



HM Revenue
& Customs

Guide to completing your Inheritance Tax account

Only to be used for deaths on or after 1 January 2022

This guide will help you to:

- fill in the forms you need to complete your Inheritance Tax account
- follow the correct procedure to apply for a grant of probate
- pay the correct amount of Inheritance Tax, if there is any to pay

Website: www.gov.uk/inheritance-tax

Helpline: 0300 123 1072

We have a range of services for disabled people. These include guidance in Braille, audio and large print. Most of our forms are also available in large print. Contact our helplines for more information.

Ffoniwch 0300 200 1900 i dderbyn fersiynau Cymraeg o ffurflenni a chanllawiau.

Contents

Introduction

What you can find in this guide	1
Email unique code	1
What we've sent you	1
When you may not need to fill in form IHT400	1
Grants of representation	4
When form IHT400 need not be filled in completely	5
Delivering a reduced account when there is no tax to pay	5
What do I need to fill in if I can send a reduced form IHT400?	6
Changes to the administration of an estate	7
Inheritance Tax and the grant	7
Wartime compensation payments	8
Death on active service	8
When must I send in the form?	8
Who to contact and why	8
What values to include	9
Documents you must keep	10
Instruments of variation	10

Filling in form IHT400 (pages 1 to 6)

Deceased's details, pages 1	11
If the deceased was domiciled in Scotland at the date of death, page 2	13
Contact details of the person dealing with the estate, page 3	13
Authority for repayment of Inheritance Tax, page 3	14
What makes up your Inheritance Tax account - schedules, pages 5 and 6	14
Definition of a disabled person	18

Filling in the schedules

Introduction	20
Schedule IHT403	
Gifts and other transfers of value	20
Schedule IHT404	
Jointly owned assets	26
Schedule IHT407	
Household and personal goods	28

Schedule IHT408

Household and personal goods donated to charity	28
-------------------------------------------------	----

Schedule IHT409

Pensions	29
----------	----

Schedule IHT411

Listed stocks and shares	32
--------------------------	----

Schedule IHT412

Unlisted stocks and shares, and control holdings	34
--------------------------------------------------	----

Schedule IHT413

Business and partnership interests and assets	36
-----------------------------------------------	----

Schedule IHT414

Agricultural Relief	39
---------------------	----

Schedule IHT418

Assets held in trust	42
----------------------	----

Schedule IHT420

National Heritage assets - Conditional Exemption and maintenance funds	43
------------------------------------------------------------------------	----

Filling in form IHT400 (pages 7 to 16)

Assets on which tax may or may not be paid by instalments	46
Jointly owned assets, page 7	46
Assets owned outright by the deceased, pages 7 and 8	46
Deductions from the estate incurred up to the date of death, pages 9 and 10	52
Deductions that cannot be allowed	52
Deductions that may be allowed	52
Deductions not repaid from the estate	52
Deductions used to acquire certain assets	53
Dealing with a deficit, page 10	54
Exemptions and reliefs, page 10	54
Exemptions and reliefs, page 11	55
Other assets taken into account to calculate the tax, page 11	56
Working out the Inheritance Tax, page 12	56
Paying Inheritance Tax by instalments	57
Interest-free instalments	58
Instalments of tax	58
Simple Inheritance Tax calculation	58

Contents

Direct Payment Scheme	59	What happens if listed shares or land and buildings are sold for less than their value?	70
Declaration, page 13	59		
What to do after you've filled in form IHT400		How to value the assets	
Applying for a grant in Northern Ireland	61	What value to use	71
Applying for a grant in England and Wales	61	Estimating a value	71
Form C1, 'Inventory' - Scotland	61	Stocks and shares	71
When you've filled in and signed all the forms	61	Stock Exchange markings	73
Where to send the forms	61	National Savings and Investments	73
If I want you to work out the tax for me?	62	Household and personal goods	74
What happens when I get a grant?	62	Land and buildings	74
The Inheritance Tax on the estate may change	62	Valuing a business	76
Provisional estimates	62	Lloyd's Underwriters	77
Liabilities	62	Valuing money	77
You must tell us about other changes to the estate	62	Exemptions and reliefs	
Applying for a grant in		Exemptions that only apply to lifetime gifts	78
- England and Wales - if you're a taxpayer, solicitor or another person licensed to provide probate services	63	Exemptions that apply to lifetime gifts and transfers on death	78
- Scotland - if you're a taxpayer or solicitor working out the tax	64	Qualifying charities	79
- Northern Ireland - if you're a taxpayer or solicitor working out the tax	64	Gifts for national purposes	79
- England and Wales - without the help of a solicitor or another person licensed to provide probate services and you want us to work out the tax for you	65	National Heritage exemptions	79
- Scotland - without the help of a solicitor and you want us to work out the tax for you	66	Gifts to political parties	79
- Northern Ireland - without the help of a solicitor and you want us to work out the tax for you	67	Reliefs that may apply to lifetime gifts and transfers on death	79
		Successive charges relief	80
Paying Inheritance Tax		Other reliefs	81
Payment in advance	68	Taper Relief	81
Electronic transfer (CHAPS/Bacs)	68	Fall in value relief	81
National Savings and Investments products	69	Where to include items in the estate	82
Grants on credit	69	IHT400 feedback form	84
Paying tax by transferring assets instead of money	70	Contacts	86
		HMRC's email disclaimer	87

Index of help for filling in the boxes on form IHT400

Filling in form IHT400

Box(es)		Page	Box(es)		Page
3	Inheritance Tax reference number	11	57	Life assurance and mortgage protection policies	47
6a	Domicile	11	62	UK government and municipal securities	48
6b	Long-term UK residence	13	63	Listed stocks, shares and investments	48
7	If the deceased was domiciled in Scotland	13	64	Dividends or interest on stocks, shares and securities	48
12	If the deceased was renting	13	65	Traded unlisted and unlisted shares except control holdings	49
14	National Insurance number	13	66	Instalments on shares	49
15	Income Tax or Unique Taxpayer Reference	13	67	Control holdings of unlisted, traded unlisted and listed shares	49
16	Power of attorney	13	68	Farms, farmhouses and farmland	49
17 to 22	Contact details	13	69	Businesses including farm businesses, business assets and timber	49
23	Authority for repayment	14	70	Other land, buildings and rights over land	50
29a	Residence nil rate band	14	71 and 72	Interest in another estate	50
29b	Transfer of unused residence nil rate band	14	73	Debts due to the estate	50
29c	Transfer of unused nil rate band	14	74	Income Tax or Capital Gains Tax repayment	51
29d	Transfer unused 100% relief allowance for agricultural or business property Schedule IHT437	14	75	Trust income due to the deceased	51
30	Gifts and other transfers of value	14	76	Other assets and income due to the deceased	51
31	Jointly owned assets	15	80	Mortgages and secured loans	53
32	Houses, land, buildings and interests in land	15	81	Funeral expenses	53
36	Pensions	15	82	Other liabilities	53
37	Life assurance and annuities	15	85 and 86	Dealing with a deficit	54
38	Listed stocks and shares	16	92	Exemptions and reliefs	54
39	Unlisted stocks and shares, and control holdings	16	93	Exemptions and reliefs deducted from the assets in column B	55
44	Foreign assets	16	99 and 100	Other assets taken into account to calculate the tax, page 11	56
45	Assets held in trust	16	101	Nominated assets	56
46	Debts owed by the deceased	18	105	Assets held in trust on which the trustees are not paying the tax now	56
47	National Heritage assets	19	109	Reduced rate of Inheritance Tax	56
48	Schedules	19	110	Instalments of tax	57
49 and 50	Jointly owned assets	46	111 to 119	Simple Inheritance Tax calculation	58
51	Deceased's residence (except farmhouses and jointly owned houses)	46	120	Direct Payment Scheme	59
52	Bank and building society accounts	46	121	Declaration	59
53	Cash	47			
54	Premium Bonds and National Savings and Investments products	47			
55	Household and personal goods	47			
56	Pensions	47			

This guide will help you fill in form IHT400 and includes help for the schedules we sent you, some of which you may need to fill in

Introduction

What you can find in this guide

As well as form IHT400, you may need to fill in some of the schedules that go with it. The notes in this guide follow the box numbers in form IHT400. Notes to help you fill in the schedules are also included in this guide.

In this guide and in form IHT400 we refer to the person who has died as 'the deceased'.

We hope this guide will answer most of your questions. If you need more help:

- go to www.gov.uk/inheritance-tax
- phone our Inheritance Tax Helpline on 0300 123 1072

These notes apply where a person died on or after 18 March 1986.


If a person died before this date, phone our helpline.

Email unique code

If you are applying for probate in England or Wales or applying for confirmation in Scotland, you will find on page 15 an email declaration to give permission to send your probate unique code/confirmation letter to you via email. This will be issued once the IHT400 is processed.

Please note – we will only use this email to send you the unique code information. We cannot use this email for any other correspondence.

What we've sent you

 Website:
www.gov.uk/inheritance-tax
Helpline: 0300 123 1072

If you're applying for a grant without the help of a solicitor, another person licensed to provide probate services or other agent, you should have received form IHT400, this guide and some of the schedules that we think apply to most estates (go to page 4 for information about grants). But it's your responsibility to make sure you fill in the correct schedules. You do not need to fill in any that do not apply, even if we've included them with the pack.

If you need any of the other schedules, download them from our website or phone the Inheritance Tax Helpline.

When you may not need to fill in form IHT400

Excepted estates

An excepted estate is an estate where no Inheritance Tax is due and a full Inheritance Tax account on form IHT400 is not needed.

If someone dies on or after 1 January 2022 and domiciled in the UK, you now need to report information about their qualifying low value excepted estates and exempt estates on your probate application (PA1A or PA1P) with HM Courts and Tribunal Service (HMCTS) in England and Wales. NIPF1 or NIPF2 with the Northern Ireland Courts and Tribunal Service (NICTS) in

Northern Ireland, not on form IHT205 'Return of estate information'. In Scotland on confirmation application (C1) with the Sheriff Court, not on form C5.

For non-long term UK residents or foreign domiciliaries if you're applying for probate on UK assets in England, Wales or Northern Ireland use form IHT207 'Return of estate information' or if you're applying for confirmation on UK assets in Scotland use form C5(OUK) 'Return of estate information'.

If you know that Inheritance Tax is due, you do not need to read pages 2 and 3 of this guide.

There are 3 types of excepted estate:

- low value estates
- exempt estates
- non long-term UK residents (or for deaths before 6 April 2025, foreign domiciliaries)

The rules that apply to deaths on or after 1 January 2022 start on page 2.

For deaths on or before 31 December 2021 refer to guidance in IHT400(2021) Notes. Go to www.gov.uk/government/publications/inheritance-tax-inheritance-tax-account-iht400

For deaths before 1 September 2006 phone our helpline, or go to our website.

Do not fill in form IHT400 if the estate is an excepted estate. In some estates you may only need to fill in part of the form. You'll need to fill in a different form of account for some special types of grant. There is more information about different types of grant on page 4. If any of these apply, phone our helpline to find out what form to use.

Low value estates

These are estates where there can be no liability to Inheritance Tax because the gross value of the estate does not exceed the Inheritance Tax nil rate band or twice the nil rate band where there is a valid claim to transfer the unused nil rate band from a predeceased spouse or civil partner.

The conditions for these estates are that:

- for deaths on or after 6 April 2025, the deceased was a long-term UK resident immediately before their death (or for deaths before 6 April 2025, the deceased died domiciled in the UK)
- the gross value of the estate does not exceed the Inheritance Tax nil rate band (go to note on page 3)
- if the estate includes any assets in trust, they are held in a single trust and the gross value does not exceed £250,000
- if the estate includes foreign assets, their gross value does not exceed £100,000
- if there are any specified transfers, their chargeable value does not exceed £250,000
- the deceased had not made a gift with reservation of benefit
- gifts out of income totalling more than £3,000 in any year must be shown in full
- no charge arises on the individual's death under any of the provisions relating to alternatively secured pensions

i Gross value of the estate

The total value of all the assets that make up the deceased's estate before any of their debts are taken off.

i Specified transfers

Gifts of cash, household and personal goods, listed shares or securities or outright gifts of land or buildings to individuals, not gifts into trust. For an estate to qualify as an excepted estate, specified transfers made within 7 years of death cannot exceed £250,000.

i Gift with reservation of benefit

A gift which is not fully given away so that the person getting the gift does so with conditions attached or the person making the gift keeps back some benefit for themselves.

i Long-term UK resident

From 6 April 2025, an individual is a long-term UK resident if they have been resident in the UK for at least 10 out of the last 20 tax years immediately before the tax year in which the chargeable event (including death) arises.

Where an individual is a long-term UK resident and becomes non-UK resident, they will remain in scope for Inheritance Tax for a minimum of 3 years and a maximum of 10 years depending on the amount of time they resided in the UK, go to www.gov.uk/hmrc-internal-manuals/inheritance-tax-manual/ihtm47000

i Domicile

Generally, a person's domicile is where they have their fixed and permanent home and to which, when they are absent, they always have the intention of returning, go to www.gov.uk/hmrc-internal-manuals/inheritance-tax-manual/ihtm13000

i Legitim

Under Scottish law certain family members may have legal rights to some of the assets in a person's estate. Broadly, 'legitim' is a Scottish legal term for the rights a child may have to some assets in a parent's estate, go to www.gov.uk/hmrc-internal-manuals/inheritance-tax-manual/ihtm35211

For claims to transfer the unused nil rate band from the estate of a predeceased spouse or civil partner, the following additional conditions apply:

- the full or partial nil rate band must be available to transfer from the earlier death
- there is only one predeceased spouse or civil partner
- a suitable claim is made to transfer the unused nil rate band

Exempt estates

These are estates where there can be no liability to Inheritance Tax because the gross value of the estate does not exceed £3 million and there is no tax to pay because one or both of the following exemptions apply:

- Spouse or Civil Partner Exemption
- Charity Exemption

No other exemption or relief can be taken into account.

Charity Exemption can only be deducted if the gift is an absolute gift to the organisation concerned.

The conditions for these estates are that:

- the deceased and the deceased's spouse or civil partner have been long-term UK resident at all times on or after 6 April 2025 and were always domiciled in the UK before that date
- the gross value of the estate does not exceed £3 million and the net chargeable value of the estate after deduction of liabilities and Spouse or Civil Partner Exemption and/or Charity Exemption only does not exceed the Inheritance Tax threshold
- if the estate includes any assets in trust, they are held in a single trust and the gross value does not exceed £250,000 - where the trust includes assets that pass to the spouse or civil partner or charity, the gross value of the assets in the trust will be limited to £1 million (with a £250,000 limit on the chargeable trust assets)
- if the estate includes foreign assets, their gross value does not exceed £100,000
- if there are any specified transfers, their chargeable value does not exceed £250,000, and the deceased had not made a gift with reservation of benefit
- gifts out of income of more than £3,000 in any year must be shown in full
- no charge arises on the individual's death under any of the provisions relating to alternatively secured pensions

In Scotland, the Spouse or Civil Partner Exemption and/or Charity Exemption must be calculated on the basis that any entitlement to legitim against the estate will be claimed in full. In other words, only the minimum amount of Spouse or Civil Partner Exemption and/or Charity Exemption available after accounting for legitim can be deducted to establish whether the Inheritance Tax nil rate band is exceeded.

Foreign domiciliaries or non long-term UK residents

These are the estates where there can be no liability to Inheritance Tax because the gross value of the estate in the UK does not exceed £150,000.

The conditions for these estates are that:

- for deaths on or after 6 April 2025, the deceased was not a long-term UK resident immediately before their death (or for deaths before 6 April 2025, the deceased died domiciled outside the UK)
- since 6 April 2025, the deceased had never been a long-term UK resident
- at times before 6 April 2025, the deceased was never domiciled in the UK, or treated as domiciled in the UK for Inheritance Tax purposes
- the deceased's UK estate consisted only of cash or listed shares and securities passing under a will or intestacy or by survivorship

If the estate qualifies as a foreign domiciliary or a non long-term UK resident, the correct form to use is form IHT207, 'Return of estate information' (in Scotland, form C5(OUK)).

Inheritance Tax nil rate band

When deciding if the value of the estate is below the Inheritance Tax nil rate band (for excepted estates only), the correct nil rate band to use depends on the date of death and the date you apply for the grant.

If the death was between 6 August and 5 April (inclusive) in any one tax year, you should use the nil rate band that applied at the date of death.

If the death was after 5 April but before 6 August in any one tax year, and you're applying for a grant before 6 August of that year, the nil rate band that applies is the one from the tax year before that in which the deceased died.

You can find a list of nil rate bands on form IHT400, 'Rates and tables'.

Grants of representation

You need a grant of representation to get access to most assets in the deceased's estate. There are a number of different types of grant.

In England, Wales and Northern Ireland, the 2 most common types are:

- a grant of probate - where the deceased has left a will
- a grant of letters of administration - where the deceased has not left a will

In Scotland, the grant is a grant of confirmation. Throughout this guide, we refer to all types of grant of representation as the 'grant'.

Special types of grant

There are a number of special types of grant that may apply in certain circumstances. For example:

- a grant for a limited period of time - perhaps while there is a legal dispute about the validity of a will
- a grant that's limited to certain assets - perhaps where the estate consists of perishable goods that need to be preserved or where the deceased has appointed an executor for certain assets - for example, an author might appoint a literary executor

HM Courts and Tribunals Services (HMCTS) Probate general enquiries can tell you more about these special types of grant and whether they might be of use in dealing with the deceased's estate. They will also tell you the type of grant concerned, go to www.gov.uk/applying-for-probate

Make sure you tell us the type of grant by completing question 121 on page 13 of form IHT400.

