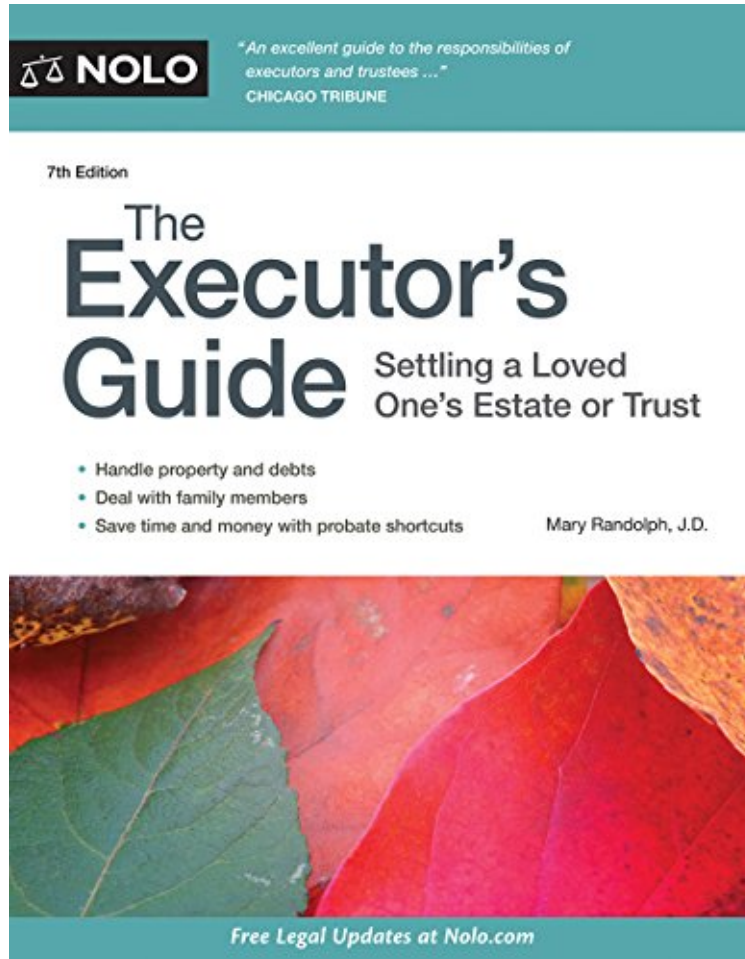


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Executor's Guide, The: Settling a Loved One's Estate or Trust

Mary Randolph

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Mary Randolph : Executor's Guide, The: Settling a Loved One's Estate or Trust before purchasing it in order to gage whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised Executor's Guide, The: Settling a Loved One's Estate or Trust:

15 of 15 people found the following review helpful. Good help for getting through a tiresome processBy (((Marco Buendia)))This book was very useful as an introductory text for executors dealing with the most common kind of wills and other matters of testate. It covers ordinary probate and the most common variations. These matters vary state-by-state of course, but if you don't have the good fortune (in a manner of speaking) to live in California or New York, you won't find many monographs written on probate etc in your own state. The author does a very good job of covering the general (Uniform Probate Code the most common customs in the several States), and she makes well-selected references as well to salient and significant oddities in particular states, with tables etc that make this sort of thing easier to grasp.I recommend Hughes' and Klein's "Executor's Handbook" as well, and in fact it might be a bit easier to read that one first. But both are of great help and in difficult matters such as probate (for laypersons, anyway, who are

the readers intended for the books) it's best to get the perspective offered by at least two sources; you'll unlikely want to pay two lawyers (and unless it's a very simple estate, with no possibility of being contested, you'll want a lawyer), so avail yourself of these books. 6 of 6 people found the following review helpful. Read before not after. By Jes Sadly I had to read this on my way down to a spare of the moment time. I was an executor and I had to know more about what the job meant and this book did a good job on informing me. Though I wish you had put "Probate" closer to the start of this book as I was confused on the many times you spoke about it during the book. I ended up reading it in way later chapters. This covers many things I had to deal with and was(is) a great source of information. Something every one should read before any issues arise in ones life, as it will help you to prepare the job before some one passes away. The book gives you knowledge in a lot of areas that would help you prevent headaches after loss. Such as ways to avoid "Probate". I do wish I had read this before hand. But it worked just as well after hand as well. Thank you for the book and your knowledge towards the subject. 7 of 7 people found the following review helpful. Have only read excerpts from this book so far, ... By Jim Moresi Have only read excerpts from this book so far, but it has already helped me immensely. I felt lost and overwhelmed by the task of being Executor, but the book reduced it to human scale and laid a series of small, achievable tasks, Right off the bat, learned that the Estate was considered "small" and therefore qualified for a simplified probate process. That alone justified the purchase price!

The step-by-step guide to serving as an executor If you need to wrap up the affairs of a loved one who has died, you may feel overwhelmed—especially when you're grieving. But you can do it, and this book will show you how. A roadmap to follow. The Executor's Guide will lead you through an unfamiliar land of legal procedures and terminology. You'll learn what to do right away and what can wait. Find help on: preparing for the job of executor or trustee; the first steps to take; claiming life insurance, Social Security and other benefits; making sense of a will; what to do if there is no will; how to determine whether probate is necessary; filing taxes; probate court proceedings; dealing with family members; handling simple trusts; working with lawyers, appraisers, accountants, and other experts State-specific information. The 7th edition contains updated tables outlining key points of each state's laws, the latest information on estate taxes, plus worksheets that help you stay organized. Applies in all states except Louisiana.

"Mary Randolph, an editor at Nolo, a publisher of do-it-yourself legal guides and author of "The Executor's Guide," says it is a good idea to get a lawyer to help unwind a trust, especially if it will hold a significant amount of money. Trust owners can take some steps on their own—for example, going to a bank to change ownership of a trust-owned bank account back into their names as individuals. But if the trust holds a business or another asset, that could be more complicated. "If you've got some money to spend on attorney fees and most people who have created AB trusts do it can save you a lot of trouble later," Ms. Randolph says." Wall Street Journal "Covers the gamut of estate chores and helps you get through them." Kiplinger's Retirement Report "Explains how to find state-specific information, and an appendix sorts legalities by state." Miami Herald "Provides a guide for executors and trustees, describing legal procedures and terminology, what to expect, decisions that will need to be made, and questions to ask." Reference Research Book News "The Executor's Guide [is] a super-detailed, step-by-step book that's a must-read." Beth Fenner, CNN "More Money" blog About the Author Mary Randolph earned her law degree from Boalt Hall School of Law at the University of California, Berkeley. She is the author of *The Executor's Guide: Settling Your Loved One's Estate or Trust*, *8 Ways to Avoid Probate*, *Every Dog's Legal Guide: A Must-Have Book for Your Owner*, and *Deeds for California Real Estate*. She is also a coauthor of the legal manual for Quicken WillMaker Plus. She has been a guest on *The Today Show* and has been interviewed by many publications, including the *Wall Street Journal*, the *Los Angeles Times*, the *San Francisco Chronicle*, and more.