

Court of King's Bench

Joint Divorce with Dependent Children



Resolution Services



Alberta
Government

This booklet has been prepared for you by the staff at Resolution Services. You can reach us at:

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Grande Prairie, AB T8V 2H4
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Lethbridge, AB T1J 1Z8
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Medicine Hat, AB T1A 0A8
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Red Deer

Red Deer Justice Centre
Main Floor, 4810 - 48 Avenue
Red Deer, AB T4N 5L6
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RDDRIInfoService@just.gov.ab.ca

Outside these centres, contact us toll free at 1-855-738-4747.

Resolution Services and Court Staff cannot give you legal advice or predict the outcome of your case.

This booklet provides general information only. You should speak to a lawyer for legal advice about your own situation.

JOINT DIVORCE – WITH DEPENDENT CHILDREN

CONTENTS

BEFORE YOU BEGIN	1
DIVORCE CHECKSHEET	3
COMPLETING THE JOINT STATEMENT OF CLAIM	4
FILING THE JOINT STATEMENT OF CLAIM	9
COMPLETING THE JOINT REQUEST FOR DIVORCE	10
THE CHILD SUPPORT CALCULATION	11
COMPLETING THE JOINT AFFIDAVIT OF APPLICANTS FOR DIVORCE	12
COMPLETING THE JOINT DIVORCE JUDGMENT AND COROLLARY RELIEF ORDER	22
FILE THE REQUEST FOR DIVORCE AND SUPPORTING DOCUMENTS	27
REQUEST YOUR CERTIFICATE OF DIVORCE	28
CHECKLIST FOR FILING DESK DIVORCE PACKAGE.....	29

INSTRUCTIONS: JOINT DIVORCE WITH DEPENDENT CHILDREN

BEFORE YOU BEGIN

Disclaimer:

These are meant to be simple, straightforward instructions for completing a divorce on your own. There may be other ways of completing the divorce. If you want to find out if there is a different way than what is written here, or if you want any more information than what has been given, talk to a lawyer.

In these instructions, we often tell you to ask questions or get forms from the Resolution Support Centre. If there is no Resolution Support Centre in your court, ask the King's Bench Clerks for the information or forms.

Were you married?

If you were living "common law", then you do not need to do anything through the courts to end your relationship. It is only if you went through an official wedding ceremony that you need to get a divorce. This may have been in Canada or outside of Canada.

Do you have the correct marriage certificate?

If you were married in Canada, you need the marriage certificate that was issued by the province after your marriage. If you have a handwritten certificate that was given to you at the time of your wedding, that is likely not the right one. If you were married in Alberta, you can order a marriage certificate from any registry office. If you were married in another province, search "marriage certificate" on the government home page for that province.



Tip: Most people do not receive a marriage certificate from the government unless they go through the process of ordering one. It is not sent automatically after the marriage ceremony ie. if the marriage was registered in Alberta, one must be ordered from the Alberta Registries.

If you were married outside Canada, an official marriage certificate is helpful but not required.

Have you and/or your spouse lived in Alberta for at least a year?

If not, you can't file for divorce in Alberta. You will be able to file once you (or your spouse) have lived in Alberta for a year.

Do you have grounds for divorce?

The grounds for a joint divorce are living separate and apart for one year.



Tip:

You can start the divorce before the year of separation is up, but you can't ask for the Divorce Judgment until after the year is up.

Do you have an agreement on the issues of custody, access (parenting), child support and spousal support?

A written agreement is best, but a verbal agreement will often be fine.

If you do not have an agreement, you may want to speak to your spouse about mediation, or you may want to talk to a lawyer.

Have you taken the Parenting After Separation Seminar?

If you have not yet taken the seminar, you should complete the online course as soon as possible. See the Family Practice Note 1 <https://www.albertacourts.ca/docs/default-source/qb/2026-family-practice-note-1---final.pdf> for more information.

You can find the course at: <https://www.alberta.ca/pas>

Once you complete the online course, you will be required to print the completion Certificate. Each of you must file this certificate with the court to complete the divorce.



Tip:

Use the Divorce Check sheet on the next page of these instructions for a handy summary of the forms and photocopies you will need.

Do not use correction tape/white out on your court documents. If you make an error, you may cross out and initial the changes.

