

What to take to your first appointment with a lawyer



Go to your first appointment ready with relevant information.

Here's a quick list of some information to take and prepare for in advance:

- The usual **personal details**: full name, date of birth, contact details (have your driving licence, passport or other **identification documents** on hand as most law firms will want to take a copy of your driving licence or at least some form of identification).
- **Significant dates**: start of relationship, duration of relationship, wedding date, separation date, children's birthdays, and anything else you believe will be of use.
- Combined current **assets** and **liabilities** (a ballpark figure for each asset and debt is fine).
- **Income** and **expenses** (again a ballpark figure is fine).
- **Children arrangements**, age, schooling, health, any specific needs.
- Any issues of **Domestic Violence**.
- Any **questions** you may have.

If you take documentation with you, such as tax returns, superannuation statements, bank statements, information on shares and interests in companies and trust, this will assist your lawyer in understanding your matter better and will allow them to give you the most appropriate legal advice.