You'll still need to fill in form IHT400 in full where the grant is for a limited period of time. Where the grant is limited to certain assets, we tell you how to fill in form IHT400 in the paragraphs below. There is information about applying for a grant on pages 61 to 67 of this guide.

When form IHT400 need not be filled in completely

There are certain types of grant where you do not have to fill in form IHT400 completely.

When the proposed grant is to be limited to certain assets, you should include the assets to be covered by the grant in pages 7 to 9 of form IHT400. All the other assets that are part of the deceased's estate, but excluded from the grant, should be included in box 76 on form IHT400. You should also fill in pages 1 to 6 and boxes 83 to 108 of form IHT400 and answer the questions on pages 5 and 6. You'll also need to complete and sign the declaration on pages 13 and 14. You should only fill in (at this stage) any schedules that apply to the assets for which the grant is needed.

If you need to apply for a Settled Land Grant because land continues to be settled land after the death of the life tenant, then Schedule IHT418, 'Assets held in trust' should not be filled in. Instead, use form IHT400 and Schedule IHT405, 'Houses, land, buildings and interests in land' to provide details of the settled land. You should add the following words in a blank space in the declaration on page 13 'limited to the settled land of which true particulars and value are given'. All the other property that's in the deceased's estate should be entered in box 105 on form IHT400. You should fill in pages 1 to 6 of form IHT400 as if they related to the settled land only.

When the deceased left no estate and the grant is needed only for assets (not settled land) of which the deceased was a trustee, you only need to fill in boxes 1 to 22 and the declaration on pages 13 and 14 of form IHT400. You do not need to include the assets in the account, or fill in boxes 23 to 120 of form IHT400.

Delivering a reduced account when there is no tax to pay

If there is no tax to pay because most or all of the estate is exempt from Inheritance Tax, you may be able to fill in a reduced form IHT400. You should first check to see if the estate is an excepted estate by reading pages 1 to 3 of this guide. If it's an excepted estate you should use form PA1A or PA1P in England and Wales, form C1 in Scotland and form NIPF1 or NIPF2 plus NIPF7 in Northern Ireland, and not read any more of this guide.

To be able to fill in a reduced form IHT400 the deceased must have been a long-term UK resident immediately before their death (or for deaths before 6 April 2025, the deceased must have been domiciled in the UK at the date of death) and there must be assets or legacies passing under the will or intestacy to one of the following exempt beneficiaries:

- the deceased's surviving spouse or civil partner - either directly or to a trust the spouse or civil partner has the right to benefit from
- a qualifying charity
- a UK national body such as the British Museum or the National Trust

If you need to know whether a particular national body or charity qualifies for the exemption you should call the Inheritance Tax Helpline on 0300 123 1072 for advice.

You'll then need to add together the gross value (the value before taking off liabilities, reliefs or exemptions) of any assets passing to anyone other than the exempt beneficiaries listed above and any of the following which are not passing to exempt beneficiaries:

- the deceased's share of any jointly owned assets
- any assets the deceased gave away in the 7 years before death
- any assets the deceased gave away, but in which they reserved a benefit
- assets outside the UK that do not pass under the UK will or intestacy

If the total is less than or equal to the Inheritance Tax nil rate band then you may fill in a reduced form IHT400. If you're claiming a transfer of unused nil rate band, you may add that to the nil rate band at the date of death. If the total is less than the nil rate band and the transfer of unused nil rate band, you may fill in a reduced form IHT400.

What do I need to fill in if I can send a reduced form IHT400?

If you can fill in a reduced form IHT400, you only need to fill in the following parts of the form:

- boxes 1 to 28 - complete in full
- boxes 29 to 48 - you must answer all the questions, but you may not need to fill in all of the schedules

If you answer 'yes' to any of the following questions you must fill in the relevant schedule:

- question 29c - fill in Schedule IHT402
- question 30 - fill in Schedule IHT403
- question 31 - fill in Schedule IHT404
- question 35 - fill in Schedule IHT408
- question 36 - fill in Schedule IHT409
- question 44 - fill in Schedule IHT417
- question 45 - fill in Schedule IHT418
- question 47 - fill in Schedule IHT420

Where an asset included in any of the above schedules passes to an exempt beneficiary, you may include your own estimate of the 'open market value' but you must not include a nominal value.

If you answer 'yes' to any other questions you do not need to fill in the relevant schedule if all of the assets concerned pass to exempt beneficiaries. Instead, you should write the value of those assets directly on the form IHT400 in the boxes on pages 7 and 8.

This means that if the residue of the estate is left in shares to a number of beneficiaries, for example, 'a half share to my wife and the remaining half share to my children equally' you must fill in a full form IHT400.

You should fill in the boxes on pages 7 to 10 for the various assets and liabilities. Where the asset passes to an exempt beneficiary, you may include your own estimate of the 'open market value' but you must not include a nominal value.

List all the assets passing to exempt beneficiaries in boxes 92 and 93 as appropriate.

Leave out boxes 109 and 110 as there should not be any tax to pay, but fill in boxes 111 to 119 to make sure.

Leave out box 120, but complete the declaration at box 121. You do not need to list any estimated values where the assets pass to exempt beneficiaries.

Use the checklist on page 16 of form IHT400 to make sure you remember to enclose all the documents we need to see, but do not enclose supporting valuations if the assets concerned pass to exempt beneficiaries.

Where there are to be changes in the administration of an estate, you can apply for a grant to allow the administration to continue, provided the assets concerned were included in an earlier grant.

England, Wales and Northern Ireland

You must use form Cap A5C (available from our helpline) (or form Cap A5N in Northern Ireland) if you're applying for a:

- grant of double probate - where an executor (perhaps due to ill health) was not party to the initial grant but on regaining health the executor wishes to take up office
- grant de bonis non administratis - when the only or last surviving executor dies without fully dealing with the estate

Send the completed form to HMCTS Probate if you're applying for the grant in England and Wales. If applying in Northern Ireland, send to the Probate Office, Belfast. Do not send it to us first.

Scotland

If you need an 'Eik to Confirmation' for additional assets or to amend an estate, you should fill in form C4(S), 'Corrective Inventory and Account' and send it to us. After we've checked it, we'll stamp and return the form to you to send it to the Sheriff or Commissary Clerk. If you need an 'Eik to Confirmation ad non executa' (where the estate has not been fully administered and none of the original executors, or substitutes, remain in office) you should get form X-1 from the Sheriff or Commissary Clerk.

You must pay any Inheritance Tax and interest that's due before you can get a grant. This means you'll have to pay all of the tax not being paid by instalments and you may also need to pay some of the tax that's being paid by instalments if you're paying after the date that tax is due.

Changes to the administration of an estate

Inheritance Tax and the grant

Tax on certain assets may be paid by 10 annual instalments. The law says that we must charge interest from the first day of the seventh month after the month in which the person died.

For example, if a person dies on 7 January, we charge interest from 1 August. It does not matter why you've not paid the tax by then. Interest will still be due. There is more information about instalments on page 57 of this guide.

Wartime compensation payments

If the deceased received a compensation payment during their lifetime for personal harm suffered at the hands of the Japanese or Nazi governments, you should reduce the amount of tax charged on the estate by the smaller of either:

- 40% of the payments received
- the amount of tax payable before allowing the deduction

For example, the deceased received a payment of £10,000, which would give a deduction of $£10,000 \times 40\% = £4,000$. The Inheritance Tax on the estate before the deduction was £5,000. The tax can be reduced by £4,000. To apply the reduction you should include the figure for the reduction in tax at box 18 on form IHT400, 'Calculation'. Applying the reduction can only reduce the tax liability to nil, it cannot result in a repayment of tax.

Death on active service

If the deceased was a member of the armed forces, certain associated services and emergency services personnel whose death was caused by injury or disease on active service there is a complete exemption from Inheritance Tax on the estate passing on death. A reduced form IHT400 can be delivered if this applies. The exemption does not cover lifetime gifts.

If the deceased died having made a claim but before receiving payment, you should include the amount claimed in box 76 on form IHT400 and reduce the tax as above. Send copies of any correspondence showing details of the deceased's claim with form IHT400. If no correspondence exists, give details in the 'Additional information' boxes on page 17 of form IHT400.

When must I send in the form?

i Website:
www.gov.uk/inheritance-tax
 Helpline: 0300 123 1072

You must send form IHT400 to us within 12 months of the date of death. If the form is sent in after that time without reasonable excuse you may be liable to a penalty up to £200. Additionally, should the delay extend another 12 months, that's 2 years after death, you may be liable to an additional penalty up to £3,000. There is more about penalties on our website. To claim a transfer of unused nil rate band on Schedule IHT402, the deadline is 24 months from the end of the month in which the deceased died.

Who to contact and why

When you've looked through all the deceased's papers and made a list of all their assets and debts, you'll have to write to each organisation concerned to get the date-of-death value of the assets and debts and ask if the deceased held any other assets or accounts with that organisation.

For example, you know that the deceased had an account at a particular bank, but only have a copy of an old bank statement. Write to that bank asking for the balance of the account at the date of death and if the deceased held any other accounts, investments or safety deposit boxes with them.

You may need to contact some other organisations as well.

These could include:

- personal or occupational pension schemes to see if any pension payments will continue after death, or if death benefits are payable - you should also check if any changes had been made to their pension arrangements shortly before they died - this information will help you answer the questions on the form
- insurance companies to find out if the deceased had any insurance policies which paid out to the estate or someone else or whether the deceased had any policies written in trust
- energy or phone suppliers to see if the deceased owed them any money or if any overpaid money is due to be refunded to the estate
- the local council for details of any outstanding or overpaid Council Tax
- National Savings and Investments to find out the value of any National Savings Certificates or whether the deceased had any unclaimed Premium Bond prizes
- any solicitors, accountants or financial advisors who dealt with the deceased's affairs
- the deceased's close family and friends (especially to find out if the deceased made any gifts)
- anyone named in the will who might know about the deceased's affairs

Make detailed enquiries so that you find out everything you can about the deceased's estate and what assets and debts should be included on the form.

What values to include

The law says that for Inheritance Tax, you have to value all assets as if each item had been sold on the date the deceased died. We call this the 'open market value'. There is more information about valuing assets later in this guide. Round the value of assets down to the nearest pound and liabilities up to the nearest pound.

Estimated values

Make full enquiries to find out the exact value for each item in the estate. However, if you're having difficulty with one or 2 items, such as an Income Tax repayment or household bill, or perhaps details of foreign tax or income due from a trust, the law says that you may include a provisional estimate. You should make the best estimate that you can. You'll need to list the boxes that contain provisional estimates in box 121 of form IHT400.

It's your responsibility to tell us the correct figure as soon as you know it.

Documents you must keep

You do not need to send us copies of documents, for example, a letter from a bank with the balance in an account or evidence of household bills, unless we specifically ask you to provide a copy in this guide. However, you must keep safe all documents that you've used to fill in form IHT400 and the schedules because we may ask you for some or all of them after you've obtained the grant.

Original documents

If you have to return an original document, such as a life assurance or trust or a loan agreement, you should keep a copy in case we ask you for it.

Instruments of variation

An instrument of variation is a legal document which allows the beneficiaries of an estate to change the terms of the will or intestacy after the death. The IHT400 should be filled in to show any effect the variation has on the Inheritance Tax due. For example, if the deceased's children inherit part of the estate and redirect assets to the surviving spouse, increasing Spouse or Civil Partner Exemption, the IHT400 should show the increased exemption at boxes 92 and 93. If the variation affects a matter of general law, such as severing a joint tenancy, the IHT400 should show the legal position at the date of death, before the effect of the instrument of variation.

Filling in form IHT400 (pages 1 to 6) - fill in all the boxes that apply by giving the information we ask for fully. Tick the 'Yes' or 'No' boxes, as appropriate

Follow the instructions on the form.

Failure to answer the questions fully may result in delay.

More guidance is given below where necessary.

If you need to mark a particular box to indicate an answer, you can use a tick or a cross.

3

Inheritance Tax reference number

If there is any Inheritance Tax to pay, you'll need an Inheritance Tax reference number before you send the form IHT400 to us. You can apply for a reference number online at www.gov.uk/paying-inheritance-tax or by filling in Schedule IHT422, 'Application for an Inheritance Tax reference' and sending it to the address shown on that form. You'll need to apply for a reference number at least 3 weeks before you plan to send us this form. You do not need to apply for a reference or complete this box if there is no tax to pay.

Deceased's details, page 1

6a

Domicile (only for deaths on or before 5 April 2025)

A person's domicile is usually the country where their main home is. The UK is not a 'country' when establishing a person's domicile. So a person will have a domicile in England and Wales, or Scotland or Northern Ireland; in these notes we refer to all of these as the 'UK'. The Channel Islands and the Isle of Man are foreign countries when considering domicile. Only read the rest of this note if you think the deceased was not domiciled in the UK.

If you're unsure if the deceased was domiciled or deemed domiciled in the UK for Inheritance Tax purposes, go to www.gov.uk/hmrc-internal-manuals/inheritance-tax-manual/ihtm13000

Domicile of origin - You acquire a domicile of origin at birth. This is usually the same as the domicile of your father at that time, that is the country that your father considered to be his permanent home at your date of birth. As a result, your domicile of origin may not be the country where you were born. If your parents were not married when you were born, you will take your domicile from your mother. If you are adopted, you take your domicile from your adopted father - if there's no adopted father, you take the domicile from your adopted mother.

Formerly domiciled resident - From 6 April 2017 there was a separate category of deemed domicile. You're formerly resident if you:

- are born in the UK with a UK domicile of origin
- have acquired another non-UK domicile of choice
- are resident in the UK and were resident in the UK in at least 1 of the 2 previous tax years

However, if you're a formerly domiciled resident, property you settled on trust when you were not domiciled in the UK cannot be excluded property for the purposes of Inheritance Tax. This does not apply if you're only deemed domiciled under the new rules.

Even though the deceased may have been domiciled abroad, there are some special rules that mean we can treat the deceased as if they were domiciled in the UK.

The rules are that if a person:

- has lived in the UK for a long time - they were resident for Income Tax purposes for at least 15 out of the 20 tax years ending with the tax year in which they died (17 out of the 20 years for deaths before 6 April 2017)
- was domiciled in the UK under English law at any time in the 3 years before they died

the law says that we can treat the deceased as if they were domiciled in the UK when they died. This means that we can charge Inheritance Tax on the deceased's worldwide estate even though they were not domiciled in the UK when they died.

Please note, if the terms of a double taxation convention or agreement apply, a person may be treated as having more than one domicile.

The terms of the convention or agreement will say which domicile to use.

If any of these special rules apply and the deceased is treated for Inheritance Tax purposes as being domiciled in the UK, you should still enter the name of the foreign country in the box, but fill in the rest of the form as if the deceased was domiciled in the UK. Write in the 'Additional information' boxes on page 19 of form IHT400 that the deceased was treated as domiciled (or 'deemed domiciled') in the UK for Inheritance Tax purposes.

If the special rules do not apply and the deceased was domiciled outside the UK, you should fill in Schedule IHT401, 'Domicile outside the United Kingdom' to give us details. Fill in the IHT400 with details of assets in the UK only.

6b

Long-Term UK Residence (only for deaths on or after 6 April 2025)

An individual is a long-term UK resident if they have been resident in the UK for at least 10 out of the last 20 tax years immediately before the tax year in which the chargeable event (including death) arises.

Where an individual is a long-term UK resident and becomes non-UK resident, they will remain in scope for Inheritance Tax for a minimum of 3 years and a maximum of 10 years depending on the amount of time they resided in the UK.

If a double taxation convention applies based on the deceased's domicile or deemed domicile, you need to provide details in schedule IHT401.

For more information on this and the long-term UK residence rules, go to www.gov.uk/hmrc-internal-manuals/inheritance-tax-manual/ihtm47000

If the deceased was not a long-term UK resident, complete schedule IHT401 a. Fill in the rest of form IHT400 with details of assets in the UK only, except for any lifetime transfers made when the individual was long-term UK resident (or before 6 April 2025 while UK domiciled).

If the deceased was domiciled in Scotland at the date of death, page 2

7

This only applies if the deceased died domiciled in Scotland. Go to page 3 of this guide for an explanation of 'legitim'. Use the 'Additional information' boxes on page 19 of the IHT400 if you need to provide any other information about a claim for legal rights.

12

If the deceased was only renting the property then you should not tick 'Yes' to this question. If the deceased was renting the property from a company not listed on a recognised stock exchange that they owned shares in, then full details should be given in the box provided.

14

National Insurance number

Enter the deceased's National Insurance number. If the State Pension was paid directly to a bank or building society, the reference shown in the bank or building society statements is the National Insurance number.

If the deceased was still working, you can find the National Insurance number on their payslip, or form P60 or on letters from HM Revenue and Customs (HMRC), such as a P2, 'PAYE Coding Notice'.

15

Income Tax or Unique Taxpayer Reference

You can find the Income Tax or Unique Taxpayer Reference (UTR) on correspondence from HMRC if the deceased was a Self Assessment taxpayer.

16

Power of attorney

You should answer 'Yes' to this question if the deceased had signed a general, enduring or lasting power of attorney and that power was used by the attorney during the deceased's lifetime. A copy of the power of attorney should be enclosed with the form.

17

If you're applying for a grant without the help of a solicitor, another person licensed to provide probate services or accountant, to act for you and it's

22

difficult for us to contact you by phone during the day, we cannot discuss the estate with another person without your written authority. You may want us to write to you, but for someone else - perhaps a husband, wife, civil partner or other relative - to be able to deal with phone calls. If so, enter their name and details in boxes 18 and 19.