DIVORCE CHECKSHEET

- ☐ JOINT STATEMENT OF CLAIM FOR DIVORCE ORIGINAL
(\$310.00 filing fee)
- ☐ JOINT REQUEST FOR DIVORCE ORIGINAL
- ☐ REVIEW MEMO AND CHILD SUPPORT CALCULATION (ATTACH TO
AFFIDAVIT OF APPLICANTS)
- ☐ JOINT AFFIDAVIT OF APPLICANTS FOR DIVORCE ORIGINAL
- ☐ PARENTING AFTER SEPARTION CERTIFICATE OR EXEMPTION FOR
SPOUSE 1..... ORIGINAL
- ☐ PARENTING AFTER SEPARTION CERTIFICATE OR EXEMPTION FOR
SPOUSE 2..... ORIGINAL
- ☐ DIVORCE JUDGMENT AND COROLLARY RELIEF ORDER ORIGINAL
 - **Divorce Judgment MUST BE TYPED.** Handwritten corrections, edits, or changes are not acceptable.
 - Link: <https://www.albertacourts.ca/kb/home/notice-to-the-profession-public---handwritten-divorce-judgments>
- ☐ TWO STAMPED, SELF-ADDRESSED ENVELOPES
 - one envelope addressed to Spouse 1 and one envelope addressed to Spouse 2.
 - **If you have provided yours and the defendant's email address on the "Checklist for Filing Desk Divorce Package," a self-addressed envelope is not required.**

Where can I download the form?

<https://www.albertacourts.ca/kb/areas-of-law/family/divorce-forms>

JOINT DIVORCE – WITH CHILDREN

COMPLETING THE JOINT STATEMENT OF CLAIM FOR DIVORCE

Court File number

Leave this blank for now. When you file the Joint Statement of Claim for Divorce, the clerk will give you a court file number.

Judicial Centre

This is the Court of King's Bench location where you will be filing your documents.

Spouse 1 and Spouse 2

Decide now which of you will be called "Spouse 1" and which will be "Spouse 2". You will keep this label in all the forms.

Look at your marriage certificate. Use the names exactly as they are on the marriage certificate except that if the wife has taken the husband's last name, you can use her married last name. The format in writing the name is: First Name, Last Name and other given name(s).

For example, the marriage certificate lists you as John Edward Kerry and Jane Amanda Fraser. Jane goes by Jane Kerry. You will list yourselves as John Edward Kerry and Jane Amanda Kerry **OR** Jane Amanda Fraser also known as Jane Amanda Kerry.



Tip:

Whenever there is a space to write in any names on any of the forms, write in the full name.

Address for Service and Contact Information

Write in both parties' names, complete addresses, including postal code, daytime phone numbers, and email addresses.

#1: The Parties

Make sure the date and place of the marriage are the same as on your marriage certificate.

1(3) and 1(4)

- Address means the complete address, including postal code.
- Surname at birth means the last name at the time of birth.
- Surname at the time of marriage means the last name just before your marriage took place.
- Gender at the time of marriage would be one of "male", "female", or "another gender".
- Marital status of the parties at the time of the marriage would be one of "single", "divorced" or "widowed".

#2: Residence

One of you **MUST** have lived in Alberta for one full year before you file the Statement of Claim. If you have not, you must wait. Choose either Spouse 1 or Spouse 2 here.

#3 Grounds

Do not write anything here.

#4 Reconciliation

Do not write anything here. If you believe there **IS** a possibility of reconciliation, then you should not file for divorce.

#5 Bars to Divorce

Do not write anything here.



Tip:

"Collusion" means agreeing with your spouse to make up facts so that you can get your divorce or get divorced sooner.

#6 Children

6(1) Fill in the full names and dates of birth of each of your dependent children. If there are more than two, you will need to add lines to the form.

6(2) Fill in the terms of the agreement that you and your spouse have about the allocation of parenting time and decision-making responsibilities.

6(3) The *Divorce Act* requires parties to notify the other party in writing if they are planning on changing their place of residence or relocating to another location. This applies whether you are planning on moving with the children or without the children. Describe how you and your spouse have agreed to provide notice to each other (e.g. by email, mail, in person, or some other method).

Example:

6(2) The parties propose parenting arrangements for each child as follows:

Spouse 1 will make major decisions about the children's health, education, culture, language, religion, spirituality, and significant extra-curricular activities, after consulting with Spouse 2.

The parties shall share parenting time equally, and the children shall spend alternating weeks with Spouse 1 and Spouse 2. Transitions shall occur every Friday at 4:30pm, and the parent that are with the children for the upcoming week shall pick up the children at that time.

6(3) If written notice of a change of residence or relocation is required to be given under section 16.8 or 16.9 of the *Divorce Act* (Canada), the Plaintiff proposes that notice be given as follows:

(a) The Plaintiff will provide written notice to the Defendant by: *(specify how the written notice will be delivered to the Defendant, e.g. by mail, in person, by email, etc.)*

By email

(b) The Defendant will provide written notice to the Plaintiff by: *(specify how the written notice will be delivered to the Plaintiff, e.g. by mail, in person, by email, etc.)*

By email

6(4) Fill in the terms of the agreement that you and your spouse have about child support. You may either put in a dollar amount or say that the paying spouse will pay "child support as set out in the Federal Child Support Guidelines."



