

FIXED FEE DIVORCE / DISSOLUTION

EMD Law LLP recognises that divorces and civil partnership dissolutions are a stressful process and the question of cost only adds to this stress. In order to give our clients certainty we offer two fixed fee packages. We offer a fixed fee for those who want to start the proceedings (the Petitioner Fixed Fee) and a fixed fee for those who will be receiving or have received the papers (the Respondent Fixed Fee).

These fixed fees apply to undefended divorce and civil partnership dissolution proceedings only.

N.B. In the following text the word "spouse" means husband/wife or civil partner.

Petitioner Fixed Fee

The Petitioner Fixed Fee includes all work from the preparation of the Petition up to and including the pronouncement of Decree Absolute.

The Petitioner Fixed Fee is £750 plus VAT and Court fees.

The current Court fees are:

£550 to issue the Petition*

*in some circumstances you may be able to apply for a fee exemption

What is included in the Petitioner Fixed Fee?

- Initial consultation
- All correspondence with our client, their spouse/ spouse's solicitors and the Court with regards to the divorce proceedings.
- Drafting the Petition and sending to our client for approval.
- Agreeing the draft Petition with the Respondent/ Respondent's solicitors.
- Sending the papers to Court for issue.
- Receiving the Acknowledgement of Service.
- Assisting our client with the completion of the Statement in Support of Divorce/Dissolution.
- Applying for Decree Nisi.
- Receiving Notice of Decree Nisi Date and sending it to our client with a letter of advice.
- Receiving Decree Nisi and sending it to our client with a letter of advice.
- Preparing Application for Decree Absolute and submitting it to the Court.
- Receiving Decree Absolute and sending the original to the client with a letter of advice.

Rose Cottage, 4 Lime Terrace, High Street, Staplehurst, Kent, TN12 0AP

T 01580 890600 | F 01580 890755 | E info@emdlaw.co.uk | W www.emdlaw.co.uk

13 Warrior Square, St Leonards-On-Sea, East Sussex, TN37 6BA

T 01424 420261 | F 01424 203853 | E info@emdlaw.co.uk | W www.emdlaw.co.uk

What Is Not Included In The Petitioner Fixed Fee?

- VAT
- Representation at any Court Hearings.
- Additional applications which may need to be made within the proceedings. Please see information re the additional charges in respect of these applications.
- Expenses charged by other professionals, such as the cost of obtaining a replacement marriage certificate or the cost of obtaining a translation of a foreign marriage certificate.
- Unforeseen circumstances and complexities, such as if the Respondent fails to return the Acknowledgement or Service or if the divorce becomes defended or the Respondent cross-petitions. If the Respondent defends the proceedings or cross-petitions the fixed fee will not apply and we will provide you with new cost information.
- Issues regarding divorce/dissolution costs. If our client is claiming the costs from the Respondent and the Respondent objects there will be additional charges if we have to prepare a statement and/or letter to the Court on behalf of our client in respect of their claim for costs or we have to represent our client at a costs hearing.
- Any advice or correspondence relating to financial issues.
- Any advice or correspondence relating to issues concerning children.
- Dealing with any application to dismiss the proceedings.

NB The fixed fee will only apply if the divorce proceedings are completed. In the event our client instructs us to cease working or we do not receive instructions for a period of 4 months, the work undertaken will be charged at the hourly rate plus VAT.

ADDITIONAL APPLICATIONS

In some divorces/dissolutions it may be necessary to make additional applications within the proceedings and such applications would be charged at the following fixed fees:

ARRANGING PERSONAL SERVICE ON THE RESPONDENT:

£75 plus VAT
Court fee of £110* or
Process Server fee of approx. £50-£100 plus VAT

APPLICATION FOR DEEMED SERVICE ON THE RESPONDENT:

£150 plus VAT
Court fee of £155*

APPLICATION TO AMEND PETITION:

£100 plus VAT
Court fee of £95*

*All court fees are subject to change by HMCTS which is outside our control.

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Respondent Fixed Fee

The Respondent fixed fee includes all work from checking and agreeing the content of a draft Petition prepared by the Petitioner/ Petitioner's Solicitors up to and including the pronouncement of Decree Absolute.

The Respondent Fixed Fee is £395 plus VAT

What Is Included In The Respondent Fixed Fee?

- Initial consultation.
- All correspondence with our client, their spouse and the Court.
- Considering and advising on the draft Petition prepared by the Respondent/Respondent's solicitors.
- Completing the Acknowledgement of Service and returning it to the Court.
- Receiving Notice of Decree Nisi Date and sending copies to our client with a letter of advice.
- Receiving Decree Nisi and sending a copy to our client with a letter of advice.
- Receiving Decree Absolute and sending it to our client with a letter of advice.

What Is Not Included In The Respondent Fixed Fee?

- VAT
- Defending the proceedings or cross-petitioning.
- The Respondent's costs if our client is ordered to pay them or agrees to pay them.
- Applying for Decree Absolute if the Petitioner fails to apply.
- Any advice or correspondence relating to financial issues.
- Any advice or correspondence relating to issues concerning children.
- Any issues regarding costs being claimed by the Petitioner. There will be added charges for corresponding with the Petitioner/ Petitioner's solicitors or the court regarding a claim for costs or if we have to represent our client at a court hearing.
- Dealing with any application to dismiss the proceedings.
- Extensive correspondence re the content of the Petition.

NB The fixed fee will only apply if the divorce proceedings are completed. In the event our client instructs us to cease working the work undertaken will be charged at the hourly rate plus VAT.

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