
PROTECTING WEALTH



PROTECTING WEALTH DURING DIVORCE. STRATEGIC GUIDE

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01 UNDERSTANDING ASSET CATEGORIES

Divorces involving significant or complex assets — especially those spanning multiple jurisdictions — require careful strategy, full disclosure, and expert valuation.

This guide outlines the key risks and steps to protect your wealth from the outset.

Courts classify assets as:

1. Matrimonial: Built up during the marriage
2. Non-matrimonial: Pre-acquired or inherited
3. Mixed/Partially Matrimonial: Portions of both
4. Business assets
5. Trust assets
6. International structures

Key Question:

“Which of my assets are vulnerable to sharing, and which might be ringfenced?”



02 RISKS IN HIGH-VALUE OR COMPLEX CASES

Be aware of:

- 1.Hidden assets
- 2.Sudden reduction in income
- 3.Manipulated business performance
- 4.Dissipation of assets
- 5.Family loans disguised as gifts
- 6.Offshore structures shielding wealth

03 EXPERT VALUATIONS

- Independent valuation may be needed for:
 - 1.Businesses
 - 2.Trust interests
 - 3.Properties (UK & overseas)
 - 4.Pensions
 - 5.Investments
 - 6.Art or luxury assets
- Relying only on your spouse's valuations is risky.



04 BUSINESS & TRUST STRUCTURES

Business owners

Common issues include:

- 1.Undervalued companies
- 2.Excessive expenses
- 3.Director's loans
- 4.Deferred income
- 5.Manipulated profits

Trusts

Courts look behind trusts to assess:

- 1.Intention
- 2.Control
- 3.Access to distributions

05 FREEZING ORDERS & ASSET PRESERVATION

You may need urgent protection if:

- 1.Assets are being moved
- 2.Accounts are emptied
- 3.Property is being sold
- 4.Funds are transferred overseas

Tools include:

- 1.Freezing orders
- 2.Preservation orders
- 3.Interim orders



06 INTERNATIONAL & OFFSHORE CONSIDERATIONS

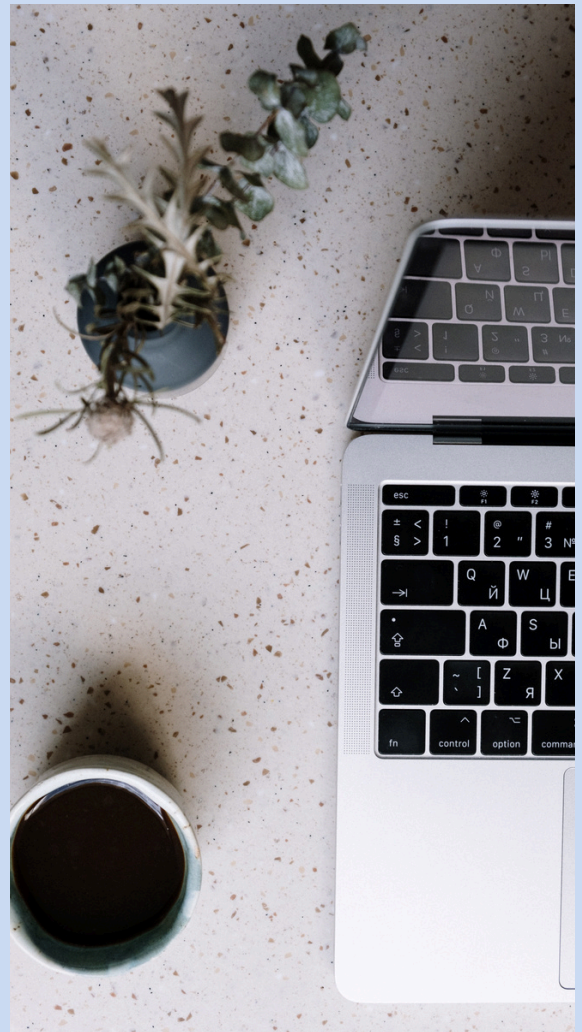
Cross-border cases require:

1. Multi-jurisdiction awareness
2. Understanding tax exposure
3. Enforcement planning
4. Timing considerations
5. Risk mitigation strategies



KEY QUESTIONS

1. Which assets require independent valuation?
2. Is there a risk of dissipation?
3. Are there tax implications?
4. Are there overseas assets requiring local lawyers?
5. Do I need immediate protective action?



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