Tips:

The judge must be satisfied that the amount of child support is reasonable before they can grant your divorce. In most cases, this means that the amount of child support must be the amount calculated by the Federal Child Support Guidelines. There are very limited cases where the judge can order child support in an amount that does not follow the federal child support guidelines.

Before you fill in 6(4), you should understand how child support is calculated under the Federal Child Support Guidelines.

#7 Agreements

If you have an agreement regarding the parenting schedule, decision making responsibility regarding the children, child support, and/or spousal support, provide the type of agreement (e.g. Separation Agreement) and the date it was signed. If there is no agreement, say "none". **Do not write N/A and not applicable.**

#8 Court Proceedings

8(1) If you have been to court to deal with parenting schedule, decision making responsibility regarding the children, child support, and/or spousal support, state the type of order that was made, the name of the Court that made the Order, and the date the order was made (e.g. Spousal Support Order made by the Alberta Court of Justice on March 15, 2024). If you have not been to court regarding these issues, say "none". **Do not write N/A and not applicable.**

8(2) If either party is involved in any court proceedings for a restraining order or protection order (e.g. EPOs), court proceedings related to child protection, or proceedings, undertakings or recognizances relating to a criminal matter, list the details here (ie: Emergency Protection Order granted by the Alberta Court of Justice on March 5, 2024 between John Edward Kerry and Jane Amanda Fraser). If these proceedings are not applicable to your situation, say "none". **Do not write N/A and not applicable.**

- a) none
- b) none
- c) none

#9 Spousal Support

Check off the first box if no spousal support is to be paid. If spousal support is to be paid, check the second box and fill in which party is paying support, the amount of support, and whether it is monthly or a lump sum.

#10 Remedy Sought

This is a summary of what you are asking for. In most cases, you should check off at least:

- ☒ a joint divorce judgment
- ☒ parenting arrangement as proposed above
- ☒ child support as proposed above

Statement of Spouse 1

Fill in Spouse 1's name. This statement outlines Spouse 1's duties under sections 7.1 to 7.5 of the *Divorce Act*. Spouse 1 must certify that they will comply with these duties prior to filing the Joint Statement of Claim for Divorce.

Statement of Lawyer for Spouse 1

You do not have to fill this in if you are representing yourselves.

Statement of Spouse 2

Fill in Spouse 2's name. This statement outlines Spouse 2's duties under sections 7.1 to 7.5 of the *Divorce Act*. Spouse 2 must certify that they will comply with these duties prior to filing the Joint Statement of Claim for Divorce.

Statement of Lawyer for Spouse 2

You do not have to fill this in if you are representing yourselves.

FILING THE JOINT STATEMENT OF CLAIM FOR DIVORCE

Print out the form.

Make 2 copies (original + 2 copies)



Tip:

Make sure all of your pages have print only on one side (no double-sided printing or copying!)

One or both of you can come to courthouse to file the Joint Statement of Claim for Divorce. Bring all your copies, plus \$310.00 (cash, debit, or credit cards) and your marriage certificate to the Court of King's Bench. In larger centres there will be a specific registry counter for filing divorce documents.

The clerk will file your Joint Statement of Claim for Divorce and return the filed (stamped) copy to you. Each of you must keep a filed copy for future reference.



Tip:

It is possible, so long as you have been separated for more than one year, to complete all the forms and file them with the Court at the same time. If you want to do this, complete the forms up to the end of page 26 before coming to the courthouse for filing.

COMPLETING THE JOINT REQUEST FOR DIVORCE

Court File Number
Judicial Centre
Spouse 1
Spouse 2



These are all the same as
in the Joint Statement of
Claim for Divorce

Address for Service and Contact Information

Write in your names, complete addresses, including postal code,
daytime phone numbers, and email addresses.

Print out the form and sign it.

THE CHILD SUPPORT CALCULATION

Resolution Services staff can do a child support calculation for you based on the income information in the Joint Affidavit of Applicants for Divorce. They will attach the calculation to a Review Memo.



Tips:

Proof of income is required in most cases. IF you think you have an unusual case where the financial information is not required, talk to the Resolution Support Centre staff. The fact that you have an agreement on child support (or that there is to be no child support) is NOT an unusual case.

Use the same incomes and special expense amounts in your Affidavit of Applicant and your Divorce Judgment.

COMPLETING THE JOINT AFFIDAVIT OF APPLICANTS FOR DIVORCE



Tips:

- This form is quite complex, and you may need to add information that does not fit in the spaces provided. If that happens, you may want to use the Word version of Form FL-23, on the King's Bench website: <https://albertacourts.ca/kb/areas-of-law/family/family-law-forms/word-forms>.
- Fill out all of the parts of this form, unless the instructions tell you otherwise.

