Wills and probate terms
Some common terms used in Wills and probate are listed below. You can print this list and add other Wills and probate terms that you encounter to the printed document.

Administrator
The administrator is the person who administers an estate when a Will has not been left.

Bequeath
Bequeath is the term used where a Will disposes of personal property. The property can include money.

Beneficiary
A beneficiary is a person who receives property in accordance with the details of a Will or Trust. The property can include money.

Codicil
A codicil is a supplement to a Will. This supplement can be an addition to or a modification of the Will.

Executor
An executor is a male appointed in a Will to ensure that the testator’s interests are met.

Executrix
An executrix is a female appointed in a Will to ensure that the testator’s interests are met.

Intestate
Intestate is the term used when someone dies prior to making a Will or when the Will does not dispose of all the property correctly. The property that has not been disposed of properly is known as the residue.

Letter of Administration
A Letter of Administration is a document used when the deceased has not left a Will. The document allows the estate to be administered.

Probate
A probate is a document certifying that a Will is valid. A probate is issued by a probate court.

Testate
Testate is the term used when a valid Will has been left.

Testator
A testator is a male who has made a Will.

Testatrix
A testatrix is a female who has made a Will.
**Will**
A Will is a written legal declaration of the way a deceased person wishes their property to be disposed of.