Contact details of the person dealing with the estate, page 3

Authority for repayment of Inheritance Tax, page 3

What makes up your Inheritance Tax account – schedules, pages 5 and 6

i Website:
www.gov.uk/inheritance-tax
 Helpline: 0300 123 1072

23 If we need to repay any Inheritance Tax, we'll make the payment directly to the bank account in the names of all the people who have signed the form by Faster Payments. If you do not have a bank account in those names, it may be difficult for you to obtain the repayment. To avoid this difficulty, give the details of the account that you want the repayment paid into on page 3 of the IHT400. If a solicitor, another person licensed to provide probate services or other agent is acting on your behalf and the repayment is to be made out to their firm, enter the details here.

In some circumstances we need additional information about the deceased's circumstances or particular assets. You must provide this information on the schedules that accompany form IHT400. Answer the questions on pages 5 and 6 of the IHT400 to find out which schedules you need. You may need more than one copy of a particular schedule. You'll have received a selection of the more frequently used schedules. If you need others you can get them from our website or phone our helpline and ask for the ones you need. If you received schedules you do not need, do not use them. Where necessary, the following additional notes will help you to decide which schedules you need to fill in.

29a **Residence nil rate band**
 Fill in Schedule IHT435 'Claim for residence nil rate band' if the deceased died on or after 6 April 2017, they owned a residence and the residence is inherited by the direct descendants of the deceased.

29b **Transfer of unused residence nil rate band**
 Fill in Schedule IHT436 'Claim to transfer any unused residence nil rate band' if you're claiming residence nil rate band (RNRB) and the deceased has a spouse or civil partner who either died before 6 April 2017, or who died after that date without having used all RNRB available to them. You have 24 months after the end of the month in which the deceased died to make the claim.

29c **Transfer of unused nil rate band**
 Fill in Schedule IHT402, 'Claim to transfer unused nil rate band' if the deceased died on or after 9 October 2007, they had a spouse or civil partner who died before them and you wish to claim a transfer of unused nil rate band to add to the nil rate band on the deceased's estate. This will apply if the estate of the spouse or civil partner who died first did not use up all of the nil rate band available, usually because most of the estate passed to the surviving spouse or civil partner or the estate was smaller than the nil rate band at the time of the first death. You have 24 months after the end of the month in which the deceased died to make the claim.

30 **Gifts and other transfers of value**
 You can tick 'No' and do not need to fill in Schedule IHT403 if the only gifts made by the deceased were in the following categories:

- to their spouse or civil partner and Spouse or Civil Partner Exemption applies
- outright gifts to any individual which do not exceed £250 in any one year (these will be covered by the Small Gifts Exemption)
- outright gifts to any individual of money or listed stocks and shares that are wholly covered by the Annual Exemption
- outright gifts made regularly from income where the total gifts did not exceed £3,000 in each year

These exemptions are detailed on page 78 of this guide.

If the deceased had made any other gifts or 'transfers of value' since 18 March 1986, including transfers into trust, payment of insurance premiums for the benefit of another person, advances out of a trust fund or any assets that were taken out of a trust before death, you must fill in Schedule IHT403, 'Gifts and other transfers of value'. In general, a 'transfer of value' is any transaction where the deceased did not receive full value in exchange.

31 Jointly owned assets

Bank and building society accounts, stocks and shares, household goods, freehold and leasehold property are the assets most usually owned in joint names. We call all the assets that are owned jointly 'joint assets'. Fill in Schedule IHT404, 'Jointly owned assets' if the deceased owned any UK assets in joint names with one or more people.

32 Houses, land, buildings and interests in land

As well as owning land and buildings, the deceased may have had interests in land or rights over land which should be shown on Schedule IHT405, 'Houses, land, buildings and interests in land'.

Examples of these interests and rights include:

- mineral rights
- fishing rights
- rights of way

36 Pensions

Fill in Schedule IHT409, 'Pensions' if:

- the deceased was being paid a pension from an employer or a personal pension scheme or a retirement annuity contract
- the payments continued after the deceased's death
- a death benefit became payable from such a source as a result of the deceased's death
- the deceased had made any changes to their pension provision or contributions to a pension scheme in the 2 years before they died

Death benefit

Death benefits include:

- a death in service payment made when the person dies before starting to take their pension
- a lump sum death benefit, usually of the funds remaining in the scheme
- any funds remaining in the scheme which can be accessed by a beneficiary, for example as a flexi-access drawdown pension

37 Life assurance and annuities

Fill in Schedule IHT410, 'Life assurance and annuities' if the deceased paid either regular, monthly, or death benefits premiums for:

- insurance policies which are payable to the estate
- a mortgage protection policy
- unit-linked investment bonds with insurance companies or other financial service providers that pay out 101% of the value of the units to the estate
- investment or reinvestment plans, bonds or contracts with financial service providers that pay out to the estate on death

- insurance policies and unit-linked investment bonds, etc, that are payable to beneficiaries under a trust and do not form part of the estate
- joint life assurance policies under which the deceased was one of the lives assured but that remain in force after the death
- insurance policies on the life of another person but under which the deceased was to benefit
- if the deceased received any payments under an annuity that continued after death, or under which death benefits were payable as a result of their death

38 Listed stocks and shares

Fill in Schedule IHT411, 'Listed stocks and shares' if the deceased owned any stocks and shares which were listed on a recognised stock exchange or any UK government or municipal securities. Shares in public limited companies will be listed. If the deceased had a control holding of shares in a listed company (and this will be very rare) you should not put them on this schedule, but use Schedule IHT412, 'Unlisted stocks and shares, and control holdings' instead.

39 Unlisted stocks and shares, and control holdings

Fill in Schedule IHT412, 'Unlisted stocks and shares, and control holdings' if the deceased owned any shares in a private limited company that were not listed on the stock exchange.

You should also fill in this schedule if the deceased owned any shares that are:

- listed on a market that does not meet the definition of 'listed' for HMRC purposes
- held in a Business Expansion Scheme or Business Start-up Scheme
- listed on a recognised stock exchange and the deceased had control of the company

You can find a list of the markets that are defined as 'listed' or 'not listed' for HMRC purposes, go to www.gov.uk/guidance/recognised-stock-exchanges

44 Foreign assets

Fill in Schedule IHT417, 'Foreign assets' to give details of any overseas assets owned by the deceased, including any jointly owned overseas assets. Do not include details of foreign shares that are listed on the London Stock Exchange. We call all the assets that the deceased owned overseas 'foreign assets'. The Channel Islands and the Isle of Man are foreign countries so assets held there are foreign assets.

Assets held in trust

We call assets that are held in trust 'settled property'. We say that the deceased had an 'interest in possession' where they had the right to either:

- the income from assets (for example, dividends from shares, interest from a bank account, or rent from let property)
- payments of a fixed amount each year, often in regular instalments
- live in a house or use the contents without paying any rent

In some circumstances where a person has an 'interest in possession' in settled property, they are treated for Inheritance Tax purposes as if they owned those assets personally.

45 You should fill in Schedule IHT418, 'Assets held in trust' if the deceased's interest in possession was in:

- a trust set up before 22 March 2006
- a trust that was set up on or after 22 March 2006 and was
 - an immediate post-death interest
 - a disabled person's interest
 - a transitional serial interest

What is an immediate post-death interest?

An immediate post-death interest is one where the beneficiary is entitled to a benefit from a trust, and the:

- trust was set up under a will or under the rules of intestacy
- beneficiary became entitled to their benefit on the death of the person who set up the trust (the settlor)
- trust is not for a disabled person or a bereaved minor

What is a disabled person's interest?

A disabled person's interest arises where either:

- more than half of the assets in a trust in which nobody has a right to benefit from is applied for the benefit of a disabled person
- an individual (the settlor) who is suffering from a condition likely to lead to them becoming disabled, as described below, sets up a trust using their own assets and the following conditions apply
 - there is no interest in possession during the settlor's life
 - any trust property that applies during the settlor's life is applied for their benefit
 - if the trust is brought to an end during the settlor's life the assets must become the property of the settlor or part of a disabled person's trust
 - a disabled person became entitled to an interest in possession in a trust that came into existence on or after 22 March 2006
- the beneficiary is a disabled person and the trust was set up on or after 22 March 2006

New rules apply to trusts arising on or after 8 April 2013. All (previously more than half) the assets including income must now be applied for the benefit of the disabled person except for an annual limit of up to £3,000 (or 3% of the assets if lower) which may be applied for the benefit of others. For gifts made to trusts in existence before 8 April 2013 (or arise afterwards under a will in existence before that date) the trusts are not prevented from qualifying as a disabled person's interest by the new rules so long as those trusts or wills are not altered on or after 8 April 2013.

For more information on trusts for a disabled person, go to www.gov.uk/hmrc-internal-manuals/inheritance-tax-manual/ihtm42805

Definition of a disabled person

For this purpose a disabled person is a person who:

- is incapable, by reason of mental disorder (within the meaning of the Mental Health Act 1983), of administering their property or managing their affairs
- receives Attendance Allowance (under section 64 of either the Social Security Contributions and Benefits Act 1992 or the Social Security Contributions and Benefits (Northern Ireland) Act 1992) or would if they were not undergoing certain treatments or met the residence qualifications
- receives Disability Living Allowance, at the highest or middle rate (under section 71 of either the Social Security Contributions and Benefits Act 1992 or the Social Security Contributions and Benefits (Northern Ireland) Act 1992) or would if they were not provided with certain living accommodation or if they met the residence qualifications

A disabled person now includes a person who receives either:

- a Personal Independence Allowance or would do so if it were not for exclusions for nursing home residents, those receiving inpatient care and for prisoners
- an Increased Disablement Pension or would do so if it were not for the exclusions stated above in relation to Attendance Allowance
- Constant Attendance Allowance or would do so but for maintenance in a hospital
- an Armed Forces Independence Payment or would do so but for admission to the Royal Hospital, Chelsea

What is a transitional serial interest?

There are 2 types of transitional serial interest. The first type is where an interest in possession trust arises on or after 22 March 2006 and before 6 April 2008, but it follows a previous interest in possession that already existed before 22 March 2006.

The second type is where the interest in possession trust arises on the death, on or after 22 March 2006, of the holder of a previous interest in possession and either the:

- new holder is the spouse or civil partner of the previous holder
- settled property consists of a contract of life insurance

For more information on transitional serial interests, go to www.gov.uk/inheritance-tax

46 Debts owed by the deceased

Fill in Schedule IHT419, 'Debts owed by the deceased' to give details of any:

- money that the deceased had borrowed from close friends or relatives
- money that close friends or relatives had spent on behalf of the deceased and is to be repaid from the estate
- other loans
- guarantee debts that you're deducting from the estate

You do not need to fill in Schedule IHT419 if the debt is a mortgage secured against a property shown in Schedule IHT405, 'Houses, land, buildings and interest in land'. Instead the mortgage should be shown in box 80 on form IHT400.

47 National Heritage assets**Conditional Exemption**

Conditional Exemption from Inheritance Tax is available for pictures, prints, books, manuscripts, works of art, scientific objects and antiques and other objects that do not produce income. The exemption must be claimed within 2 years after the deceased's death, except in exceptional circumstances. To qualify for exemption they must be pre-eminent for their national, scientific, historic, or artistic interest, or be historically associated with a building that qualifies for Conditional Exemption.

Buildings qualify if they are of outstanding historic or architectural interest. Land qualifies if it's of outstanding scenic, historic or scientific interest, or if it protects the character and amenities of a qualifying building.

The exemption applies as long as the owner:

- keeps the asset in the UK
- maintains and preserves it
- allows public access to it without prior appointment

If you're claiming Conditional Exemption or the deceased owned any assets exempted on National Heritage grounds on any earlier taxable occasion, fill in Schedule IHT420, 'National Heritage assets - Conditional Exemption and maintenance funds'.

Maintenance funds

These are trust funds that HMRC has approved for the maintenance of outstanding land or buildings and any amenity land or historically associated contents which would qualify for Conditional Exemption. If the deceased owned any assets maintained by a maintenance fund, fill in Schedule IHT420, 'National Heritage assets Conditional Exemption and maintenance funds'.

Exemption from Inheritance Tax is available for outright transfers to maintenance funds. The exemption must be claimed within 2 years after the deceased's death, except in exceptional circumstances. If you're claiming this exemption please fill in Schedule IHT420.

48 Schedules

When you've identified which schedules you need you should fill in all of the marked schedules except IHT435 and IHT436 before going on to page 7 of IHT400. Fill in schedules IHT435 and IHT436 before you go on to page 12.

Filling in the schedules - additional notes

Wherever possible we've included the notes on the schedule.

The following schedules have additional notes you can find in this guide:

• Schedule IHT403, 'Gifts and other transfers of value'	20
• Schedule IHT404, 'Jointly owned assets'	26
• Schedule IHT407, 'Household and personal goods'	28
• Schedule IHT408, 'Household and personal goods donated to charity'	28
• Schedule IHT409, 'Pensions'	29
• Schedule IHT411, 'Listed stocks and shares'	32
• Schedule IHT412, 'Unlisted stocks and shares, and control holdings'	34
• Schedule IHT413, 'Business and partnership interests and assets'	36
• Schedule IHT414, 'Agricultural Relief'	39
• Schedule IHT418, 'Assets held in trust'	42
• Schedule IHT420, 'National Heritage assets – Conditional Exemption and maintenance funds'	43

Schedule IHT403 Gifts and other transfers of value

What is a gift?

The law says that there will be a gift whenever there is a 'loss to the donor' (the 'donor' is the person making the gift).

It's not just outright gifts, such as giving a cheque for £10,000 to someone on a special occasion, that are relevant for Inheritance Tax. This can happen in different ways.

Example

A parent sells a house to their son for less than they could sell the property on the open market. For Inheritance Tax purposes, this would result in a loss to the donor.

A person holds shares in a company that give them control of that company. They sell a few shares to a relative but this means losing control of the company and reduces the value of their other shares.

For Inheritance Tax purposes, this would result in a loss to the donor.

Tell us about any assets given away (gifts) or transferred by the deceased where there was a 'loss to the donor' on or after 18 March 1986.

Gifts of qualifying agricultural or business property

If the gift involves qualifying agricultural or business property and is made on or after 30 October 2024, and the donor dies on or after 6 April 2026, the new APR/BPR rules apply. 100% relief is limited to a combined £2.5 million relief allowance per individual. Any qualifying value above this threshold receives 50% relief.

Additionally, shares in companies listed on a market that does not meet the definition of 'listed' for HMRC purposes (such as AIM), can now only qualify for 50% relief.

Time limits

When we consider the value of a person's estate we generally look at the 7-year period before their date of death. However, rarely, gifts made before that 7-year period need to be taken into account. Go to page 22

Value of gifts

It's important that you let us know the value of any gifts made by the deceased in case the value needs to be deducted from the nil rate band, so we can work out how much tax is payable.

Include full details of all gifts that are not wholly covered by Spouse or Civil Partner Exemption, Small Gifts Exemption or Annual Exemption. You can find full details of these exemptions on page 78 of this guide.

Who pays the Inheritance Tax on a gift?

If the total value of the gifts is below the Inheritance Tax nil rate band, the gifts use up the nil rate band first. The tax payable on the estate takes into account the gifts, but the recipients do not have to pay any of the tax themselves. The tax will be paid by the personal representatives.

Example

A makes a gift of £100,000 on 3 May 2011 and dies on 18 July 2012.

A's estate on death is £340,000.

Inheritance Tax is calculated:

Inheritance Tax nil rate band on 18 July 2012	£325,000
Less gift	£100,000
Nil rate band available	£225,000
A's estate on death	£340,000
Less available nil rate band	£225,000
Chargeable	£115,000
Tax on estate at 40% = £115,000 x 40%	
Total tax due	£46,000

If the gifts total more than the nil rate band for Inheritance Tax, then the tax is due on the gifts themselves and is payable by the recipients of the gifts.

Example

B makes a gift of £350,000 on 10 May 2011 and dies on 27 August 2012. B's estate on death is £500,000. Inheritance Tax due on the gift is calculated:

Gift	£350,000
Less Inheritance Tax nil rate band on 27 August 2012	£325,000
Chargeable	£25,000
Tax on gift at 40% = £25,000 x 40%	
Total tax due	£10,000

The Inheritance Tax on the estate, payable by the personal representatives, is £500,000 x 40% = £200,000.

Gifts made within 7 years before death

i Website:
www.gov.uk/inheritance-tax
 Helpline: 0300 123 1072

1 Gifts or assets transferred

This includes gifts of cash or other assets and any other arrangements that have given rise to a 'loss to the donor'.

This may include:

- granting a lease at less than full market rent
- rearranging the shares in a private company or altering the rights attached to the shares
- agreeing to act as a guarantor for someone else's debts

If you're not sure whether to include details of a particular transaction, phone our helpline.

2 Trusts and settlements created by the deceased during their lifetime

and

3

This includes gifts of cash or other assets as well as any other arrangements with the trustees that have given rise to a 'loss to the donor'. If the gift was made on or after 22 March 2006 we'll calculate tax using the rate of tax appropriate to the date the gift was made, unless one of the following conditions apply:

- the trust was set up for the benefit of a person who was disabled at the time the assets were transferred into trust
- the trust was set up by a person who is suffering from a condition which can be expected to lead to them becoming disabled and the gift was from their own assets and the trust is for their own benefit

Go to page 18 of this guide for a definition of a disabled person.

4 Premiums paid on a life assurance policy

You should answer 'yes' to this question if the deceased has made a gift by paying the premiums on a life assurance policy for the benefit of someone else. Ignore policies where the only person to benefit would be the deceased's spouse or civil partner.

