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## Appendix A

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# Comparison of Death Costs: Loving Will vs. Living Trust for Single Person with A Trust

This appendix consists of illustrations that compare death costs for a single person who has a Loving Will with the costs for a single person who has a Living A Trust. The comparisons use the following sizes of estates:

- \$100,000
- \$200,000
- \$300,000
- \$400,000
- \$500,000
- \$600,000
- \$800,000
- \$1 million
- \$1.2 million

- \$1.5 million
- \$2 million

Each illustration shows that having a Living Trust rather than a Loving Will provides benefits in the areas of probate, estate taxes, and gain for the heirs.

To use this appendix, find the illustration that most closely corresponds to the size of your own estate, and study the comparison of the two methods of holding assets. For a further explanation of the computations used in the illustrations, please refer to Chapter 6.

Note that all examples assume a probate cost of 8 percent and a federal estate tax exclusion of \$1 million.

**COMPARISON OF DEATH COSTS  
LOVING WILL VS. LIVING TRUST FOR A SINGLE INDIVIDUAL  
\$100,000 ESTATE**

**Will**

**Living Trust**

\$100,000

\$100,000

\$8,000\*

Estimated Death Costs

\$92,000 for Heirs

\$100,000 for Heirs

**Gain for Heirs: \$8,000**

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Assumes 8% probate cost.

Also assumes a Will without Testamentary Trust provisions.

\*Probate fee.

**COMPARISON OF DEATH COSTS  
LOVING WILL VS. LIVING TRUST FOR A SINGLE INDIVIDUAL**

**\$200,000 ESTATE**

**Will**

**Living Trust**

\$200,000

\$200,000

\$16,000\*

Estimated Death Costs

\$184,000 for Heirs

\$200,000 for Heirs

**Gain for Heirs: \$16,000**

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Assumes 8% probate cost.

Also assumes a Will without Testamentary Trust provisions.

\*Probate fee.

**COMPARISON OF DEATH COSTS  
LOVING WILL VS. LIVING TRUST FOR A SINGLE INDIVIDUAL  
\$300,000 ESTATE**

**Will**

**Living Trust**

\$300,000

\$300,000

\$24,000\*

Estimated Death Costs

\$276,000 for Heirs

\$300,000 for Heirs

**Gain for Heirs: \$24,000**

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Assumes 8% probate cost.

Also assumes a Will without Testamentary Trust provisions.

\*Probate fee.

**COMPARISON OF DEATH COSTS  
LOVING WILL VS. LIVING TRUST FOR A SINGLE INDIVIDUAL**

**\$400,000 ESTATE**

**Will**

**Living Trust**

\$400,000

\$400,000

\$32,000\*

Estimated Death Costs

\$368,000 for Heirs

\$400,000 for Heirs

**Gain for Heirs: \$32,000**

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Assumes 8% probate cost.

Also assumes a Will without Testamentary Trust provisions.

\*Probate fee.

**COMPARISON OF DEATH COSTS  
LOVING WILL VS. LIVING TRUST FOR A SINGLE INDIVIDUAL  
\$500,000 ESTATE**

**Will**

**Living Trust**

\$500,000

\$500,000

\$40,000\*

Estimated Death Costs

\$460,000 for Heirs

\$500,000 for Heirs

**Gain for Heirs: \$40,000**

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Assumes 8% probate cost.

Also assumes a Will without Testamentary Trust provisions.

\*Probate fee.

**COMPARISON OF DEATH COSTS  
LOVING WILL VS. LIVING TRUST FOR A SINGLE INDIVIDUAL**

**\$600,000 ESTATE**

**Will**

**Living Trust**

\$600,000

\$600,000

\$48,000\*

Estimated Death Costs

\$552,000 for Heirs

\$600,000 for Heirs

**Gain for Heirs: \$48,000**

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Assumes 8% probate cost.

Also assumes a Will without Testamentary Trust provisions.

\*Probate fee.

**COMPARISON OF DEATH COSTS  
LOVING WILL VS. LIVING TRUST FOR A SINGLE INDIVIDUAL**

**\$800,000 ESTATE**

**Will**

**Living Trust**

\$800,000

\$800,000

\$64,000\*

Estimated Death Costs

\$736,000 for Heirs

\$800,000 for Heirs

**Gain for Heirs: \$64,000**

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Assumes 8% probate cost.

Also assumes a Will without Testamentary Trust provisions.

\*Probate fee.



**COMPARISON OF DEATH COSTS  
LOVING WILL VS. LIVING TRUST FOR A SINGLE INDIVIDUAL  
\$1 MILLION ESTATE**

**Will**

**Living Trust**

\$1,000,000

\$1,000,000

\$80,000\*

Estimated Death Costs

\$920,000 for Heirs

\$1,000,000 for Heirs

**Gain for Heirs: \$80,000**

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Assumes 8% probate cost.

Also assumes a Will without Testamentary Trust provisions.

\*Probate fee.

**COMPARISON OF DEATH COSTS  
LOVING WILL VS. LIVING TRUST FOR A SINGLE INDIVIDUAL  
\$1.2 MILLION ESTATE**

**Will**

**Living Trust**

\$1,200,000

\$1,200,000

\$ 96,000*
\$ 43,000**
<hr style="width: 80%; margin: 0 auto;"/>
\$139,000

Estimated Death Costs

\$82,000\*\*

Estimated Death Costs

\$1,061,000 for Heirs

\$1,118,000 for Heirs

**Gain for Heirs: \$57,000**

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Assumes 8% probate cost.

Also assumes a Will without Testamentary Trust provisions.

\*Probate fee. \*\*Estate tax.

**COMPARISON OF DEATH COSTS  
 LOVING WILL VS. LIVING TRUST FOR A SINGLE INDIVIDUAL  
 \$1.5 MILLION ESTATE**

**Will**

**Living Trust**

\$1,500,000

\$1,500,000

\$120,000\*  
 \$158,000\*\*  
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 \$278,000

Estimated Death Costs

\$210,000\*\*

Estimated Death Costs

\$1,222,000 for Heirs

\$1,290,000 for Heirs

**Gain for Heirs: \$68,000**

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Assumes 8% probate cost.

Also assumes a Will without Testamentary Trust provisions.

\*Probate fee. \*\*Estate tax.

**COMPARISON OF DEATH COSTS  
LOVING WILL VS. LIVING TRUST FOR A SINGLE INDIVIDUAL  
\$2 MILLION ESTATE**

**Will**

**Living Trust**

\$2,000,000

\$2,000,000

\$160,000\*  
\$363,000\*\*  
\$523,000

Estimated Death Costs

\$435,000\*\*

Estimated Death Costs

\$1,477,000 for Heirs

\$1,565,000 for Heirs

**Gain for Heirs: \$88,000**

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Assumes 8% probate cost.

Also assumes a Will without Testamentary Trust provisions.

\*Probate fee. \*\*Estate tax.