

WHAT YOU NEED  
TO KNOW ABOUT

# Mahr and Divorce

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Do you need to know  
whether you can claim  
your mahr on divorce?

Here's a quick guide to  
what you need to know.

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## What Is Mahr?

Mahr is one of the most important parts of the Nikah Nama (Islamic marriage contract).

It is a gift from the groom to the bride. It is intended to provide financial security for the wife in certain situations e.g. death of her spouse or divorce.

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## How much should your mahr be?

The amount of the Mahr is not legally specified. A bride or her family may request money, gold or anything else.

The agreed amount is recorded in your Nikah-Nama. Under sharia law, the wife has the right to ask for her full mahr at any time during her marriage or upon its dissolution.

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## Can you ask for the full amount of mahr on divorce?

Currently, under civil law, the mahr cannot be claimed in full on divorce. It will be considered part of the overall financial arrangement that the family court considers.

This could change depending on the outcome of a new court ruling.

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## Here's 5 Things You Can Do (planning).

- It's always better if you can reach an agreement between yourselves. If this is not possible, you may wish to ask a third party for support or find out your options from a law firm.
- If you're getting married, make sure you record any gifts or Mahr in your Nikah Nama.

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- Consider a prenuptial or post-nuptial agreement.
- Keep a receipt for any jewellery which may have been provided as Mahr. (see our Gold Guide).
- For couples in an unregistered marriage (no civil marriage), you may wish to prepare a cohabitation agreement.

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We hope you found this guide helpful. You can find more guides on our website:

[www.skblawfirm.co.uk/my-nikah](http://www.skblawfirm.co.uk/my-nikah)  
[www.skblawfirm.co.uk/faq](http://www.skblawfirm.co.uk/faq)

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Please note, this guide does not  
replace legal advice.

If you want to know your options,  
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*15 minute* consultation  
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