insurance policies** — Homeowners, auto, life, umbrella — policy numbers and coverage
- Vehicle titles and loan statements** — For all cars, boats, or recreational vehicles

Family Documents

The personal records you'll need on file.

- Marriage certificate** — Certified copy if possible

- Children's birth certificates** — For each child
- Existing custody or support orders** — If applicable from prior proceedings

Notes

Need more help organizing your transition?

Lumeway offers step-by-step worksheets, planning checklists, and a free Transition Navigator to help you understand what comes next — one step at a time.

Visit lumeway.co

This checklist is a free organizational resource from Lumeway. It does not constitute legal, financial, or medical advice. Consult a licensed professional for guidance specific to your situation.

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