



mayhew

for dogs, cats and communities

Gifts in wills explained

Your guide on how to make a gift and change the lives of animals in need

Why should I make a will?

A will is the only way you can be sure that your wishes are carried out after your death, your loved ones receive what you want them to and your favourite charities are supported in the way you have requested.

How much will it cost me?

The cost of a will varies a lot depending on the complexity of the estate and the person's wishes. It's a good idea to shop around for quotes for making your will, and to look for solicitors who are STEP-qualified because this means that they have specialist knowledge in the area of wills and estates.

The Law Society can recommend a solicitor for you. You can contact them on 020 7242 1222. Or in Scotland contact the Law Society of Scotland on 0131 226 7411.

How do I leave a gift in my will?

Including Mayhew in a will is an easy and cost-effective way to support our work. It simply involves adding a short paragraph (clause) to

your will. We would always suggest that you use a qualified solicitor to assist you with this.

How do I add Mayhew into an existing will?

Including Mayhew in a will can be as simple as adding a short clause to an existing will by means of a codicil. A codicil is a simple, inexpensive way to make specific changes or additions to your will while leaving the remaining provisions untouched.

You will need to ask your solicitor to draw up a codicil for you.

What types of gifts are there?

There are two main types of gift that you can leave to a charity:

A residuary gift

This is a gift of all or part of what is left of your estate after everyone else has been taken care of. It is called the 'residue'. Your will should include instructions on what to do with the residue.

A specific gift

This could be a specified sum of money, also known as a pecuniary gift. It could also be a specific item such as a gift of jewellery, stocks or property.

What type of gift is best for Mayhew?

We are always delighted to receive specific gifts, which can provide a much-needed boost to our resources. However, **a residuary gift is by far the most effective way of remembering us in your will.** Many people choose to leave a share of their estate to charity after providing for loved ones. Even a small percentage of what's left can make a huge difference. This also helps us plan our work ahead with confidence.

Do I have enough to leave a legacy?

It is a common misconception that a legacy has to be an enormous sum of money. This is not the case. Any gift left in a will, no matter how large or how small, is important to the charities you support.

What about Inheritance Tax?

Gifts to charity are exempt from inheritance tax and you can even pay a lower rate of tax if you donate 10% of your taxable estate to charity. We recommend speaking to your solicitor or financial advisor for more details.

Why should I let you know my plans?

If you are thinking of leaving a gift in your will to Mayhew, we would be so grateful if you could let us know. By knowing your intentions, we will be able to plan ahead and carry on developing new services in the future. For instance, we could continue working with people in the local community to rescue abandoned and stray animals.

What if I want to find out more?

Please call us on 020 8206 5870 if you have any questions. We can let you know more about the difference your gift could make. Please tick the box on the enclosed form if you would like us to send you more information.

**If you ever need help
or advice about making a
gift in your will, please just
ask.**

We're here to help.

Email: legacies@mayhewanimalhome.org

Call: 020 8206 5870

Monday to Friday, 9am-5pm.



Registered Charity no. 1077588