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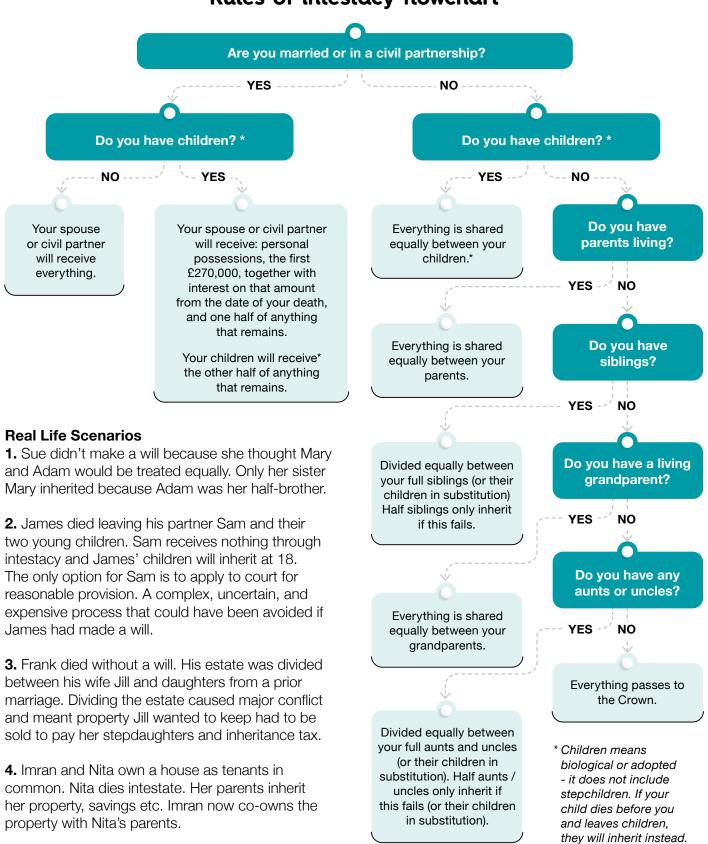
What happens if I don't make a will?

Will No Will You decide who inherits e.g. partner, spouse, The law decides who inherits and this may not be children, grandchildren, siblings, nieces and who you want. nephews, friends, charities. Unmarried partners and stepchildren have no rights You can give security to your spouse / partner under intestacy rules. and avoid issues of co-ownership with your Division of the estate between spouse and children children or other relatives. (adult or minor) can create conflict and problems of You can include trusts in your will to protect co-ownership. assets and include an older age for children to Inheritance for children is only protected until age of 18. reduce the risk of inheriting too much too young. Full blood siblings take priority over half siblings. **Appoint executors** who are capable and **Administrators are appointed** based on the intestacy rules rather than suitability or your personal choice. Appointing an executor in your will means they Administrators have no authority to deal with your can act straight away upon your death. affairs until confirmed through letters of administration. This means being able to liaise with banks, This can cause extra delays and expense to deal insurance companies, arranging your funeral, with your estate. Lack of access to funds can create securing your property and possessions. hardship for your loved ones. Choose people you trust to be the guardians Any person can apply to become the guardian for your children. of your children. This may not be who you would choose. Social Services can place children in care until a suitable person is found. Avoid unnecessary Inheritance Tax by In large estates, the intestacy rules can lead to utilising exemptions and reliefs. **inheritance tax** being due on first death if the estate is divided between the surviving spouse and the deceased's children. You can reduce the risk of family conflict by The rules of intestacy could mean that people who making your wishes known and giving financial depend on you don't inherit anything. security to those that depend on you. Legal battles can be very expensive and destroy

family relationships.



Rules of intestacy flowchart



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