Court File Number
Judicial Centre
Spouse 1
Spouse 2



These are all the same as
in the Joint Statement of
Claim for Divorce

Address for Service and Contact Information

Write in your names, complete addresses, including postal code, daytime phone numbers, and email addresses.

Affidavit of

Fill in both names.

Sworn on

Fill this in after you swear the Joint Affidavit of Applicants for Divorce.

Introductory paragraph of Affidavit:

Fill in your names and cities/towns of residence.

#1: Parties

Fill in the complete addresses of both parties

#2: Joint Statement of Claim for Divorce

Go back and read over your Joint Statement of Claim for Divorce. If there are no mistakes, check off the first box.

If there are any mistakes in it, check off the second box and check the appropriate box(es) to specify the changes that are required.

#3: Marriage

Enter the date and place of your marriage.

There are two checkboxes. If you were married in Canada, use the first checkbox. If you were married outside Canada, use the second checkbox.

First Checkbox (marriage in Canada)

- The marriage certificate will be Exhibit "A".
- Beside the words "issued by", fill in the Province or Territory where you were married.
- If there are errors in your marriage certificate, please specify. Otherwise check "none".



Tips:

- If you were married in Canada, you must have a marriage certificate to complete this step.
- You must attach the original marriage certificate (as you received it from the provincial government office), not a photocopy.

Second Checkbox (marriage outside Canada)

- Fill in the name and title of the person who conducted your marriage ceremony.
- Fill in the names of the people who witnessed your marriage ceremony.
- You may make changes to this statement to reflect the details of your marriage ceremony. You will probably need to use the Word version of the FL-24 form to do this and may want to speak to a lawyer about this.
- If you have a marriage certificate, or some other document proving your marriage, you may attach it as Exhibit "A". You will probably need to use the Word version of the FL-24 form to do this.

***Tips:***

- If you cannot remember the name of the person who conducted your marriage ceremony, say “unknown”, but it is helpful to describe the person (e.g. “a government official who we believed to have the authority to conduct marriages”).
- If your marriage certificate is not in English or French, you will have to have it translated by a person who will swear before a Commissioner for Oaths that they have properly translated it into English. Attach the translation of the marriage certificate as Exhibit “B”.

#4: Residence

Choose either Spouse 1 or Spouse 2 – to show which of you had lived in Alberta for at least one year before the Statement of Claim was filed. This must match #2 of the Statement of Claim.

#5: Grounds

Fill in the date that you separated (must be more than one year ago!).

#6: Bars to Divorce

Do not write anything here.

***Tips:***

#6 refers to one of the “Bars” to divorce. It talks about making an agreement to deceive the court. An example of this would be if you and your spouse had only recently separated but agreed to lie to the court and say that you had been separated for a year.

If #6 is not true, the judge will not grant the divorce, and you should talk to a lawyer before going any further.

#7: Reconciliation

Do not make any changes.

#8: Corollary Relief

Check the first box if your Divorce Judgment and Corollary Relief Order will include parenting arrangements, child support, or spousal support.

If the issues of parenting arrangements, child support, and spousal support have been severed from the divorce by an order, check the second box and enter the details of the order.

#9: Protection Orders, Child Protection Orders or Criminal Proceedings

9(a) List the details of any current criminal charges against you or your spouse, and the details of any conditions either of you are required to follow in relation to a criminal proceeding.

9(b) List the details of any current involvement of you, your spouse, or your children in the child protection system.

9(c) List the details of any protection orders (e.g.: EPOs) or restraining orders involving you or your spouse.



Tip:

If you have questions about how criminal proceedings, child protection proceedings, or protection orders may affect your divorce, you should talk to a lawyer before going any further.

#10 – 14: Children, Parenting and Financial Arrangements for the Children

If there are dependent children, **10 – 14 *MUST* be completed.**

#10: Children

Check the second box and fill in the names and dates of birth of each child. Add or remove rows as necessary. Fill in the name and city/town of residence of the person that each child resides with.

#11: Court Orders Relating to the Children of the Marriage

If there are no court orders relating to the children (including orders under the *Family Law Act* or relating to a child protection matter), check the first box.

If there are court orders relating to the children, check the second box and attach all the orders as an Exhibit to the Affidavit.

#12: Agreements Relating to the Children of the Marriage

If there are no written agreements relating to the children (including orders under the *Family Law Act* or relating to a child protection matter), check the first box.

If there is a written agreement between the parties relating to the children, check the second box.

