

# Families and Inheritance: Tips for Planning Ahead

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"As executor for my mother's estate, I needed help. I never expected my sisters to act the way they did! This information helped us sort out what we wanted, talk about what we thought was fair, and consider different options. It wasn't easy, but we are still talking." Adult Daughter

Planning ahead for inheritance versus waiting until a crisis or death does have benefits. These include more choices, a chance for thoughtful communication, and fewer family conflicts. The award winning book, "Who Gets Grandma's Yellow Pie Plate?" provides a positive planning process to transfer non-titled property. The book is based on research with families and attorneys and is designed to help overcome common inheritance decision-making obstacles.

## Tips to Avoid Common Obstacles

- Recognize the sensitivity of the issue
- Determine what you want to accomplish
- Decide what's "fair" for your family
- Understand belongings have different meanings to different individuals
- Consider distribution options and consequences
- Agree to manage conflicts if they arise

## Here's Help

To jump-start your communication and planning, order "Who Gets Grandma's Yellow Pie Plate?™ Workbook: A Guide To Passing on Personal Possessions." Call 1-800-876-8636 or place an order on [www.yellowpieplate.umn.edu](http://www.yellowpieplate.umn.edu). (\$12.50 plus shipping and handling)

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