

Values & Principles



Not for me: this section does not apply

Tick here and in the Contents, then skip ahead (no need to print it either).

What do you believe in?

Not what religion you follow (though that might be part of it). Not what political party you support. But the deeper things. The values that guided your decisions. The principles you tried to live by. The lessons you learned the hard way.

This section is about the core of who you are.

What matters most to you? What did you stand for? What would you never compromise on? What do you wish you'd known when you were younger?

Your grandchildren will want to know what you believed. Your children will want to know what shaped your decisions. Your family will want to understand what made you who you were.

This is your chance to tell them.

WHY THIS MATTERS

Values are portable. Your house will be sold. Your money will be distributed. But the principles you lived by can be carried forward by your children and grandchildren.

If you write them down, they become part of your legacy. They guide your family when they face hard decisions. They remind them of who you were and what you stood for.

That's worth preserving.

Let's write down what you believe.

Your Values & Principles

The beliefs and lessons you want to outlast you. Write as much as feels right.

WHAT MATTERS MOST

If you could pass on only a few values, what would they be, and why?

VALUE 1, AND WHY IT MATTERS

VALUE 2, AND WHY IT MATTERS

Your Values & Principles (cont.)

VALUE 3, AND WHY IT MATTERS

CORE BELIEFS

WHAT YOU BELIEVE ABOUT FAMILY, WORK, MONEY, RELATIONSHIPS, FAITH, AND INTEGRITY

Your Values & Principles (cont.)

PRINCIPLES YOU TRIED TO LIVE BY

THE PRINCIPLES THAT GUIDED YOUR DECISIONS, AND A TIME YOU COMPROMISED THEM AND WHAT YOU LEARNED

LIFE LESSONS

THE MOST IMPORTANT LESSONS YOU'VE LEARNED, AND HOW YOU LEARNED THEM

Your Values & Principles (cont.)

WHAT YOU LEARNED THE HARD WAY

A MISTAKE YOU MADE, WHAT IT TAUGHT YOU, AND WHAT YOU'D TELL SOMEONE ELSE TO AVOID IT

ADVICE YOU'D GIVE YOUR YOUNGER SELF

WHAT YOU'D TELL YOURSELF AT 20

Your Values & Principles (cont.)

ADVICE FOR YOUR CHILDREN

WHAT YOU MOST WANT YOUR CHILDREN TO KNOW

ADVICE FOR YOUR GRANDCHILDREN

THE WISDOM YOU WANT TO PASS DOWN

Your Values & Principles (cont.)

ON HANDLING DIFFICULT TIMES

WHAT GOT YOU THROUGH THE HARDEST TIMES, AND YOUR ADVICE FOR OTHERS FACING THEM

ON MONEY & FINANCES

WHAT YOU'VE LEARNED ABOUT MONEY, AND WHAT YOU'D DO DIFFERENTLY

Your Values & Principles (cont.)

ON WORK & CAREER

WHAT MADE WORK MEANINGFUL, AND YOUR ADVICE FOR SOMEONE STARTING OUT

ON RELATIONSHIPS

WHAT MAKES A RELATIONSHIP LAST, AND THE MOST IMPORTANT THING YOU'VE LEARNED ABOUT LOVE

Your Values & Principles (cont.)

ON PARENTING

THE BEST ADVICE YOU RECEIVED, AND WHAT YOU'D TELL NEW PARENTS

ON FAITH & SPIRITUALITY

THE ROLE FAITH OR SPIRITUALITY HAS PLAYED, AND THE BELIEFS THAT GAVE YOU STRENGTH

Your Values & Principles (cont.)

ON HAPPINESS

WHAT YOU'VE LEARNED ABOUT BEING HAPPY, AND WHAT BRINGS YOU THE MOST JOY

ON REGRETS

ANYTHING YOU REGRET NOT DOING, AND WHAT YOU WISH YOU'D DONE MORE OR LESS OF

Your Values & Principles (cont.)

WHAT YOU'D NEVER COMPROMISE ON

WRITE HERE

WHAT SUCCESS MEANS TO YOU

HOW YOU DEFINE SUCCESS, AND WHETHER YOU CONSIDER YOURSELF SUCCESSFUL

Your Values & Principles (cont.)

WHAT YOU WANT TO BE REMEMBERED FOR

WHAT YOU HOPE PEOPLE REMEMBER, AND THE LEGACY YOU HOPE TO LEAVE

YOUR PHILOSOPHY ON LIFE

YOUR PHILOSOPHY, IN A SENTENCE OR TWO

Your Values & Principles (cont.)

QUOTES OR SAYINGS YOU LIVE BY

WRITE HERE

YOUR FINAL WORDS OF WISDOM

Extra Space

More room for your Values & Principles section: extra entries, stories, or anything the boxes could not hold.