You should provide a copy of:

- the life assurance policy
- any related documents such as trust deeds and loan agreements

If there is more than one insurance policy and they are all identical, you only need to send a copy of one policy. You must include details of all premiums paid and provide copies of the policy documents, even if you're deducting exemption as gifts made out of income (see box 6 below).

In some circumstances, the deceased may have purchased an annuity as well as paying the premiums on a life assurance policy for the benefit of someone else. There are rules that might apply in such circumstances and the exemption as gifts made out of income may not be available against the premiums.

Provide a copy of the annuity documents and life assurance policy if the deceased had:

- purchased an annuity (at any time)
- paid the premiums on a life assurance policy for the benefit of someone else
- the life assurance policy was taken out after 27 March 1974

5 **The deceased ceased to have a right to benefit from assets**

The deceased may have been entitled to benefit from the assets held in a trust or settlement, but during their lifetime that entitlement came to an end. This may be in whole or in part.

Their entitlement to benefit from the asset may have come to an end because of the terms of a trust or because the deceased asked the trustees to alter or terminate their entitlement.

6 **Gifts treated as exempt because they are gifts out of income**

If you're claiming that gifts made by the deceased are exempt as gifts made as part of normal expenditure out of income, fill in the table on page 6 of schedule IHT403, as well as giving details of the gifts on page 2 of the schedule.

More information about the 'Normal Expenditure Out of Income' Exemption can be found at page 78 of this guide.

A gift with reservation is one where the recipient does not fully own it or where the donor either reserves or takes some benefit from it. Tell us about all gifts like these on page 5 Schedule IHT403.

In some circumstances, the law says that we can include the assets as part of the deceased's estate at death. For example if:

- a parent (now deceased) gave their house to their son, but continued to live there without paying rent
- a parent gave a painting to a son but the painting remained on the wall in the parent's house
- a parent put a building society account into their daughter's name but the interest the money earned continued to be paid to the parent

This rule applies to all gifts made on or after 18 March 1986 and there is no 7 year limit as there is for outright gifts.

We would not include the asset as part of the deceased's estate at death if the parent in the first and second examples made an arrangement to pay rent at the market rate. If rent was paid you must still tell us about the gift on page 5 Schedule IHT403.

Gifts with reservation of benefit

There may be times when a gift is originally given with reservation of benefit and the reservation ceases at a later date. For example, a parent gives their house to their son and continues to live there without paying rent. Two years later the parent starts to pay rent at the market rate. This means that the reservation has ceased.

Once the reservation has ceased, the gift becomes an outright gift. We'll consider the gift to have been made on the date the reservation ceased. In this example this will be on the first date the rent (at market rate) is paid. When we calculate the tax due, the 7-year period would begin on the date the reservation ceased.

If the deceased died within the 7-year period, do not enter details in the 'Gifts with reservation of benefit' section. Instead give details on page 3 of schedule IHT403, 'Gifts made within the 7 years before death', and include the value of the property at the time the reservation ceased.

The law says that where a gift with reservation becomes an outright gift, you can not deduct any of the exemptions from the value of the gift.

If you need help or more information, phone our helpline.

Pre-owned assets

In some situations, where a person benefits from assets they owned previously, a charge to Inheritance Tax may arise under the rules relating to gifts with reservation.

An Income Tax charge on pre-owned assets was introduced in the 2005 to 2006 tax year. This charge applies to assets that a person disposed of, but continued to get benefit from. It can also apply when a person contributed to the purchase of an asset for another person that they subsequently benefitted from.

The legislation gives you the option to elect to have the asset treated as part of your estate for Inheritance Tax purposes, under the reservation of benefit rules. So long as the election remains in place, you'll not have to pay the Income Tax.

To make this election you must have submitted a form IHT500, 'Election for Inheritance Tax to apply to asset previously owned' before 31 January after the year in which you became liable to the charge, or exceptionally, if you can show a reasonable excuse for failure to submit the form by the deadline, at a later date. It's not possible for an election to be made on the deceased's behalf after death.

Earlier transfers

This part of the form is about any gifts made by the deceased (the donor) in the period before the gifts shown on pages 2 to 4 of the IHT403. To work out whether tax is payable on any gift, the law says that we must add it to any chargeable gifts made in the 7 years before the gift concerned. For example, if the deceased made a gift 6 years before they died, we'll add that gift to any chargeable gifts made in the 7 years before the gift was made.

A chargeable gift is any gift that's not wholly covered by exemptions and:

- was made before 18 March 1986
- was made between 18 March 1986 and 21 March 2006 and was given to a company or the trustees of a discretionary trust
- was made on or after 22 March 2006 unless it was a gift
 - to another individual
 - to a disabled trust
 - into a bereaved minor's trust on the coming to an end of an immediate post-death interest

Gifts from one individual to another are not chargeable gifts and should not be included in this section of the form.

You should not include these earlier gifts with the estate on death because they are only relevant in working out tax payable on gifts. We'll take any earlier gifts into account when looking at the gifts after you've taken out the grant.

Gifts made as part of normal expenditure out of income

The table on page 6 of the IHT403 is a guide to the information you must provide if you want to show that the regular gifts made by the deceased formed part of their normal expenditure out of income and were therefore exempt.

Full details are needed of the deceased's income and expenditure for each year for which the exemption is being deducted, so that you show that the gifts were made out of the deceased's income rather than out of capital.

You do not have to provide copies of bank statements or bills at this stage, but you should be prepared to provide documentary evidence of the deceased's income and expenditure if we ask you for it after you've sent us the form.

Schedule IHT404

Jointly owned assets

Establishing the deceased's share

The deceased's share of the asset for Inheritance Tax purposes may be different from the legal position and you'll need to establish the deceased's share.

Where land and buildings are owned in joint names, the deeds to the property will usually set out the share of each owner. But, with other assets, each owner's share will usually correspond to their contribution to the asset. Where the deceased's share does not correspond to their contribution to the asset you'll need to explain why the deceased's share is different on Schedule IHT404.

Businesses

You must not include any business assets owned jointly by a partnership on the Schedule IHT404. Such assets should be included on Schedule IHT413, 'Business and partnership interests and assets' and in box 69 on page 8 of form IHT400.

Foreign property

The way in which assets may be owned jointly in the UK does not usually apply in other countries. You must not include any jointly owned foreign property on Schedule IHT404. Complete Schedule IHT417, 'Foreign assets' giving details of the foreign property and, in the 'Additional information' boxes on page 19 of the form IHT400, enter the details of the other joint owners. You should use the questions on page 2 of Schedule IHT404 as a guide to the information we need.

Houses and land Household goods

If the deceased owned any houses or land jointly give details here.

If the deceased was a joint owner of household goods and effects, they should be included here as joint property. Group the items together in the same categories and list them in the same order as shown on Schedule IHT407, 'Household and personal goods'.

Insurance policies and bonds

If you've deducted any money owed under a joint mortgage in box 2 on Schedule IHT404 and a policy was assigned to repay the mortgage, include the value of the deceased's share of the policy proceeds as an asset on Schedule IHT404 at box 6.

If the deceased was entitled to benefit from a 'joint life and survivor' policy (go to Schedule IHT410, 'Life assurance and annuities'), give the name of the insurance company, the policy number and the value of the deceased's interest in the policy on Schedule IHT404 at box 6. This is a complex area. To find out more on the subject of life assurance policies go to www.gov.uk/inheritance-tax

How to value joint property

The rules for valuing joint property are the same as the rules for valuing assets owned by the deceased alone. For more information about valuing assets, go to pages 71 to 77 of this guide. In the case of bank and building society accounts, stocks and shares find out the whole value and then include the value of the deceased's share.

Example

The deceased owned a joint account with 2 other people that was worth £9,000 at the date of death. They had all contributed equally to the money in the account. The value of the deceased's share would be an exact one third of the whole (that is, £3,000).

However, in the case of a house or land, the open market value of a share is likely to be less than a share calculated in this way, as a discount may be appropriate. The amount of the discount will vary depending on the circumstances of each property and whether English or Scottish law applies.

English law - To give us a starting point, you may reduce the arithmetical share of the value of the whole of the property by 10%. This will give us an indication of the value of the share of the property. This figure of 10% is only to give us a starting point. The amount of the discount, as well as the value estimated for the whole of the property, may need to be changed after the grant has been issued.

Example

The deceased owned a house worth £120,000 jointly with 1 other person. The arithmetical value of the deceased's share is £60,000 and this may be reduced by 10% (or £6,000). The value to include is £54,000.

Scottish law - Under Scottish law, a joint owner has a right to raise an action for division and sale. A discount for joint ownership will reflect the cost and possible delay of raising such an action. The cost is not related to the value of the property, so cannot be calculated in percentage terms. As a starting point you may deduct £4,000 from the value of the whole property before calculating the arithmetical value of the deceased's share as the value to be included in the account. This is only a starting point. The value estimated may need to be changed after you get confirmation.

The other joint owner is a spouse or civil partner

Whether English or Scottish law applies you must not apply any discount if the other joint owner is the deceased's spouse or civil partner. Special rules prevent this discount from applying, so you should include the deceased's arithmetical share of the whole value of the house or land.

We'll usually ask the Valuation Office Agency to give us their opinion of the value of the deceased's property. They will take into account the circumstances of any jointly owned property and amount of discount to be allowed. If the Valuation Office Agency can not accept the figures you've used, they will try to agree a value with you. If the agreed value is more than the figure that you've suggested, you may have to pay some more tax (and interest).

Schedule IHT407

Household and personal goods

Valuing household and personal goods

You can find information on how to value household and personal goods on page 74 of this guide.

We only want individual values for the assets described in boxes 1 to 3 on Schedule IHT407. All other household goods can be added together and the total value entered in box 4.

Schedule IHT408

Household and personal goods donated to charity

Charity Exemption

Sometimes the people inheriting the deceased's household and personal goods want to donate some or all of the items to charity. For example, by donating them to a charity shop. If they decide to do that they will only be able to deduct Charity Exemption from the value of the goods if they sign an instrument of variation (IOV). For more information on IOVs, go to www.gov.uk/inheritance-tax

Schedule IHT408 is a standard form that allows the beneficiaries to make such a donation and benefit from Charity Exemption without having to sign an IOV.

All the beneficiaries who have inherited the goods should complete and sign the declaration to show whether all or some of the goods are being given to charity and which charity or charities are going to benefit.

If the deceased died on or after 6 April 2012 you must provide HMRC with evidence that the charity knows which goods you're giving to it. Copies of an exchange of letters showing the charity knows it's to receive, or has received, the goods is sufficient. If you're donating the goods to a local charity shop a copy of the receipt for the goods is sufficient.

Schedule of items

If some, but not all, of the goods are being given to charity, the beneficiaries making the gift should complete the schedule of items to show which items are being gifted and the value of those items.

All the items donated to charity in this way should also be included in Schedule IHT407.

The amount of Charity Exemption claimed should be shown in box 92 on form IHT400.

Schedule IHT409

Pensions

Personal pension policies replaced annuity contracts from 1 July 1988. Where we refer to personal pension policies this also applies to retirement annuity contracts.

If the deceased owned a retirement annuity contract, complete Schedule IHT409 as if it were a personal pension policy.

Registered or non-registered pension schemes

For Income Tax purposes, pension schemes and personal pension policies can be registered with HMRC to enable tax privileged saving. The scheme papers or policy documents should indicate if the scheme is registered. If they do not, the Scheme Administrator will be able to tell you. If the benefits are payable under a scheme that's not registered with HMRC, give details (in the 'Additional information' boxes on page 19 on form IHT400) of benefits payable under the scheme and those taken by the deceased as well as answering the questions on Schedule IHT409.

If you want to discuss a particular situation with us, phone the helpline on 0300 123 1072.

Continuing pension payments

In most cases, the payment of a pension or other benefit will stop when the person entitled to it dies. In some cases, the pension may be guaranteed for a fixed period and the person entitled to it dies before the end of that period. The payments may then continue to be paid to the estate. The value of the right to receive the remainder of the payments should be included on this Schedule and on form IHT400.

Death benefits

Some pension schemes or personal pension policies pay out a lump sum benefit when the person dies. Since April 2015 many pensions also allow the funds remaining in a pension to pass to a beneficiary as a flexi-access drawdown fund. Both lump sums and flexi-access drawdown funds are forms of 'death benefit'.

The death benefits are an asset of the deceased's estate for inheritance tax purposes and should be included on form IHT400 if:

- they are payable to the deceased's personal representative, either by right or because there is no one else who qualifies for the payment
- the deceased could, right up until their death, have signed a binding 'nomination' (either for the first time or after having revoked an existing 'nomination') that obliged the trustees of the pension scheme to make the payment to the person named by the deceased

Letter of wishes

A binding nomination is different from a 'letter of wishes'. A letter of wishes records what the deceased would like to happen with the death benefit and does not bind the trustees of the pension scheme to follow the deceased's wishes.

Transfers of or changes to pension benefits

It's important to find out whether or not the deceased could bind the trustees with a nomination. Many pension schemes and policies provide a form that's called a nomination, but which usually goes on to say that the trustees are not bound to follow the deceased's wishes. If the deceased signed such a form, they have signed a letter of wishes and not a binding nomination.

Most pension schemes and personal pension policies allow the member to transfer or dispose of the death benefits and to make changes to the benefits that they are entitled to under the scheme or policy. Usually, the member can:

- nominate or appoint the death benefits to someone else
- assign the death benefits into a trust
- make changes to the pension benefits they intend to take and when they intend to take them (some examples of the sort of changes that might be made are in the next section)

If the deceased transferred pension benefits, made a nomination, appointment or assignment or made any changes to the pension benefits in the 2 years before they died, there may be a liability to Inheritance Tax. If this applies, complete the section headed 'Transfers of and changes to pension benefits'.

'Income drawdown' is a particular situation where the deceased has reached pension age but has chosen not to buy an annuity that will provide their pension. Instead, they decide to 'draw' a certain level of income from the retirement fund with a view to buying an annuity at a later date.

'Phased retirement' is where the deceased has divided their pension entitlement into a series of segments and has agreed with their pension provider a plan on retirement to take so many segments each year.

Examples of changes to benefits

Some examples of changes in benefit that might be made are where the deceased reached pension age and:

- decided not to take the payment of their pension at that time or chose to take 'income drawdown'
- having chosen to take 'income drawdown' decided at a later date (and whilst in ill health) to reduce the level of income taken
- having chosen to take 'phased retirement,' decides at a later date (and whilst in ill health) to reduce the number of segments taken

Where the deceased has given away any benefits, or has made some changes to the benefits they were entitled to, it's possible that they may have made a transfer of value. Enter the details we ask for above on Schedule IHT409 and we'll look at what you've said after the grant has been issued. If we think there has been a transfer of value, we'll discuss the value with you.

If you wish to include your own value for the benefits given away, enter a figure on Schedule IHT403, 'Gifts and other transfers of value'. Use the 'Additional information' boxes on page 19 on form IHT400 to show how you've arrived at your value.

Valuing the benefits given away

The value of the benefits given away or the impact of the changes made will depend to a large extent on the deceased's health at the date of the transfer, nomination, appointment or change. Provide some evidence of the deceased's state of health and life expectancy at that time so we can establish the value. A letter from the deceased's doctor is the best sort of evidence.

If getting a letter from the deceased's doctor will delay your application for a grant, you do not have to have it before you send form IHT400 to us. However, we'll need to see the letter as soon as you receive it after the grant has been issued.

Contributions to a pension scheme within 2 years of death

Contributions to a pension scheme by the scheme member or their employer may be a transfer of value (gift) if the contributions are made when the scheme member is in ill health.

Schedule IHT411

Listed stocks and shares

Dividends and interest

Include in boxes 1 and 2 any dividends and interest on the assets that were due at the date of death, but have not yet been paid. More information on the different types of dividends payable and what to include can be found in 'How to value the assets' on page 71 of this guide.

Unit trusts

When you're filling in Schedule IHT411, enter the full name of the unit trust, for example, 'AXA Equity and Law Unit Trust Managers', 'Pacific Basin Trust Accumulation Units'.

Newspapers do not show dividends due on unit trusts. You'll need to ask the fund managers what you should include as the declared dividend.

Personal Equity Plans (PEPs)

If the deceased owned a PEP you should get a valuation from the PEP managers. Enclose it with the schedule and enter 'see attached valuation' on the appropriate part. Copy the value of the shares in the PEP to the appropriate column, but do not include any deductions for managers' fees. If you cannot get a valuation, list the shares held in the PEP on the form and value them in the same way as other shares. You must include a figure for any uninvested cash held in the PEP with the value for the shares.

Individual Savings Accounts (ISAs)

Only shares listed on a recognised stock exchange may be held in an ISA. If the deceased held any shares in an ISA that are listed on a market HMRC defines as 'listed' include them in box 2 on Schedule IHT411.

Include any shares listed on a market that HMRC does not regard as 'listed' on Schedule IHT412. You can find a list of markets defined as 'listed' or 'not listed' for HMRC purposes, go to www.gov.uk/guidance/recognised-stock-exchanges

List the shares on the schedule and value them in the same way as other shares. You must include a figure for any uninvested cash held in the ISA but do not include any other cash or insurance policies held in an ISA with the value of the shares.

Put cash held in an ISA in box 1 on Schedule IHT406, 'Bank and building society accounts and National Savings and Investments'. Shares listed on a foreign stock exchange may also be held in an ISA. You should include foreign shares (other than those listed on the London Stock Exchange) on Schedule IHT417, 'Foreign assets'.