The agreement must be attached as an Exhibit to the Affidavit. You can choose to attach only the relevant portions of the agreement, rather than the full agreement. If you are only attaching relevant portions of the agreement, you must include the first page, the signature pages, the certificates of independent legal advice and all pages relating to the children of the marriage.

#13: Parenting Arrangements

13(b) Explain how parenting arrangements are in the best interests of the children. Refer to the information on the next page regarding the best interests of the child.

13(c) Check the appropriate box regarding notification method for any future changes of residence or relocations.

Best Interest of the Child

Section 16 of the *Divorce Act* says that the court shall take into consideration only the best interests of the child of the marriage in making a parenting order.

Primary consideration is given to the child's physical, emotional and psychological safety, security and well-being.

The following factors are to be considered:

- (a) the child's needs, given the child's age and stage of development, such as the child's need for stability;
- (b) the nature and strength of the child's relationship with each spouse, each of the child's siblings and grandparents and any other person who plays an important role in the child's life;
- (c) each spouse's willingness to support the development and maintenance of the child's relationship with the other spouse.
- (d) the history of care of the child;
- (e) the child's views and preferences, giving due weight to the child's age and maturity, unless they cannot be ascertained;
- (f) the child's cultural, linguistic, religious and spiritual upbringing and heritage, including Indigenous upbringing and heritage;
- (g) any plans for the child's care;
- (h) the ability and willingness of each person in respect of whom the order would apply to care for and meet the needs of the child;
- (i) the ability and willingness of each person in respect of whom the order would apply to communicate and cooperate, with one another, on matters affecting the child;
- (j) any family violence and its impact on, among other things,
 - i. the ability and willingness of any person who engaged in the family violence to care for and meet the needs of the child, and
 - ii. the appropriateness of making an order that would require persons in respect of whom the order would apply to cooperate on issues affecting the child; and
- (k) any civil or criminal proceeding, order, condition, or measure that is relevant to the safety, security and well-being of the child.



Tip:

If you have questions about the factors the Court considers when determining what is in the best interests of your children, especially in situations of family violence, you should talk to a lawyer.

#14: Child Support Arrangements

14(a) Fill in Spouse 1's annual income.

If you are using a previous tax return to estimate the income, check the first box and write in the year of the tax return.

If you are using paystubs to calculate the annual income, check the second box.

If you are calculating the income another way, check the third box and provide an explanation.

14(b) Fill in Spouse 2's annual income.

If you are using a previous tax return to estimate the income, check the first box and write in the year of the tax return.

If you are using paystubs to calculate the annual income, check the second box.

If you are calculating the income another way, check the third box and provide an explanation.



Tip:

Line 150 / Line 15000 is usually used as a person's annual income for child support if that person's only source of income is through their employment. If your or your spouse's income is more complicated (e.g. your spouse earns money through a corporation), then you may want to speak to a lawyer or an accountant about how to calculate the income.

14(c) If there is no claim for special or extraordinary expenses, check the first box.

If there is a claim for special or extraordinary expenses, check the second box, and check the box for each type of expense being claimed. Make sure that you fill out the total annual expense for each type of expense that is checked off. The expenses listed here must match your Child Support Guideline calculation.

14(c)(ii) If there are health related, education or extracurricular activities, you must provide a description of the expenses.

14(d) If child support is based on a standard Child Support Guideline calculation, check the first box.

If child support is different than the Child Support Guidelines amount, check the second box. *If this is the case, then you must complete 17(g).*

14(e) If you are seeking an order that dental and medical insurance be maintained for the children, fill out this part. If not, leave this part blank.

14(f) Attach the child support calculation sheet as an Exhibit to the Affidavit. Fill in the exhibit letter here. If you were given a review memo by Resolution Services staff, you may include that as part of the Exhibit.

14(g) Check this box only if you are using a child support amount that is different from the Child Support Guideline calculation. The PDF document may add several paragraphs when you check the box, and these paragraphs will provide space for you to explain why you are not using the Child Support Guidelines. You MUST provide an explanation in if you are not following the Guideline calculation.

The PDF version of the document may add several paragraphs when you check the 14(g) box, and these paragraphs will provide space for you to explain why you are not using the Child Support Guidelines (if you are using the Word document, you may remove everything between paragraphs 14(g) and 15).

**Tip:**

The following are possible reasons why you may not be following the Child Support Guideline calculation:

- Children are over the age of majority - *fill in 17(g)(i)*
- Shared parenting - *fill in 17(g)(ii)*
- Payor's income is over \$150,000 - *fill in 17(g)(iii)*
- Undue hardship - *fill in 17(g)(iv)*
- Spouse standing in place of a parent - *fill in 17(g)(v)*
- Other reason - *fill in 17(g)(vi)*

Further information can be provided in *17(g)(vii)*

#15: Spousal Support

If you and your spouse do not have a written agreement for support, and no spousal support is being included in your Divorce Judgment, check off the first box. Select the appropriate check box for your situation.

