WHAT YOU NEED TO KNOW ABOUT

## Divorce + Gold Jewellery



Are you getting a divorce and worried about losing your gold jewellery?

Or are you planning to give your children jewellery on their wedding day?



Here's what you need to know about protecting your jewellery during a divorce and avoiding conflict.



During a divorce, you and your spouse will divide your assets as part of your financial settlement.

Your assets become part of what's known as the 'matrimonial pot'. Your house, money and gold jewellery can go into the 'matrimonial pot'.



If possible, it's always best to reach an agreement between yourselves on how you will divide your assets. It can save you time, money and energy.



# What happens to jewellery on divorce?

Whilst every case is different, generally, the item of jewellery belongs to the recipient (even if it's a short marriage). Can you establish the item belongs to you?



## What if my ex and his family won't return my family heirloom?

Unfortunately, this happens. It's always best to reach an agreement between yourselves. If this is not possible, can you establish the item belongs to you?

- Do you have receipts or photographs?
- Can you prove the item was gifted to you with the 'express intention' it would be returned to the 'giver' if the marriage ended?



In many cases, a receipt could have helped to avoid conflict.

Here's 3 steps you can take to protect yourself today.



#### ONE: Speak Up

The first step is making sure you tell your solicitor about any important pieces of jewellery.

- Was the item a gift to you on your wedding day or before?
- Is it a family heirloom piece that should be returned?
- Was it a gift for you both?



#### TWO: Keep Your Receipts

Many cases involving gold and its ownership fail due to a lack of evidence. Some examples of what you can do:

- Make a list of the items you buy or gift;
- Take photographs of the jewellery (postpurchase or wearing it);
- Keep any receipts. They can prove when you bought the jewellery, its value and weight;
- If you don't have a receipt, try and get the item valued;



#### THREE: Record The Intention Of A Gift

If you're planning to give someone a gift, make a record of your intention.

- Is it a gift to your child?
- Is it part of their dowry?
- Is it a gift to the couple in place of property or money to help them set up their new life?
- Is it a family heirloom that should be returned to the 'giver' if the relationship ends?



The simplest way to make a record of your gift or purchase is a pre-nuptial agreement or post-nuptial agreement.



Thank you for reading. We hope you found this guide helpful.

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