UK government and municipal securities

1

This box should be used to list all UK government and municipal securities, including:

- Treasury Stock, Exchequer Stock, Convertible Stock, Consolidated Stock and Loan, Funding Stock, Savings Bonds, Victory Bonds, War Loans
- government stock held on the British Government Stock Register
- all UK municipal securities, mortgages, debentures and stock in counties, cities or towns, dock, harbour and water boards, Port of London Authority, Agricultural Mortgage Corporation and Northern Ireland municipal stock

Listed stocks, shares and investments

2

All stocks, shares, debentures and other securities listed on the Stock Exchange Daily Official List and other markets regarded as 'listed' by HMRC should be listed in these boxes.

These include:

- unit trusts
- investment trusts
- Open-Ended Investment Companies
- shares held in an Individual Savings Account
- foreign shares listed on a UK Stock Exchange

Box 2 should be used for holdings of listed shares that did not give the deceased control of the company.

If the deceased held shares that gave them control of the company they should be shown on Schedule IHT412, 'Unlisted stocks and shares and control holdings'.

Schedule IHT412 Unlisted stocks and shares, and control holdings

Valuing unlisted shares

Information on how to value unlisted shares is given in 'How to value the assets' on page 71 of this guide.

We'll usually ask HMRC, Shares and Assets Valuation to consider the value of unlisted shares; their helpline number is 0300 123 1082.

Traded unlisted stocks and shares

- 1** You should include shares listed on a market that does not meet the definition of 'listed' for HMRC purposes in these boxes.
and
4 Shares which did not give the deceased control of the company should be listed in box 1.

Shares which did give the deceased control of the company should be listed in box 4.

You can find a list of the markets that are defined as 'listed' or 'not listed' for HMRC purposes, go to www.gov.uk/guidance/recognised-stock-exchanges

Unlisted stocks, shares and investments

- 2** You should include the following shares in these boxes:
and
3
- unlisted shares and securities in private limited companies
 - shares held in a Business Expansion Scheme (BES) or in a Business Start-up Scheme (BSS)

Shares which did not give the deceased control of the company should be listed in box 2.

Shares which did give the deceased control of the company should be listed in box 3.

Listed stocks, shares and investments that gave the deceased control of the company

- 5** You should include the following in this box. All stocks, shares, debentures and other securities listed on the Stock Exchange Daily Official List and other markets HMRC regards as 'listed' which gave the deceased control of the company.

Business Relief

If you want to deduct Business Relief from unlisted stocks and shares, and control holdings of listed stocks and shares you should read the notes in this guide for Schedule IHT413, 'Business and partnership interests and assets'.

Business Relief and gifts of unlisted stocks and shares, and control holdings

For Business Relief to apply to a gift of unlisted stocks and shares, and control holdings, the following additional special rules apply:

- the shares must have been owned by the person receiving the gift from the date of gift to the date the transferor died
- the share must not have been subject to a binding contract for sale at the date of death
- the shares would have qualified for Business Relief if the person receiving the gift had made a transfer of the shares at the date of death

The last rule does not apply to control holdings of listed shares or shares which were unlisted at the date of gift and remained unlisted throughout the period between the gift and the death of the deceased (or death of the person who received the gift, if they died first).

Schedule IHT413

Business and partnership interests and assets

You must fill in Schedule 413, 'Business and partnership interests and assets' if the deceased owned either:

- a business or part of a business
- an asset used in a business and you're deducting Business Relief

If necessary, complete a separate form for each business partnership or asset used in a business. For more information on Business Relief go to www.gov.uk/inheritance-tax or phone our helpline on 0300 123 1072.

For Business Relief on shares use Schedule IHT412, 'Unlisted stocks and shares, and control holdings' instead of Schedule IHT413.

When is Business Relief available?

The relief is available for transfers of certain types of business, business assets and shares. The deceased must have owned the assets for a minimum period, generally 2 years, and the assets must also qualify under a number of other rules.

What is the rate of relief?

If the asset qualifies for relief, the rate at which relief is allowed is shown in the table on page 37 of this guide. The relief is given by deducting the relevant percentage of the capital value of the asset.

If the asset qualifies for 100% or 50% relief, you should include the value of the asset in box 69 on form IHT400. You should deduct the relief using the same figure in box 93 on form IHT400.

For deaths on and after 6 April 2026, relief at 100% on the combined value of qualifying agricultural and/or business property is limited to £2.5 million. This value will include any gifts of qualifying property made on or after 30 October 2024 and within 7 years of the death and other property (including trust property) that is treated as part of the estate. Where the total value of qualifying property exceeds £2.5 million, the excess will qualify for relief at 50%.

Unused £2.5 million allowance from a late spouse or civil partner may be transferred to the deceased's estate, provided that a claim is made within 4 years of the survivor's death or within 6 months of the personal representatives starting their role.

Rate of relief table

Type of interest in the business	Date of death on or after 6 April 2026	Date of death on or after 6 April 1996	between 10 March 1992 and 5 April 1996 inclusive	Date of death between 17 March 1987 and 9 March 1992 inclusive
Business or interest in a business	100% (up to £2.5 million)	100%	100%	50%
Control holdings of shares in an 'unlisted' company	100% (up to £2.5 million), 50% (above £2.5 million)	100%	100%	50%
Substantial holdings in an 'unlisted' company	100% (up to £2.5 million), 50% (above £2.5 million)	100%	100%	50%
Other shares in an 'unlisted' company	100% (up to £2.5 million), 50% (above £2.5 million)	100%	50%	30%
Other shares traded on non-listed or overseas exchanges (treated as unlisted for Business Relief purposes)	50%	100%	50%	30%
Control holdings of shares in a 'listed' company	50%	50%	50%	50%
Land, buildings or plant and machinery used in a business	50%	50%	50%	30%
Land, buildings or plant and machinery held in a trust	50%	50%	50%	30%

Definitions

Listed company

A company that's listed on a recognised stock exchange and the market meets the definition of 'listed' for HMRC purposes. .

Unlisted company

A company that's not listed on a market that meets the HMRC definition of 'listed'. You can find a list of markets that are defined as 'listed' or 'not listed' for HMRC purposes, go to www.gov.uk/guidance/recognised-stock-exchanges

For deaths from 6 April 2026 only shares that are not listed on any market can qualify for 100% Business Relief, subject to the limits in the table above.

Phone our helpline if the date of death, or date of gift, is before 10 March 1992 and the deceased owned shares listed on the USM.

Control holding

A holding of stocks and shares that gives a person control of a company. For Inheritance Tax, a person controls a company if they can control the majority (more than 50%) of the voting powers on all questions affecting the company as a whole.

Substantial holding

A holding of stocks and shares that gives the owner more than 25% of the voting powers on all questions affecting the company as a whole.

Used in a business

Land, buildings or plant and machinery will only qualify for Business Relief if it's used in a business in which the deceased was a partner at the date of death or if it was used by a company that was controlled by the deceased.

Held in trust

Land, buildings or plant and machinery held in trust will only qualify for Business Relief if the deceased had the right to benefit from the trust and the asset was used in a business carried on by the deceased.

Valuing a business

Information on how to value the business is given on page 76 of this guide.

Ownership, contract for sale and business interests details

1

Ownership

If you've answered 'No' to this question, the deceased has not owned the assets for long enough to qualify for Business Relief. However, there are rules where Business Relief may still be available. These rules apply where either:

- the deceased inherited the asset on death
- the asset has replaced other assets that qualified for Business Relief

To find more information about this, go to www.gov.uk/inheritance-tax or phone our helpline on 0300 123 1072.

3

Contract for sale

If the business or business interest was subject to a binding contract for sale at the date of death, Business Relief will not normally be due unless either of the 2 conditions given at box 6 applies.

Business Relief on lifetime gifts of business and partnership interests and assets

Complete this section if you're deducting Business Relief in connection with a lifetime gift as at the date of gift. You must answer each of the questions so we can decide if the relief is due.

On the form we refer to the period between the date of gift and the date the deceased died as the 'relevant period'.

You must consider whether, if the person who received the gift had made a transfer of the property at the date of death, the transfer would have qualified for Business Relief, known as a 'notional transfer'.

Note

If the conditions for both Agricultural Relief and Business Relief are met, Agricultural Relief is allowed in preference to Business Relief. Business Relief may apply to any excess value not qualifying for Agricultural Relief.

Schedule IHT414

Agricultural Relief

When is Agricultural Relief available?

Agricultural Relief is available for transfers of agricultural property and certain shareholdings in farming companies. There are 3 basic rules:

- 1 the property must be agricultural property
- 2 the deceased must have occupied or owned the property for a minimum number of years
- 3 the property must have been used for agricultural purposes

For the purposes of Agricultural Relief, agricultural property is agricultural land or pasture in the UK, and for charges on deaths and other transfers before 6 April 2024, the European Economic Area, Channel Islands or the Isle of Man, used in the growing of crops or intensive rearing of animals for food consumption. Any lifetime transfers of property in the Channel Islands, Isle of Man and European Economic Area made before 6 April 2024 will continue to benefit from the relief if the individual dies within 7 years of the transfer.

It also includes any farmhouses, cottages or buildings that are of a 'character appropriate' to the property. This means that they must be proportionate in size and nature to the requirements of the farming activities conducted on the agricultural land or pasture in question.

For deaths on and after 6 April 2026, relief at 100% on the combined value of qualifying agricultural and/or business property is limited to £2.5 million. This value will include any gifts of qualifying property made on or after 30 October 2024 and within 7 years of the death and other property (including trust property) that is treated as part of the estate. Where the total value of qualifying property exceeds £2.5 million, the excess will only qualify for relief at 50%.

Unused £2.5 million allowance from a late spouse or civil partner may be transferred to the deceased's estate, provided that a claim is made within 4 years from the end of the month in which the survivor dies, or within 6 months of the personal representatives starting their role.

What is the rate of relief?

The relief is calculated by deducting the relevant percentage of the capital value of the asset. So, if the property qualifies for 100% relief, you should include the value of the assets in box 68 on form IHT400. You should deduct the relief using the same figure in box 93. If it qualifies for 50% relief, include the value of the assets in box 68 and deduct the relief using half of that figure in box 93.

	Date of death on or after 10 March 1992
Land with vacant possession	100% (up to the relief allowance amount, 50% thereafter)
Land that's let	50%
Land that was let after 31 August 1995	100% (up to the relief allowance amount, 50% thereafter)

There are some circumstances where the higher rate of relief can apply to land that's let.

It's possible that the relief may be available at the higher rate if the land was subject to a tenancy that began before 10 March 1981. There are 3 other conditions that apply. They are that:

- the deceased has owned the land since 10 March 1981
- the land would have qualified for full Agricultural Relief under the law at that date
- the deceased did not have and could not have had the right to vacant possession between 10 March 1981 and the date of death

Give full details of the reasons why you think this applies in this case in the 'Any other information' box on page 4.

Note

If the conditions for both Agricultural Relief and Business Relief are met, Agricultural Relief is allowed in preference to Business Relief. Business Relief may apply to any excess value not qualifying for Agricultural Relief.

The rules on Agricultural Relief are complicated and you can find more information on our website. Go to www.gov.uk/inheritance-tax

Binding contract for sale

- 3 If, before the deceased died, all or part of the property was subject to a binding contract for sale where contracts have been exchanged (or in Scotland, when missives have been concluded) but the sale had not been completed, Agricultural Relief will not be due. You should give details of the sale, and clearly identify the part of the property that was sold on the plan you supply.

Use of agricultural land

- 5 Describe the agricultural activities carried out by each occupier. State whether it was:
- an arable, pastoral or mixed farm
 - the type of crops usually grown
 - the type of livestock that grazed the land

If a variety of livestock grazed the land, give us some idea about the number of animals and acreage used by each type.

Tell us if the agricultural activity stopped at any time. State when this happened and why.

For deaths and other transfers of value before 6 April 2025 Agricultural Relief may still be due if the property was managed under an agro-environmental or habitat scheme arrangement.

For deaths and other transfers of value from 6 April 2025, the environmental value of land managed under a qualifying environmental land management agreement will be eligible for Agricultural Relief.

Relief will be available for land managed under an environmental agreement with, or on behalf of, the UK government, devolved administrations, public bodies, local authorities, or approved responsible bodies.

6 Describe the agricultural activities carried out by the deceased. State whether it was:

- an arable, pastoral or mixed farm
- the type of crops usually grown
- the type of livestock that grazed the land

If a variety of livestock grazed the land, give us some idea about the number of animals and acreage used by each type.

If the deceased was granted a grazing licence or grass keep (conacre in Northern Ireland), provide a copy of the licence if there is one, or give full details of the grazing licence in box 5.

You should also tell us if the deceased left the property or stopped the agricultural activity. State when this happened and why.

For deaths and other transfers of value before 6 April 2025 Agricultural Relief may still be due if the property was managed under an agro-environmental or habitat scheme arrangement.

For deaths and other transfers of value from 6 April 2025, the environmental value of land managed under a qualifying environmental land management agreement will be eligible for Agricultural Relief.

Relief will be available for land managed under an environmental agreement with, or on behalf of, the UK government, devolved administrations, public bodies, local authorities, or approved responsible bodies.

Farmhouses and cottages

12 to 15 We need full details of all the houses and cottages from which you're deducting Agricultural Relief. If you need more space, download or photocopy extra copies of page 3 of Schedule IHT414.

Agricultural Relief and lifetime transfers

17 to 20 If you're claiming Agricultural Relief on a gift you must answer questions 17 to 20 to help us decide if the relief is due.

Schedule IHT418 Assets held in trust

Deceased's interest in possession

You must complete Schedule IHT418 if the deceased had an interest in possession and the trust is one of the following:

- a trust that was set up before 22 March 2006 from which the deceased was entitled to benefit
- an immediate post-death interest
- a disabled person's interest
- a transitional serial interest

All these interests are explained at pages 15 and 16 of this guide.

Deceased's interest in possession

If the deceased had a right to benefit from settled property and all the assets are overseas, you only need to complete Sections A and E if the deceased died before 6 April 2025, or the person who created the trust died before 6 April 2025, and the person who created the trust was domiciled outside the UK when the trust was created and when any assets were added to the trust.

In all other cases both of the following must apply:

- the deceased was not a long-term UK resident immediately before their death
- the person who set up the trust was not a long-term UK resident when the deceased died, or if the person who set up the trust has died before the deceased, they were not a long-term UK resident immediately before their death

Who should tell us about a trust?

The trustees of the trust must give us full details of assets and liabilities that make up the trust and who must pay any Inheritance Tax that's due.

However, we need to know the total net value of settled property to be included in the estate so that we can work out the total tax that's due. In certain circumstances the trustees will pay the tax at the same time as you apply for a grant. This may happen where the trustees and the personal representatives are the same people.

If this applies here, give full details of all the assets and liabilities on the Schedule IHT418 and send us a copy of the deed of trust. If the trustees and the personal representatives are the same people and you give us details of the settled property, we may ask for a formal account to be completed and signed by the trustees. We'll only do this in exceptional circumstances.

If the trustees and the personal representatives are different people or if you've only been able to give brief details on Schedule IHT418, we'll ask the trustees to complete a separate account (IHT100b death).

Assets in the trust

If you have full details of the assets held in trust you can give us those details at boxes D2 and D3. If you need more space to list the assets, you can use the 'Any other information' box on page 11 of Schedule IHT418. Liabilities that relate to the assets can be shown in boxes H1 and H2. Go to page 78 of this guide for information about exemptions and reliefs.

How to value assets held in trust

The rules for valuing settled property are the same as the rules for valuing assets owned by the deceased. For more information on valuing assets, go to pages 71 to 77 of this guide.

Insurance policies held on trust

You should make sure that under the terms of the policy the deceased's interest is one of the interests where the value of the trust should be included as part of their estate for Inheritance Tax purposes. If this is the case, tell us:

- the names and addresses of the trustees
- the value of the deceased's interest in the policy

Attach a copy of the policy.

Future right to assets in a trust

19

to

23

The deceased may have been entitled to some assets in a trust but someone else is receiving the benefit from them during that person's life.

The deceased's estate will not receive the assets until after the other person has died. This is also known as a 'reversionary interest' or an 'interest in expectancy'. Tax will only be due on this future right in rare circumstances and you should answer question 20 to see if the value should be included in form IHT400 or not.

Schedule IHT420

National Heritage assets - Conditional Exemption and maintenance funds

Conditional Exemption

Fill in Schedule IHT420 to:

- claim Conditional Exemption
- claim exemption for a transfer into a maintenance fund
- give details of any asset in the estate which has at any previous time either
 - been granted Conditional Exemption from Inheritance Tax, Estate Duty or Capital Gains Tax on the grounds that they were national heritage assets
 - been supported by a maintenance fund

Conditional Exemption from Inheritance Tax is available for transfers of assets that are of significance to the UK's history and culture.

The exemption must be claimed within 2 years after the deceased's death, unless there are exceptional circumstances. This means that Inheritance Tax is not paid when the asset passes to a new owner on death

or by way of a gift. To qualify for the exemption the new owner must agree steps to look after the item, allow public access to it without prior appointment and, if it's moveable, keep it in the UK. If the new owner dies or disposes of the property, by sale or gift or otherwise, or does not keep to the agreement, tax will normally become chargeable. But tax would not be chargeable if either:

- a donee or legatee replaces the agreement
- the sale was by private treaty to an approved national institution such as the British Museum or National Trust
- the property was accepted in lieu of Inheritance Tax or donated under the cultural gift scheme

What items qualify for Conditional Exemption?

A wide range of heritage assets may qualify for the exemption:

- land of outstanding scenic, historic or scientific interest such as an Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty, a famous battlefield or a Site of Special Scientific Interest
- buildings of outstanding historic or architectural interest
- land essential for the protection of the character and amenities of such a building
- objects historically associated with such a building
- pictures, prints, books, manuscripts, works of art or scientific objects and other objects that do not yield income, which are pre-eminent for their national, scientific, historic or artistic interest in their own right

Who decides what items qualify?