If you and your spouse have a written agreement, and you received independent legal advice on the agreement, check off the second box and indicate whether spousal support is waived or whether spousal support is payable. If spousal support is payable, specify how much support is payable, and whether it is lump sum or monthly support.

If the first two boxes do not apply to you, check the third box and explain. An example of this would be if you have agreed to a spousal support amount, but you do not have a written agreement for spousal support with independent legal advice.

#16: Relief Requested

Check off the items that you are wanting in the Divorce Judgment. In most cases, you should check off at least:

- ☒ An order for a parenting arrangement
- ☒ An order for child support

If you indicated in #2 that the Joint Statement of Claim for Divorce requires changes, you must check off the "other" box and explain what you are asking for (e.g. "Leave to amend paragraph 1(1)(a) of the Joint Statement of Claim to show the marriage date as August 23, 1997").

Print off the form.

Put the Joint Affidavit of Applicants for Divorce together as follows:

- All pages of the Affidavit
- Your marriage certificate, taped onto a plain piece of paper
- The English translation of the marriage certificate (if applicable)
- Copies of orders (if applicable)
- Copies of agreements (if applicable)
- Child Support Calculation

The documents attached to your Joint Affidavit of Applicants for Divorce will be marked as Exhibits "A", "B", etc.

Sign your Affidavit in front of a Commissioner for Oaths. The Clerk at the Court of King's Bench Divorce Counter or the staff at Resolution Services can act as a Commissioner for Oaths for you.

COMPLETING THE DIVORCE JUDGMENT AND COROLLARY RELIEF ORDER



Tip:

- As this document can be quite complex, you may want to use the Word versions of Form FL-26 on the King's Bench section of the <https://albertacourts.ca/kb/areas-of-law/family/divorce-forms> website.
- **Ensure any references to "Plaintiff" and "Defendant" are changed to "Spouse 1" and "Spouse 2"**

Court File Number
Judicial Centre
Spouse 1
Spouse 2



These are all the same as
in the Joint Statement of
Claim for Divorce

Address for Service and Contact Information

Write in both of your names, complete addresses, including postal code, daytime phone numbers, and email addresses.

Date on which Judgment is granted
Location of Hearing or Trial
Name of Judge who granted...



Leave all of these
blank

Introductory paragraphs (also called the Preamble)

Fill in the names and guideline incomes of both parties.



Tip:

These incomes must be the same as in the Affidavit of Applicant and the Child Support Calculation.

Fill in the full names and dates of birth of the dependent children.

For the next paragraph ("The Parties have agreed to depart..."), if the two of you have agreed to an amount of child support that is different from the guideline amount, write in the reason why you have agreed to a different amount. If you are using the guideline amount of support, delete or cross out this paragraph.

For the next paragraph ("There is an agreed upon parenting plan..."), if you and your spouse have a written parenting plan setting out parenting time, decision-making responsibility, or contact with the children, then you can attach it as a schedule to the Divorce Judgment and Corollary Relief Order. If you do not have a parenting plan, delete or cross out this paragraph.

For the next paragraph ("The Parties have agreed to waive..."), if the two of you have:

- A written agreement in which you both have waived spousal support, AND
- You each had a lawyer sign the agreement with you (Certificate of Independent Legal Advice)

then leave this paragraph in. Otherwise, delete or cross out this paragraph.

IT IS ADJUDGED

#1: Fill in the date of your marriage and the place (city and province and country if marry outside of Canada).

IT IS ORDERED

#2: Fill in the details of your parenting schedule (ie: specific days and times that the children will be with each parent).

#3: Fill in the allocation of major decision-making responsibility here.

Example 1:

IT IS ORDERED THAT pursuant to the *Divorce Act* (Canada):

1. The parties shall have parenting time with the child(ren) of the marriage as follows:
 - (a) The parties shall share parenting time equally, and the children shall spend alternating weeks with Spouse 1 and Spouse 2.
 - (b) Transitions shall occur every Friday at 4:30pm, and the parent that is with the children for the upcoming week shall pick up the children at that time.
2. The decision-making responsibilities for the child(ren) of the marriage shall be allocated between the parties:
 - (a) Spouse 1 will make major decisions about the children's health, education, culture, language, religion, spirituality, and significant extra-curricular activities, after consulting with Spouse 2.

