



### **Once I Make the Trust, Do I Ever Have to Change It?**

Whereas there's no built-in expiration date for the estate plan, most people will update their plans as their lives change. The reasons for the updates generally fall into one of two categories: changes in law and changes in fact.

Changes in law are infrequent, but do happen – and sometimes an out of date plan is almost as bad as no plan at all.

Most changes in fact should be anticipated by the plan: births and moves and purchase of new assets. For all the people listed in the estate plan, there's usually 2-3 alternatives. However, it's impossible to predict all future life changes.

Thus, when you are first creating your estate plan, try to make decisions that you'll be ok with for the next 5-10 years, and remember the details of your plan. Check in with your attorney regularly to see if an update may be needed.

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