HMRC decides if an item qualifies for Conditional Exemption with assistance and advice from the government's heritage advisory bodies.

What other schedules do I need?

As well as filling in Schedule IHT420, you'll also need to fill in other schedules to give full details of the assets concerned.

Land and buildings

The value of any land or buildings which are already conditionally exempt, which are supported by maintenance funds or on which Conditional Exemption is now being claimed should be shown in the appropriate box on pages 7 and 8 of form IHT400. Deduct the amount of exemption you're claiming at box 93. You should also fill in Schedule IHT405, 'Houses, land, buildings and interests in land' with full details of the land or buildings concerned.

Heritage assets and Agricultural or Business Relief

If an estate includes assets that qualify for both heritage conditional exemption and Agricultural or Business Relief, it's important to understand how to apply the correct Inheritance Tax relief.

For deaths on and after 6 April 2026, relief at 100% on the combined value of qualifying agricultural and/or business property is limited to £2.5 million. Where the total value of qualifying property exceeds £2.5 million, the excess will qualify for relief at 50%.

Unused £2.5 million allowance from a late spouse or civil partner may be transferred to the deceased's estate, provided that a claim is made within 4 years of the survivor's death or within 6 months of the personal representatives starting their role.

If an asset qualifies for heritage exemption, this usually takes priority and gives full exemption from Inheritance Tax, so Agricultural or Business Relief is not needed. You cannot claim both reliefs on the same value – choose the one that gives the best outcome

Chattels

The value of any chattels which are already conditionally exempt, which are the objects of maintenance funds or on which Conditional Exemption is now being claimed should be shown in box 55 of form IHT400. Deduct the amount of exemption you're claiming at box 92. You should also fill in Schedule IHT407, 'Household and personal goods' with full details of the chattels concerned.

Assets passing under the deceased's will to the trustees of a maintenance fund

Maintenance funds are trust funds that HMRC has approved for the maintenance of outstanding land or buildings and any amenity land or historically associated contents which would qualify for Conditional Exemption. Exemption from Inheritance Tax is available for outright transfers of certain property to maintenance funds. The exemption must be claimed within 2 years after the deceased's death, except in exceptional circumstances.

If any money or other assets are passing under the terms of the deceased's will to a maintenance fund and you wish to claim exemption from Inheritance Tax, you should enter the value of the money or assets in the appropriate boxes on pages 7 and 8 of form IHT400. The amount of exemption claimed should be deducted at box 93, if the assets are land or buildings, or box 92 for all other assets. In the case of non-cash assets you should also fill in the appropriate schedule giving full details of the assets concerned.

If you want more information on heritage assets or Conditional Exemption, go to www.gov.uk/inheritance-tax or email the heritage team at mailpoint.f@hmrc.go.uk

Where can I get more information?

Filling in form IHT400 (pages 7 to 16) - estate in the UK

Assets on which tax may or may not be paid by instalments

You must fill in pages 7 to 10 with details of all the deceased's assets and liabilities. These pages are divided into 2 columns labelled column A and column B. The Inheritance Tax on all assets shown in column A must be paid before you can get a grant of representation (or confirmation in Scotland). The Inheritance Tax on assets in column B may be paid in 10 annual instalments (that is, one instalment each year for 10 years) provided that the assets concerned have not been sold. You'll have to pay interest on the instalments.

After you've filled in pages 7 to 10 you'll be able to decide, at box 110, if you wish to pay the tax on the assets in column B by instalments.

Jointly owned assets, page 7

49 and 50 You must include the value of the deceased's share of all jointly owned assets in boxes 49 and 50. You'll also need to give full details of these on Schedule IHT404, 'Jointly owned assets'. There is more information about jointly owned assets on page 26 of this guide.

You must include the value of all the assets described in boxes 51 to 76 that were owned in the UK by the deceased in their own name when they died.

Assets owned outright by the deceased, pages 7 and 8

51 **Deceased's residence (except farmhouses and jointly owned houses)**
Include the value of the deceased's home. If the deceased's home is a farmhouse on which you're deducting Agricultural Relief, do not include it here. Include it at box 68 instead. If the deceased had moved to a nursing or other residential home before they died and their home was vacant, include the value of the house here and not box 70. If the deceased's residence was let at the date of death, include it at box 70 and not at box 51.

You must also fill in Schedule IHT405, 'Houses, land, buildings and interests in land' giving full details of the deceased's home if it was let, or a farmhouse. If the deceased's residence was jointly owned, include it in box 49 and fill in IHT404, 'Jointly owned assets'.

52 **Bank and building society accounts**
List each account or investment on Schedule IHT406, 'Bank and building society accounts and National Savings and Investments' (or form C1, 'Inventory' in Scotland) and include in this box the total for:

- current, deposit, high interest, fixed interest, term, bond and money market accounts with a bank, building society, mutual, friendly or co-operative society
- accounts with supermarkets or insurance companies
- National Savings Bank accounts
- TESSA accounts
- cash in an Individual Savings Account (ISA)

How to value bank and building society accounts

The bank or building society will be able to tell you how much was in each account when the deceased died and how much interest was due, but not paid, up to the date of death. If you have separate figures for capital and interest, add them together on Schedule IHT406. Business bank accounts should not be entered on Schedule IHT406, they should be included in box 69 on page 8 of the IHT400 and Schedule IHT413, 'Business and partnership interests and assets'.

53 Cash

Include in this box:

- any cash held by the deceased or kept at home or elsewhere such as safe deposit boxes
- cash held for the deceased by someone else - for example, a stockbroker
- traveller's cheques
- any uncashed cheques made out to the deceased

Sterling traveller's cheques should be included at face value. If the traveller's cheques are in one of the major foreign currencies, convert them to sterling using the closing mid-price at the date of death. You can find currency conversions in the financial pages of a daily newspaper or you may also find this information on the internet.

54 Premium Bonds and National Savings and Investments products

List each investment separately on Schedule IHT406, 'Bank and building society accounts and National Savings and Investments' (or form C1, 'Inventory' in Scotland) and include in this box the total for all the investments.

You can find out the value of all National Savings investments by visiting www.nsandi.com, or by phoning the National Savings and Investments general enquiry line on 08085 007 007. If you obtain separate figures for capital and for interest owed, but not paid, up to the date of death, add them together on Schedule IHT406.

55 Household and personal goods

Enter in box 55 the total value of all household goods and personal possessions which have been listed on Schedule IHT407, 'Household and personal goods' and copy the figure from box 6 on that schedule into box 55 on form IHT400.

56 Pensions

Enter in box 56 the total of the figures in boxes 7 and 15 of Schedule IHT409, 'Pensions', plus the value of any pension arrears due to the deceased from the last monthly payments to the date of death.

57 Life assurance and mortgage protection policies

Enter in box 57 the total amount payable:

- from life assurance policies, including bonuses
- under mortgage protection policies (you can find out more about joint mortgage protection policies on page 26 of this guide)
- under unit-linked investment schemes that pay 101% of the unit value on death

- under investment or reinvestment plans, bonds or contracts with a financial services provider that pay out on death
- for the value of the deceased's interest in joint life insurance policies under which the deceased was one of the lives insured, but that remain in force after the death
- for the value of insurance policies on the life of another person but under which the deceased was to benefit
- from insurance policies that are part of an ISA
- under private medical insurance to cover hospital or other health charges incurred before death

Fill in Schedule IHT410, 'Life assurance and annuities' to give details of each insurance policy.

62 UK government and municipal securities

Enter in box 62 the total value for:

- Treasury Stock, Exchequer Stock, Convertible Stock, Consolidated Stock and Loan, Funding Stock, Savings Bonds, Victory Bonds, War Loans
- government stock held on the Bank of England Register (previously held on the National Savings Register)
- cities or towns, dock, harbour and water boards, Port of London Authority, Agricultural Mortgage Corporation, Northern Ireland municipal stock

Fill in Schedule IHT411, 'Listed stocks and shares' to give details of each investment. Copy the figure from box 1 of that schedule to box 62 on form IHT400.

63 Listed stocks, shares and investments

Enter in box 63 the total value for:

- all stocks, shares, debentures and other markets that meet the HMRC definition of 'listed'
- unit trusts
- investment trusts
- Open-ended Investment Companies
- shares listed on a recognised stock exchange that are part of an ISA
- foreign shares that are listed on the London Stock Exchange

You can find a list of the markets that are defined as 'listed' or 'not listed' for HMRC purposes, go to www.gov.uk/recognised-stock-exchanges

Do not include listed shares that gave the deceased control of the company. Include those at box 67 instead.

There is guidance about how to value stocks and shares on page 71 of this guide.

You'll also need to fill in Schedule IHT411, 'Listed stocks and shares' listing all the deceased's stocks, shares and investments. Copy the figure from box 2 of that schedule to box 63 on form IHT400.

64 Dividends or interest on stocks, shares and securities

Enter in box 64 the total value of dividends and interest on assets in boxes 62, 63, 65, 66 and 67 due at the date of death but which had not yet been paid.

65 Traded unlisted and unlisted shares except control holdings

Where a company is listed on a UK or Foreign Exchange market that does not meet the HMRC definition of 'listed', its shares and securities are classified as unlisted.

Enter in box 65 the total value of:

- unlisted stocks and shares in private limited companies
- shares traded on other markets, including shares that are part of an ISA
- shares held in a BES or in a BSS

on which the deceased did not have control of the company.

Include the stocks and shares on Schedule IHT412, 'Unlisted stocks and shares, and control holdings'.

66 Instalments on shares

You may pay the tax on some traded unlisted and unlisted shares by instalments. Go to the notes on Schedule IHT412 about paying tax by instalments.

67 Control holdings of unlisted, traded unlisted and listed shares

Include in this box the total value for shares listed on a market that does not meet the definition of 'listed' for HMRC purposes, in which the deceased had control of the company.

Include the stocks and shares on Schedule IHT412, 'Unlisted stocks and shares, and control holdings'.

You can find a list of markets that are defined as 'listed' or 'not listed' for HMRC purposes, go to www.gov.uk/guidance/recognised-stock-exchanges

68 Farms, farmhouses and farmland

Include in this box the total value of farms, farmhouses and farmland on which you're deducting Agricultural Relief.

You must also fill in Schedule IHT405, 'Houses, land, buildings and interests in land' giving full details of the farms, farmhouses and farmland and Schedule IHT414, 'Agricultural Relief' to deduct Agricultural Relief.

69 Businesses including farm businesses, business assets and timber

Include the net value of the deceased's interest in a business in box 69.

If the deceased took part in more than one business, you may need to fill in a separate Schedule IHT413, 'Business and partnership interests and assets' for each business or partnership. Enter the total value of all the businesses in the appropriate box.

Farm business

Include in this box any assets that the deceased owned and were still used by the deceased for farming business activities.

Business property

Include the value of any property owned by the deceased from which they ran a business, either alone or in partnership (for example, a hotel, a shop, or a factory). If it was a farming business, include the value of the property in box 68.

Interest in a business

Include the net value of the deceased's interest in a business or a farming business. If the deceased was in partnership, enter the value in box 69. If the deceased took part in more than one business, you may need to fill in a separate Schedule IHT413, 'Business and partnership interests and assets' for each business interest.

Interest in the partnership

Include the net value of the deceased's interest in a partnership. If the deceased took part in more than one partnership, you may need to fill in a separate Schedule IHT413, 'Business and partnership interests and assets' for each partnership interest.

Business assets

Include here the value of any assets that the deceased owned and were used by the deceased for business activities.

Timber and woodland

Include the value of any timber and woodland owned by the deceased that's not part of a farm. Most farms will include coppices, small woods and belts of trees that shelter the land. Include these with the value for the farm in box 68.

70 Other land, buildings and rights over land

Include in this box the value of any other land, buildings or rights over land not included in boxes elsewhere.

These may include:

- rental properties
- lock-up garages
- redundant land
- derelict property
- quarries
- airfields
- fishing or other rights attached to land

Fill in Schedule IHT405, 'Houses, land, buildings and interests in land' with details of the land or property.

71 Interest in another estate

and

72

The deceased may have had the right to a legacy or share of an estate of someone who died before them. If the deceased died before receiving the full legacy or share from that estate, include a value in this box for the assets that they still have to receive. You'll need to fill in Schedule IHT415, 'Interest in another estate' to give details of this interest.

73 Debts due to the estate

Enter the total value of money:

- that the deceased had lent personally to someone and which had not been repaid at the date of death
- which the deceased had lent to trustees linked to a life assurance policy held in trust
- for which the deceased held a promissory note

- for which the deceased held an 'IOU'
- owing to the deceased from a director's loan account or current account with a company

You'll need to fill in Schedule IHT416, 'Debts due to the estate' to give details of each sum owed to the deceased.

Debts due to deceased and secured by mortgage

Enter the total amount of money the deceased had lent to someone that was secured by a mortgage and had not been repaid at the date of death. You'll need to fill in Schedule IHT416, 'Debts due to the estate' giving details of each mortgage.

74 Income Tax or Capital Gains Tax repayment

Enter in box 74 the total amount of any Income Tax or Capital Gains Tax actually repaid to the estate or a reasonable estimate of any sum that might be repayable to the deceased. An Income Tax repayment may be due if the deceased died early in the tax year and received a pension and other income where tax was deducted at source.

75 Trust income due to the deceased

Enter in this box income due to the deceased from a trust. This could be income that the trustees had received but not paid to the deceased or income that had accrued, but not been paid to the trustees.

For the purposes of answering this question it does not matter whether or not the value of the trust property is to be treated as part of the deceased's estate for Inheritance Tax purposes. The trustees of the trust should be able to tell you the figure to include in box 75.

76 Other assets and income due to the deceased

Enter in box 76 the total value of any other assets not listed in boxes 49 to 75 or income due to the deceased not paid at the date of death. Include here the gross amount of any rent from let property that was due to the deceased. Include the property itself separately on Schedule IHT405, 'Houses, land, buildings and interests in land'.

Other assets and income

Enter the total amount of:

- money owed in salary, wages or director's fees
- benefits (other than arrears of pension) due but unclaimed from the Department for Work and Pensions (include arrears of pension in box 56)
- any refunds from gas, electricity or water suppliers
- any insurance premium or licence refunds
- death benefits payable to the estate from an annuity, pension scheme or policy
- money due to the deceased from the sale of real and leasehold property where the contract for sale had been exchanged before the death but the sale had not been completed by the time the deceased died
- any other assets not included elsewhere
- any crypto assets that are considered to follow the location of their owner

Use the 'Additional information' box on page 17 to enter any other information.

Deductions from the estate incurred up to the date of death, pages 9 and 10

Deductions generally

Debts and liabilities that the deceased actually owed at the date they died may be deducted from the estate. Where the deceased died on or after 17 July 2013, there are some conditions that must be met before a liability can be deducted. The conditions are to do with:

- what the borrowed money was used for
- whether the money is actually repaid from the estate

If the liability does not meet the conditions, it may not be deducted from the estate. If the deceased died before 17 July 2013, these conditions do not apply.

Most liabilities are likely to be bills and debts owed for goods and services, credit cards etc. But there may also be debts owed to family members, family trusts and companies and debts used in connection with tax avoidance schemes. Not all of these different debts may be allowed as a deduction from the estate.

If a debt is specifically disallowed, you must not include it when filling in the form. Otherwise, you may include all other debts owed by the deceased at death. This is in the expectation that these debts will be repaid from the estate.

You do not need to provide any evidence that a debt has been repaid from the estate. We may ask you about particular debts once we've looked at the form and will tell you then what you need to do to show the debt has been repaid. If any debts are not subsequently repaid from the estate, then you need to tell us.

Deductions that cannot be allowed

If money was borrowed to acquire, maintain or enhance excluded property, it cannot be allowed as a deduction against the estate. This applies whether the debt is actually repaid or not and the same applies to a loan that was used to acquire, maintain or enhance property that has become excluded property.

But there is an exception to this rule if the excluded property has since been sold and the money received is now liable to tax, or if the excluded property itself has become liable to tax. If you think this exception applies and the debt is actually repaid out of the estate, you may include the debt. Say why you think the debt should be allowed on Schedule IHT419.

Deductions that may be allowed

A debt must actually be repaid from the assets of the estate before it may be allowed as a deduction from the estate. We expect that most debts will be repaid once the grant has been issued, so they can be included in box 80 or 82. But if you know that a debt is not going to be repaid, or only partly repaid, you should not include the debt on the form, or only include the part that will be repaid. If you include any debts on the form that are not subsequently repaid from the estate, then you need to tell us.

Deductions that are not repaid from the estate

If a debt is not repaid from the estate, there are certain circumstances in which it may still be allowed as a deduction. This is where there is:

- a real commercial reason for not repaying the debt
- not repaying the debt does not give rise to a tax advantage

Deductions used to acquire certain types of assets

If a debt is not going to be repaid but you think it can still be allowed you may include the debt. Say why you think the debt can be allowed in the 'Additional Information' box on page 19 of form IHT400.

If a liability that can be allowed as a deduction was used to acquire, enhance or maintain property that qualifies for Agricultural Relief, Business Relief, or Woodlands Relief and was incurred on or after 6 April 2013, you must deduct that liability from the property concerned before working out the amount of the relief that's due.

This applies whether or not the liability is actually secured against another property. If the liability exceeds the value of the property qualifying for the relief, you may still include the full liability as the excess will be allowed against the other assets.

80 Mortgages and secured loans

Include in this box any money that was secured by a mortgage on the buildings or land shown on pages 7 and 8 of form IHT400. If the same mortgage was secured on property in 2 or more of boxes 49 to 71, and at the same time an exemption or relief is due, that mortgage will have to be apportioned between the properties. Also, in the rare instance where there is only one property within the categories described by boxes 49 to 71, but part of that property is used wholly or mainly for business purposes and part is not, then the mortgage should normally be apportioned between the part of the property used for the business and the part that's not.