Example 2:

IT IS ORDERED THAT pursuant to the *Divorce Act* (Canada):

1. The parties shall have parenting time with the child(ren) of the marriage as follows:
 - (a) The children shall live primarily with Spouse 1, and Spouse 1 shall have parenting time at all times except during the times that Spouse 2 has parenting time as set out in this order.
 - (b) Spouse 2 shall have parenting time from 4:00pm to 7:00pm every Wednesday, and every second weekend from 4:00pm on Friday until 8:00am on Monday.
 - (c) Spouse 2 shall be responsible for transporting the children to and from his parenting time.
2. The decision-making responsibilities for the child(ren) of the marriage shall be allocated between the parties as follows:
 - (a) The parties will jointly make major decisions about the children's health, education, and significant extra-curricular activities. Spouse 1 shall have sole decision-making responsibility regarding culture, language, religion, and spirituality.

#4: If you have a parenting plan, and you and your spouse have agreed to include some of the terms in the Order, then list those terms here. Be sure to attach a copy of the parenting plan to the Divorce Judgment and Corollary Relief Order.

#5: Fill in the name of the party paying child support, the party receiving child support, the monthly amount of support, and the start date for support.

#6: If there are special or extraordinary expense amounts to be paid from one party to the other, fill in the name of the paying party, the name of the party receiving the payment, the monthly amount payable, and the start date for the payments.

In the table, list the details of the expense(s), including the name of the child that the expense relates to, a summary of the expense, and the percentage or amount of the expense.

If there are no special or extraordinary expenses, delete or cross out this paragraph.

Example:

6. Spouse 2, John Edward Kerry, shall pay to Spouse 1, Jane Amanda Fraser, the sum of **\$45 per month** for additional expenses for the child(ren) of the marriage, payable on the first day of each month, **commencing April 1, 2021**, allocated as follows:

Name of child	Nature of add-on	Amount or percentage
James Kerry	Baseball - \$430 annual total	50% (\$215 annual)
Jenny Kerry	Soccer - \$650 annual total	50% (\$325 annual)

#7: Fill in this paragraph if one of the parties will be required to provide medical and dental insurance for the children. Otherwise, remove this paragraph.

#8: Fill in this paragraph if there is support to be paid for an adult child. If this is not applicable, remove this paragraph.

#9: Fill in this paragraph if there is a claim to pay reduced child support due to undue hardship. If this is not applicable, remove this paragraph.

#10: If spousal support is to be paid, fill in the name of the party paying spousal support, the name of the party receiving spousal support, the monthly payment, and the start date for support. If there is no spousal support, remove this paragraph.

#11: If you want to add extra terms to your Judgment, put them here. Number the paragraphs in order.

#12 – 13: Do not remove these paragraphs as they **MUST** be included in all support orders.

#14 – 15 Choose one of these paragraphs. For all orders containing child support, one of these paragraphs **MUST** be included and the other **MUST** be removed. For more information on the Child Support Recalculation program, go to <http://alberta.ca> and search “child support recalculation”.

#16 – 18 These paragraphs **MUST** be included in all orders that involve parenting time or decision-making responsibility. Fill in all three paragraphs with the agreed-upon methods of notification set out in #6(3) of the Statement of Claim.

Signatures

Both parties must sign the Divorce Judgment and Corollary Relief Order in front of a witness, and the witness must sign an Affidavit of Execution before a Commissioner for Oaths. The staff at Resolution Services or the King's Bench clerks will be able to assist with this.

Do not remove this paragraph.

"THE SPOUSES ARE NOT FREE TO REMARRY UNTIL THIS JUDGMENT TAKES EFFECT, AT WHICH TIME EITHER SPOUSE MAY OBTAIN A CERTIFICATE OF DIVORCE FROM THIS COURT. IF AN APPEAL IS TAKEN FROM THIS JUDGMENT, IT MAY DELAY THIS JUDGMENT TAKING EFFECT."



Tips:

This is your Court Order that is going to govern your parenting and child support for the future. Be careful deciding how it should be worded. Get help from a lawyer if necessary.

Write out the terms of the Judgment as if it is the Judge telling you what is going to happen.

Use your full names to refer to each of you, or, you can use Spouse 1 and Spouse 2.

Use complete sentences.

Do not word your Judgment like an agreement. For example, saying "IT IS ORDERED that the parties agree that they will share custody" is wrong. The court cannot order parties to agree.

If there were mistakes in the Joint Statement of Claim for Divorce, you must include clauses granting leave to amend the Statement of Claim. (e.g. "Leave is granted to amend paragraph 1(1)(a) of the Statement of Claim to show the marriage date as August 23, 1997").

