



Oak Tree Mediation

FINANCIAL EXPERTS. SIMPLE DIVORCE.

Pre-Divorce: Personal Things to Do/Consider

- Open a post office box or private mailbox
- Set up a new email account
- Get a cell phone and service in your own name
- Open a bank account using your new mailing address
- Get a copy of your credit report (not your spouses!)
- Make copies of important documents (see document checklist)
- Find a safe place to store important documents
- Apply for a credit card in only your name
- Take inventory of all personal property
- Talk to a financial advisor
- Make a list of and start planning for legal expenses
- Close or place limits on all joint credit accounts
- Freeze or close all joint cash accounts
- Finish your education or professional training
- Get a job
- Find a place to live
- Write down everything!
 - Keep a divorce journal with dates, times and things discussed
 - Keep separate journals for things discussed with your spouse and with your attorney/mediator/financial advisor
 - These journals should have dates and times of key exchanges and information.
- Write down your goals: Target dates for hitting specific goals such as education, financial goals, finding a place to live, checklist items, etc.