If the deceased had a mortgage protection policy, include the mortgage in box 80 and include the money due to the estate from the policy in box 57.

81 Funeral expenses

You may deduct funeral costs and reasonable mourning expenses. You may also deduct the cost of a headstone or tombstone marking the site of the deceased's grave.

These expenses may also include a reasonable amount to cover the cost of:

- flowers
- refreshments provided for the mourners after the service
- necessary expenses incurred by the executor or administrator in arranging the funeral

Use the space provided to give details of other costs that are being deducted.

82 Other liabilities

Only include debts that the deceased actually owed at the date they died and which meet the conditions for a debt to be deducted. You must not include fees for professional services carried out after death unless the fees were incurred in getting a refund of Income Tax or Capital Gains Tax and the refund is shown as an asset of the estate in box 74. This means that probate fees, any solicitor's or estate agent's fees and any valuation fees incurred in dealing with the deceased's estate cannot be deducted.

List all the debts owed by the deceased at the date they died. Fill in the name of the person or organisation that's owed the money and say briefly why the money is owed. If you include a deduction for solicitors' or accountants' fees, give the dates for the period during which the work was done. Add up the liabilities and enter the total in this box.

Loans

Fill in Schedule IHT419, 'Debts owed by the deceased' to give details of any loans made to the deceased. Give as much detail as you can to show that the loan may be allowed as a deduction.

Uncleared cheques

If you include cheques written by the deceased, but which had not cleared before they died, say who the cheques were written out to and for what goods or services. Uncleared cheques that were written by the deceased as gifts cannot be deducted as liabilities of the estate.

Money being repaid

Fill in Schedule IHT419, 'Debts owed by the deceased' to give details about money being repaid to relatives.

Guarantee debts

Fill in Schedule IHT419, 'Debts owed by the deceased' to give details about any guarantee debts.

Dealing with a deficit, page 10

85
and
86

If the figure in box 85 or 86 is a minus figure (because the liabilities on the assets in column A or column B were greater than the value of the assets) you can deal with the deficit as follows:

- if the figure in box 85 is a minus figure, write '0' in box 85 and deduct the deficit at box 88
- if the figure in box 86 is a minus figure, write '0' in box 86 and deduct the deficit at box 87
- if the figure at box 89 or 90 is a minus figure, write '0' in box 89 or 90 and deduct the deficit from the foreign property (if there is any) by adding the deficit to the liabilities in box 2 on Schedule IHT417, 'Foreign Assets'
- if the foreign property is also a deficit, write '0' in box 3 on Schedule IHT417
- if there is a deficit, box 96 should also be '0'

Exemptions and reliefs, page 10

92

Exemptions and reliefs deducted from assets in column A

You can find more information about exemptions and reliefs on page 78 of this guide. Most exemptions and reliefs apply to particular assets. So the amount of the exemption or relief is limited to the value of the asset after any liabilities have been taken away. These liabilities include not only any liabilities charged on the property in question, but also any liabilities which were incurred to acquire, enhance or maintain the value of any property on which you're claiming relief. Enter the exemption or relief to be deducted from the assets included in column A of pages 7 and 8 of form IHT400.

Some exemptions, for example, Charity Exemption, may apply to the estate as a whole. Where this applies, apportion the relief between the assets concerned, irrespective of how the legacy will be funded, so a proportion of the relief may apply to the assets in column A and the other part to the assets in column B. Do not deduct a transfer of unused nil rate band here, use box 116 instead.

Estate Duty paid on death of spouse

If the deceased had the right to benefit from a trust set up by the will or intestacy of a spouse or former spouse who died before 13 November 1974, the capital value is left out of the account if Estate Duty was paid or was treated as paid on the earlier death for those assets and the deceased was 'not competent to dispose' of the assets. For example, if the deceased was given the power to say how the settled property should be dealt with either during their lifetime or on their death, they would be competent to dispose of the assets and the exclusion would not apply.

Excluded property

For deaths on or after 6 April 2025, if the deceased was not a long-term UK resident immediately before their death and was not resident in the UK when they died, foreign currency bank accounts held with certain banks in the UK are 'excluded property'.

For deaths on or before 5 April 2025, foreign currency bank accounts were excluded property if the deceased was domiciled outside the UK and was not resident or ordinarily resident in the UK when they died.

A foreign currency account with any 'High Street' bank, such as Barclays or Royal Bank of Scotland will qualify. Foreign currency accounts with other banks such as:

- ANZ Grindlays Bank Plc
- Banque Nationale de Paris Plc
- Italian International Bank Plc
- Wesleyan Savings Bank Plc

will also qualify. Phone our helpline if you need to check whether or not a foreign currency account qualifies as 'excluded property'. Include the bank accounts in box 52 of form IHT400, but deduct the value in box 92.

Government securities may be excluded property if the deceased is not a UK resident and meets the qualifying conditions for these to be Free of Tax to Residents Abroad (FOTRA conditions). Include the securities in box 62 of form IHT400, but deduct the value in box 92.

If you're making a deduction for excluded property from the assets in a trust, any apportioned income included in box 74 is also exempt. However, the exemption does not apply to any accrued income that had not been paid to the deceased and is included in box 74.

Exemptions and reliefs deducted from the assets in column B

Most exemptions and reliefs apply to particular assets. So the amount of the exemption or relief is limited to the value of the asset after any liabilities have been taken away. These liabilities include not only any

liabilities charged on the property in question, but also any liabilities which were incurred to acquire, enhance or maintain the value of any property on which you're claiming relief. Enter the exemption or relief to be deducted from the assets included in column B of pages 7 and 8.

Some exemptions, for example, Charity Exemption, may apply to the estate as a whole. Where this applies, apportion the relief between the assets concerned, irrespective of how the legacy will be funded, so a proportion of the relief may apply to the assets in column A and the other part to the assets in column B. Do not deduct a transfer of unused nil rate band here, use box 116 instead.

If you're deducting Business or Agricultural Relief from an asset, you also need to fill in Schedule IHT413, 'Business or partnership interests and assets' or Schedule IHT414, 'Agricultural Relief' as appropriate.

Other assets taken into account to calculate the tax, page 11

99 and 100 Include in the boxes on page 11 all the other assets which need to be taken into account in order to calculate the Inheritance Tax.

Assets held in trust on which the trustees would like to pay the tax now

The trustees of a trust in which the deceased was entitled to a benefit may choose to pay the tax on that trust at the same time as the tax is paid on the deceased's estate. If that's the case, enter in box 99 or 100 the value of the assets held in the trust on which the tax is being paid now. Go to page 15 of this guide for more information on trusts.

101 Nominated assets

If the deceased, during their lifetime, made a 'nomination' that an asset was to pass to a particular person, enter the value of that asset, after deduction of exemptions, in box 101. The only assets that can be nominated in this way are deposits of up to £5,000 in friendly societies and industrial and provident societies or, before 1 March 1981, National Savings certificates and accounts.

Use the 'Additional information' boxes on page 19 in form IHT400 to give a description of the nominated assets and the name of the person who is to receive the assets and any exemption deducted.

105 Assets held in trust on which the trustees are not paying the tax now

If the trustees are going to pay the tax due on the trust separately, enter the value of the assets in trust. The value of the trust assets have to be added to the total value of the estate in order to work out the total Inheritance Tax due, but the trustees will be sent a separate calculation of the tax due on the trust.

If there is no Inheritance Tax to pay, you do not need to fill in boxes 109 to 119 on page 12.

109 Reduced rate of Inheritance Tax

Fill in Schedule IHT430, 'Reduced rate of Inheritance Tax' if the deceased died on or after 6 April 2012 and at least 10% of the person's net estate is left to a qualifying charity.

Working out the Inheritance Tax, page 12

You should also fill in Schedule IHT430 if you wish to elect to merge estate components or opt out of paying the reduced rate of Inheritance Tax. The form must be signed by all appropriate persons for each estate component that wish to merge estate components and all appropriate persons of any affected components who wish to opt out of paying the reduced rate.

You must send in Schedule IHT430 within 2 years of the deceased's death. An election to merge estate components or to opt out of the reduced rate of Inheritance Tax can be withdrawn by notice in writing to HMRC within 2 years and 1 month after the deceased's death and must be signed by all the appropriate persons affected.

If you're filling in form IHT400 without the help of a solicitor, another person licensed to provide probate services or other adviser you do not need to work out the tax due yourself, we can do it for you. But you do need to decide if you wish to pay some of the tax by instalments, if there are any assets in the estate shown in column B on pages 7 and 8.

Read the following information about paying Inheritance Tax by instalments and then answer question 110.

Paying Inheritance Tax by instalments

What are payments of Inheritance Tax by instalments?

Inheritance Tax due on certain assets may be paid by 10 annual instalments, that is, one instalment per year for 10 years.

Interest will normally be payable on each instalment.

On what type of assets can I pay by instalments?

You may pay by instalments on unsold:

- land and buildings (and machinery and plant that qualifies for Business Relief)
- Shares and securities that qualify for Business Relief (after any Business Relief has been deducted) and certain other shares and securities
- the net value of a business or an interest in a business (after any Business Relief has been deducted)
- timber

The most common asset on which you may pay the tax by instalments is the deceased's house.

The form IHT400 lists the assets on which tax may not be paid by instalments in column A on pages 7 and 8 and assets on which tax may be paid by instalments in column B on pages 7 and 8.

Do I have to pay by instalments on assets on which instalments are available?

No, you can choose to pay all of the tax on delivery of form IHT400, if you wish.

We'll ask you whether or not you wish to pay by instalments at box 110.

Some of the schedules are divided into assets on which tax may not be paid by instalments and assets on which tax may be paid by instalments.

You'll then have copied the figures from the schedules on to the form IHT400 into the correct columns.

On what type of shares can I pay the tax by instalments?

You may pay Inheritance Tax by instalments on shares or securities in a company if:

- they gave the deceased control of the company at the time of the transfer
- they are unlisted and you can show that the Inheritance Tax on their value could not be paid in one sum without undue hardship, or at least 20% of the tax for which the same person is liable, in the same capacity, is on assets (including the shares in question) that qualify for payment by instalments
- they are unlisted shares and their value is more than £20,000 and the shares represent at least 10% of the nominal value of the company's shares

These shares are shown in boxes 66 and 67 of the form IHT400, not boxes 62, 63 or 65.

Interest-free instalments

Interest is usually payable on instalments of Inheritance Tax, but there are a few assets which qualify for Interest Relief. They are:

- agricultural property that qualifies for Agricultural Relief
- shares and securities (except in investment companies)
- businesses or interests in businesses
- woodlands - where there is an Inheritance Tax charge on disposal
- land, buildings, machinery and plant which qualifies for Business Relief

Each instalment of Inheritance Tax on these assets is interest-free if it's paid before the due date. If it's paid after the due date, interest will be charged from the due date to the date of payment.

Instalments of tax

110 If you do not want to work out the tax yourself, indicate in box 110 the total value of the assets shown in column B on pages 7 and 8 of the IHT400 which are unsold and on which you wish to pay the tax by instalments. If there are no assets on which you wish to pay the tax by instalments, enter '0' in box 110 next to the '£' sign. If you're working out the tax yourself you'll be asked on form IHT400, 'Calculation' on which assets you're paying the tax by instalments.

Simple Inheritance Tax calculation

111 If the estate is straightforward and you want to pay all of the tax now, you may be able to use page 12 of form IHT400 to work out the tax.
119 Read the paragraph above box 111 to see if the simple calculation will work for you. If the simple calculation does not work for you, go to the form IHT400, 'Calculation' to work out the tax now, then continue with this form from box 120.

Direct Payment Scheme

120 There is a Direct Payment Scheme for banks, building societies, National Savings and Investments (NS&I), brokers and investment management firms.

Under the Direct Payment Scheme participating banks, building societies, NS&I, brokers and investment management firms will release funds from the deceased's accounts direct to HMRC to pay Inheritance Tax.

The accounts in question must be in the deceased's sole name, so you cannot use joint accounts for this method of payment.

Many banks, building societies, brokers and investment management firms are part of this scheme, but you should check with the organisations that held the deceased's funds before going any further.

If you wish to use this scheme you should identify yourself to the relevant organisation who you expect to give instructions to transfer money and prove that you're an appropriate personal representative.

Contact each organisation to find out what their requirements are for you to do this. We recommend that you do this well before you intend to apply for a grant of representation to avoid unnecessary delays later on.

You should fill in Direct Payment Scheme Schedule IHT423, for each organisation that will be making the transfer of funds. The amount to be transferred on Schedule IHT423 should not exceed the total IHT liability.

You should also use Schedule IHT423 to request brokers and investment management firms to sell all or part of the asset holdings in the deceased's account and request them to transfer the funds to us to pay the IHT due. They will not make any payments to the deceased's estate until they receive the original grant of probate.

Each organisation will conduct its own risk assessment and will usually ask for the original death certificate and any additional documentation before transferring funds to us to pay IHT.

You should send the completed schedules IHT423 direct to the organisations that will be making the transfers at the same time that you send form IHT400 to:

Inheritance Tax, HM Revenue and Customs, BX9 1HT.

The organisations will transfer the money to us. They will be able to tell you how long it should take them to make the transfer. Once we receive notification of the payment, we'll link the payment to your form IHT400.

If you have overpaid IHT, we will return the money to the organisation which submitted it from the deceased's account. We will not issue the repayment to the estate until a grant has been obtained.

121 All the people who will be named on the grant as executors or administrators must now carefully read the declarations and warnings on page 13 of the IHT400. Tick the boxes to say which type of grant you're applying for and which schedules you're including.

Declaration, page 13

Provisional estimates

List any values you've included in the form which are provisional.

If you've included provisional estimates in form IHT400 or on any of the schedules, it's your responsibility to tell us what the final figures are as soon as you know them.

Signatures

Each person should give their full name and address, sign and date the form in the spaces provided on page 14 of the IHT400.

In signing the form, each person confirms that they have read the declaration and warnings and that they agree that the information given in form IHT400, the schedules and any other supporting papers is correct.

HMRC will accept IHT400 forms that are not physically signed from both professional agents and unrepresented taxpayers. We will accept the forms from professional agents if:

- the names and personal details of the legal personal representatives are shown on the declaration page
- the account has been seen by all the legal personal representatives and they all agree to be bound by the declaration

The agent must include the following statement:

"As the agent acting on their behalf, I confirm that all the people whose names appear on the declaration page of this Inheritance Tax account have reviewed and seen the account and agreed to be bound by the declaration contained in the declaration section of form IHT400".

We will accept the forms from executors or administrators acting without the help of a professional agent if:

- the names and personal details of any other executors or administrators are shown on the declaration page
- the account has been seen by all the executors or administrators and they all agree to be bound by the declaration

Where there is more than one person acting for the estate you must include the following statement:

"As a legal personal representative acting for the estate, I confirm that all the people whose names appear on the declaration page of this Inheritance Tax account have reviewed and seen the account and agreed to be bound by the declaration contained in the declaration section of form IHT400."

Important: Failure to complete the declaration statements correctly will result in the IHT400 form being returned and may cause delays in processing your application.

Changes to the estate

If the value of any asset or debt changes, you must tell us. When you get in touch give our reference if you can, otherwise tell us the full name and date of death of the deceased. It's only necessary to tell us of changes which affect the tax payable. If the estate is exempt because it passes to the deceased's spouse or civil partner, it's only necessary to tell us about changes which result in Inheritance Tax being payable.

What to do after you've filled in form IHT400

Applying for a grant in Northern Ireland

If you're applying for a grant in Northern Ireland, fill in Schedule IHT421, 'Probate summary'. It tells the Probate Registry what values you've included on form IHT400. The Probate Registry needs this information before it can issue a grant. Fill in Schedule IHT421 after you've filled in and signed form IHT400.

Inheritance Tax may be payable before the IHT421 can be released and you can obtain the grant, in which case we will send you a unique code for your grant application. You cannot complete and submit your grant application until you have received a letter with a unique code. You can find more information about the amount of Inheritance Tax that must be paid on pages 7 and 68 of this guide.

Applying for a grant in England and Wales

If you're applying for a grant in England or Wales go to www.gov.uk/applying-for-probate/apply-for-probate and follow the instructions. Inheritance Tax may be payable before you can obtain the grant, in which case we will send you a unique code for your grant application. You cannot complete and submit your grant application until you have received a letter with a unique code. You can find more information about the amount of Inheritance Tax that must be paid on pages 7 and 68 of this guide.

Form C1, 'Inventory' – Scotland

If you're applying for a grant of confirmation in Scotland, fill in form C1, 'Inventory'. The Sheriff's Court needs the form before it can issue a grant. Inheritance Tax may be payable before the C1 can be released and you can obtain confirmation, in which case we will send you a confirmation code for your grant application. You cannot complete and submit your grant application until you have received a letter with a confirmation code. You can find more information about the amount of Inheritance Tax that must be paid on pages 7 and 68 of this guide.

When you've filled in and signed all the forms

When you've filled in and signed form IHT400 and filled in any schedules, or form C1, use the checklist on page 16 of the IHT400 to make sure that you've got all the papers that you need to send to us. Then follow the notes on pages 63 to 67 of this guide that apply to you.

Where to send the forms

You will usually need to send the IHT400 and schedule forms to us before you can apply for the grant. Send the papers to:

Inheritance Tax
HM Revenue and Customs
BX9 1HT

If you have completed a C1 'Inventory' (Scotland) send a copy of the form and keep the original to submit to the Sheriff Court.