FILE THE REQUEST FOR DIVORCE AND SUPPORTING DOCUMENTS

Bring to the courthouse:

- ☐ Completed "Checklist for Filing of Desk Divorce Packages" (can be found at the end of this instruction).
- ☐ Joint Request for Divorce
- ☐ Joint Affidavit of Applicants for Divorce - including child support calculation and all other exhibits.
- ☐ Parenting After Separation Certificate or Exemption forms for each of you
- ☐ Divorce Judgment and Corollary Relief Order ***MUST BE TYPED***
- ☐ TWO STAMPED, SELF-ADDRESSED ENVELOPES – one for you and one for the defendant. This is not required if you have provided yours and the defendant's email addresses on the Checklist for Filing Desk Divorce Package Form.

The clerks will return all the filed documents to you, except the Divorce Judgment. Each of you needs to keep a copy of the filed documents for future reference.

Your divorce package will then be reviewed. This may take more than a month.

If you have made mistakes, your divorce will be rejected, and you will be told what to correct. You will have to correct the mistakes, then re-submit the corrected documents. Do not feel badly if your documents are rejected, as this is a common occurrence within the application process.

If the paperwork is all correct, a Justice will sign the Divorce Judgment.

You will each then receive the Divorce Judgment in the mail or by email.

ONLINE REQUEST YOUR CERTIFICATE OF DIVORCE

Wait 31 days from when the Divorce Judgment was granted, then you may request the Certificate of Divorce using the following web-based form:

<https://albertacourts.ca/kb/areas-of-law/family/divorce-forms/certificate-of-divorce---request-form>.

Court File Number
Court Location
Names of Both Parties



These are all the same as
in the Joint Statement of
Claim

Indicate why you need the Certificate of Divorce. Select the appropriate "Reason for Request."

Select the number of copies required.

Your Name, Address, Phone and Email

Write in your name, complete address (including postal code), daytime phone number, and email address.

Click "Submit"



Tips:

- You will need this Certificate if you want to re-marry.
- If you are unable to complete the online request form, you may be able to get a paper request from the King's Bench clerks
- If urgent, it may be faster to appear in-person at the Judicial Centre which the Divorce was granted.

Please keep all your filed Divorce documents for future reference.

YOU ARE FINISHED!

Checklist for Filing of Desk Divorce Packages

Submissions must be prepared in accordance with the filing announcements as noted in the filing requirements links below, and when submitted, must be accompanied by this completed and signed Checklist. This document can be signed electronically. Any updates to the filing requirements will be posted on Courts website Failure to complete and submit this Checklist, along with documents for filing, will result in the submission being rejected.	
Please note effective March 1, 2021 the Divorce Act and the Alberta Rules of Court have been updated and amended. All Divorce packages must be in the updated format. Document samples can be found here: https://www.albertacourts.ca/qb/areas-of-law/family/divorce-forms ☐ Divorce Package is in the correct form for submission after March 1, 2021 ☐ All forms comply with the filing requirements as stated here: https://www.albertacourts.ca/qb/resources/announcements/new-email-filing-procedure and https://www.albertacourts.ca/qb/court-operations-schedules/guidelines-for-documents-filed-by-email-or-digital-upload	
☐ Divorce Package: ☐ Request for Divorce ☐ Affidavit of Applicant (Counsel to retain original marriage certificate) ☐ Divorce Judgment MUST BE TYPED ☐ Any relevant supplementary or additional affidavits that correct errors to your divorce package ☐ Child support calculation (if there are children) ☐ Certificate of Parenting After Separation (if there are children under 16) OR Exemption from the Court	
☐ Joint Divorce Package: ☐ Joint Request for Divorce ☐ Joint Affidavit of Applicants (Counsel to retain original marriage certificate) ☐ Divorce Judgment MUST BE TYPED ☐ Any relevant supplementary or additional affidavits that correct errors to your divorce package ☐ Child support calculation (if there are children) ☐ Certificate of Parenting After Separation (if there are children under 16) OR Exemption from the Court	
☐ Previously Filed Documents to be included with Package for all packages (applies to all Packages) ☐ Statement of Claim, OR Counterclaim (if Defendant is submitting Package) OR Joint Statement of Claim ☐ Affidavit of Service (not required for Joint Divorce Package) ☐ All other pleadings (Statement of Defence, Noting in Default, Demand for Notice, Counterclaim) (not required for Joint Divorce Package) ☐ Any previously filed orders relating to service, severing of corollary relief or orders granted under rule 12.50	
☐ Divorce Judgment Requirements: ☐ Divorce Judgment (with consent of opposing party where required) MUST BE TYPED ☐ Parenting Plan attached as Schedule to Divorce Judgment (if parties have submitted a Parenting Plan)	
Mailing address for return of Divorce Judgment. Spouse 1 Email Address: _____ Spouse 1 Mailing Address: _____ Spouse 2 Email Address: _____ Spouse 2 Mailing Address: _____	
☐ We certify that the documents we are submitting are being filed as per the above outlined requirements.	
_____ Signature of Spouse 1	_____ Signature of Spouse 2