If I want you to work out the tax for me

There are different procedures to follow depending on whether you're applying for a grant in England and Wales, Northern Ireland, or Scotland. Follow the steps on pages 63 to 67 of this guide, that apply to you.

What happens when I get a grant?

When you've got the grant, it does not mean that you've paid all the Inheritance Tax and interest on the estate. If you sent us the form before the grant, we look at the details you've given and if there are no obvious errors, we'll accept the tax that you've shown us is due.

The Inheritance Tax on the estate may change

Once we've returned your probate values and unique code (England and Wales), Schedule IHT421, 'Probate summary' (Northern Ireland), or form C1, 'Inventory' (Scotland) we'll look at form IHT400 in more detail. We may ask you questions to help us understand what you've said on the form and any schedules.

We may discuss the value of any assets in the estate and question whether any debts are properly deducted. We'll look carefully at any deduction for exemptions, reliefs and exclusions you've made.

We may also send you statements that show you the tax and interest you must pay, particularly if you've said that you wish to pay some of the tax by instalments.

Provisional estimates

If you've included provisional estimates in form IHT400 or on any of the schedules, it's your responsibility to tell us what the final figures are as soon as you know them.

Liabilities

If you've included a liability which is not actually repaid out of the estate, it's your responsibility to tell HMRC that the liability should be disallowed as a deduction from the estate.

You must tell us about other changes to the estate

If the value of any assets or debt changes and as a result the amount of Inheritance Tax due changes you must tell us. You can help us by giving us our reference number, if you can. Otherwise tell us the full name and date of death of the deceased.

Applying for a grant in England and Wales – if you're a taxpayer, solicitor or another person licensed to provide probate services

Applying for a grant in England and Wales – if you're a taxpayer, solicitor or another person licensed to provide probate services, you'll need an Inheritance Tax reference number (go to page 11). If you're using the Inheritance Tax Direct Payment Scheme (DPS), find out whether the deceased's bank and/or building society, NS&I, brokers and investment management firms are part of the scheme and if so make sure you've complied with their requirements.

Follow the instructions at www.gov.uk/applying-for-probate/apply-for-probate

Left
intentionally
blank

Applying for a grant in Scotland – if you're a taxpayer or solicitor working out the tax

You'll need an Inheritance Tax reference number (go to page 11). If you're using the Inheritance Tax DPS, find out whether the deceased's bank and/or building society, NS&I, brokers and investment management firms are part of the scheme and if so make sure you've complied with their requirements.

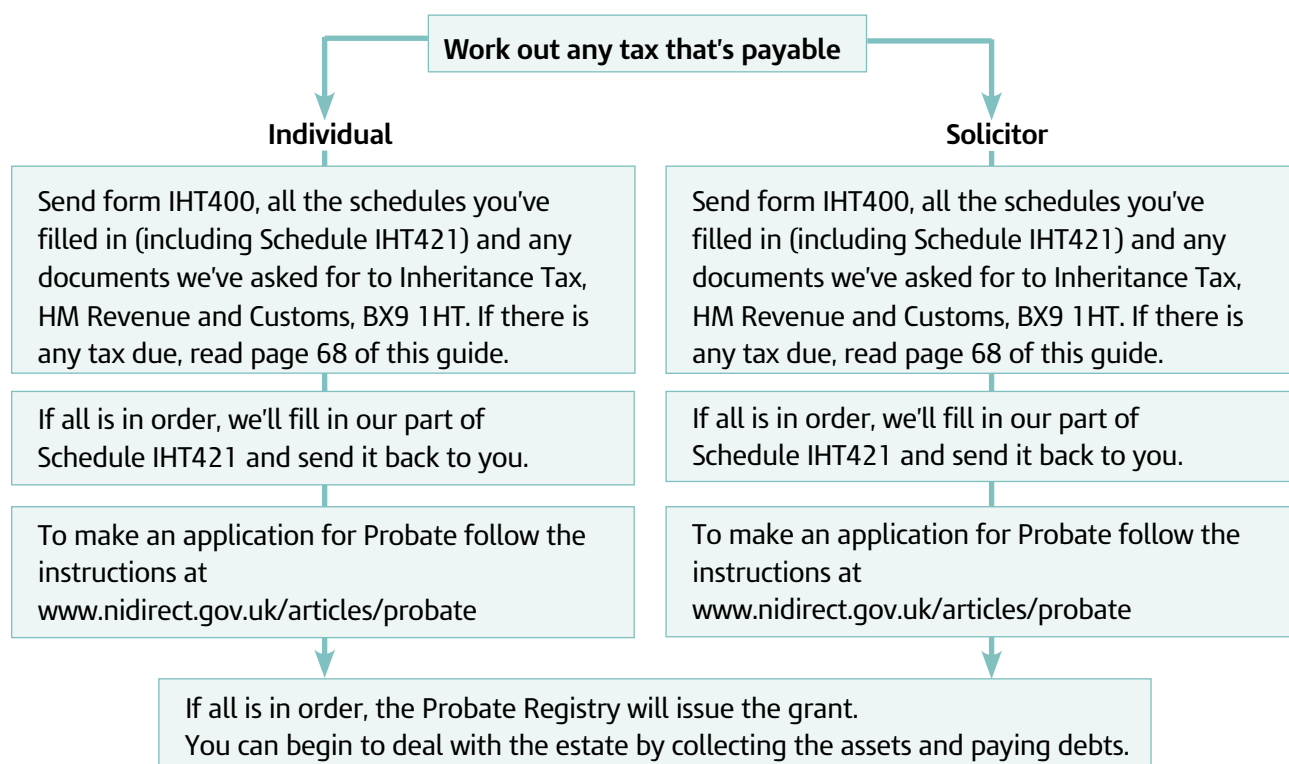
Follow the instructions at www.gov.uk/applying-for-probate/apply-for-probate

Left intentionally blank

Applying for a grant in Northern Ireland – if you're a taxpayer or solicitor working out the tax

You'll need an Inheritance Tax reference number (go to page 11). If you're using the Inheritance Tax DPS, find out whether the deceased's bank and/or building society, NS&I, brokers and investment management firms are part of the scheme and if so make sure you've complied with their requirements.

For further guidance, go to www.nidirect.gov.uk/articles/probate



Applying for a grant in England and Wales – without the help of a solicitor or another person licensed to provide probate services and you want us to work out the tax for you

If you're using the Inheritance Tax Direct Payment Scheme (DPS) find out whether the deceased's bank and/or building society, NS&I, brokers and investment management firms are part of the scheme and if so make sure you've complied with their requirements.

Follow the instructions at www.gov.uk/applying-for-probate/apply-for-probate

Left
intentionally
blank

Applying for a grant in Scotland – without the help of a solicitor and you want us to work out the tax for you

If you're using the Inheritance Tax Direct Payment Scheme (DPS) find out whether the deceased's bank and/or building society, NS&I, brokers and investment management firms are part of the scheme and if so make sure you've complied with their requirements.

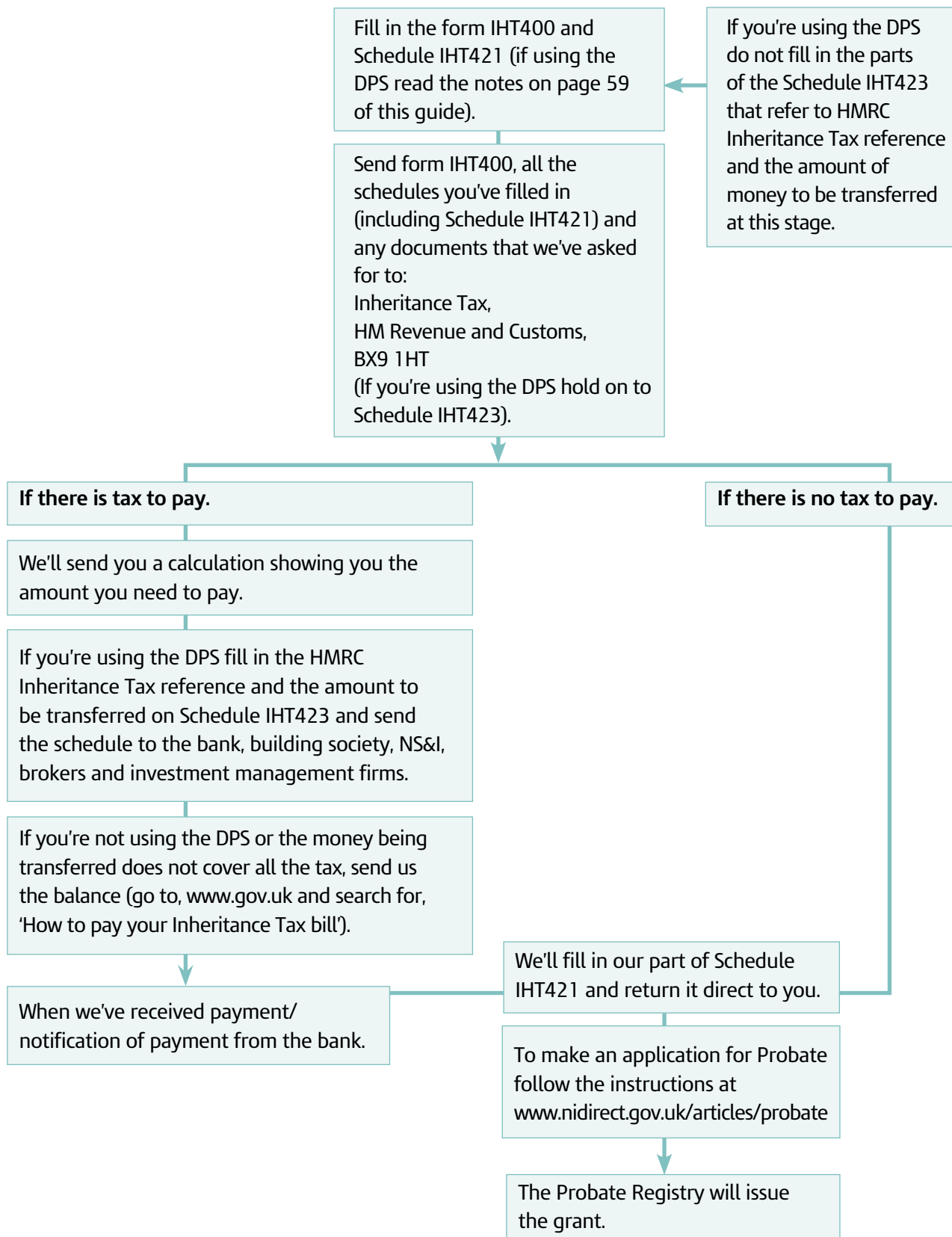
Follow the instructions at www.gov.uk/applying-for-probate/apply-for-probate

Left
intentionally
blank

Applying for a grant in Northern Ireland - without the help of a solicitor and you want us to work out the tax for you

If you're using the Inheritance Tax Direct Payment Scheme (DPS) find out whether the deceased's bank and/or building society, NS&I, brokers and investment management firms are part of the scheme and if so make sure you've complied with their requirements.

For further guidance go to www.nidirect.gov.uk/articles/probate



Paying Inheritance Tax

Payment in advance

You can pay the tax that's due by:

- electronic transfer
- Faster Payments
- National Savings and Investments owned by the deceased

If you think more tax will be payable, you can make a payment on account. If you do, we'll not charge you interest on the amount you've paid from the date we receive it. You must give the Inheritance Tax reference when you make a payment. Go to page 1 of form IHT400, for information on Inheritance Tax reference numbers. If you pay too much on account, we'll pay you interest at the current rate when we return the money to you. You can find the current rate of interest by going to www.gov.uk and searching for Inheritance Tax interest rates.

Electronic transfer (CHAPS/Bacs)

i To check for the most up-to-date information on paying HMRC, go to www.gov.uk and search for 'Paying HMRC'

Contact your bank to find out how to make payment by electronic transfer. You'll need to give your bank details of our bank account.

You can find the instructions for paying by electronic transfer at www.gov.uk/paying-inheritance-tax/bank-or-building-society

Give the full name of the deceased, the date of death and the Inheritance Tax reference number.

National Savings and Investments products

You may pay some or all of the tax and interest that needs to be paid before you can apply for a grant by using National Savings and Investments (NS&I) products owned by the deceased. NS&I are now part of the Direct Payment Scheme and will release funds from the deceased's accounts direct to HMRC to pay the Inheritance Tax.

For full details on how to make a payment in this way, go to www.gov.uk/paying-inheritance-tax/national-savings-and-investments

Grants on credit

A grant of probate may be required in order to gain access to the assets in the deceased's estate and in some cases this can make it difficult to raise the money needed to pay Inheritance Tax. If you are unable to release funds from the estate, you can apply for a 'Grant on credit'.

How to apply for Grants on credit

Write to us providing a statement confirming that you are unable to release funds from the estate using the methods stated in www.gov.uk/paying-inheritance-tax

You must tell us the maximum amount that you can pay towards the Inheritance Tax, before the grant can be issued. You should tell us what steps will be taken to raise the funds to pay the tax if we agree to allow the grant on credit. This should be by the quickest option available.

To apply for Grants on credit, you'll need to write to us.

HM Revenue and Customs
Inheritance Tax Team
BX9 1HT

Put 'Grants on credit' and your Inheritance Tax reference number at the top of the letter. Even where we allow a grant on credit you are still expected to pay as much of the Inheritance Tax as you can before the grant.

If we agree to a grant on credit, we will ask you to sign an undertaking. This is a legally binding promise to pay the Inheritance Tax within an agreed timescale. We will consider each case on its own merits.

If the tax is to be paid following the sale of a property, there must be an accepted offer and an estimated date for exchange of contracts. We cannot issue an open-ended undertaking without a clear date of when the tax will be paid.

We may also place a 'Notice of the Inheritance Tax Charge' against any land or buildings in the estate at the Land Registry. A notice is an entry against the registered title of the property. It does not hinder the land or building sales, but buyers may ask for the notice to be removed before finalising the purchase.

For full details on how to apply for a grant on credit for Inheritance Tax, go to www.gov.uk/guidance/applying-for-a-grant-on-credit-for-inheritance-tax

Paying tax by transferring assets instead of money

You must pay the tax and interest due in order to get a grant or confirmation. But you can tell us (then or within 3 months afterwards) that you would like us to accept National Heritage assets in payment of some or all of the tax and interest. If we accept them we'll repay all or part of the cash you've paid up to the amount of the tax and interest we agree may be satisfied by our acceptance of these assets.

You may tell us before you apply for a grant or confirmation that you intend to offer assets in payment of tax. But we cannot accept them until after the grant or confirmation is issued.

To make an offer, include a covering letter with the form IHT400 or write to us within 3 months after the grant or confirmation is issued.

If you're making an offer of an asset in payment of tax you might also wish to claim Conditional Exemption for the asset. Go to page 43 of this guide for details of how to claim Conditional Exemption.

For further information, phone the Inheritance Tax Helpline on 0300 123 1072 and ask to be put through to the Heritage Team.

What happens if listed shares or land and buildings are sold for less than their value?

If shares listed on the stock exchange are sold within 1 year of the date of death, or land and buildings are sold within 4 years of the date of death, for less than the value included on form IHT400, we may be able to reduce the Inheritance Tax. Phone our helpline if this applies to you and we'll tell you what you have to do.

How to value the assets – for Inheritance Tax purposes use the open market value of an asset

What value to use

The open market value is the price the asset might reasonably fetch if it was sold on the open market at the time of the transfer. This represents the realistic selling price of an asset, not an insurance value or replacement value.

You should be able to value some of the estate assets quite easily, for example, money in bank accounts or stocks and shares. In other instances, you may need the help of a professional valuer. If you do decide to employ a valuer, make sure you ask them to give you the 'open market value' of the asset.

Estimating a value

If you do not know the exact amount or value of any small item, such as an Income Tax refund or household bill, do not put off applying for a grant or confirmation just because you do not know the exact figures. You may use an estimated figure.

Do not guess at a value, but try to work out an estimate based on the information you have.

If you're including an estimate, you'll need to list the schedules that contain provisional estimates on page 13 of form IHT400.

Stocks and shares

How to value stocks and shares

You do not have to get a professional valuation for quoted stocks and shares. You can value shares quoted on the London Stock Exchange by finding the price of the shares in the financial pages of a newspaper.

First of all, make a list of all the shares, including the name, nominal value and types of shares – for example, 'A N Other Plc 10p ordinary shares'. Then, if you're using a newspaper, find the shareholding and enter the price given for each shareholding. To find out the value of the shares, multiply the number of shares by the price given. So, if the deceased held 1,250 shares and the price was 1093.5p, the value for the holding is £13,668.75.

Sometimes, for unit trusts, the newspaper may show 2 prices. Take the lower one.

Take the value of the shares on the day the person died – remember that a newspaper printed on the day the deceased died will have share prices for the day before.

The 'quarter-up' price

If you use a share valuing service, they will tell you what the end of day quotation was for each of the shares. The price will appear as a range such as 1091 to 1101p. To work out the value of the shares, you need to work out the 'quarter-up' price. This is the lower price, plus one quarter of the difference between the 2 prices. So, in this example, the price would be 1091p plus one quarter of 10p, or 2.5p. The price for the shares would be 1093.5p.

What 'XD' means

If a dividend was due when the deceased died, the shares will be marked 'XD'. Such a marking indicates that the dividend will be paid to the deceased's estate and you'll need to include a value in the estate.

To work out the value of the dividend, multiply the number of shares by the dividend per share. Sometimes the dividend may be given as a percentage, say 2.6%. Where this is the case, you can work out the dividend by finding out the percentage of the nominal value of the stock. So if the deceased had owned £400 of loan stock, the dividend would be 2.6% of £400 or £10.40.

The deceased died on a day the stock exchange was closed

If the deceased died on a day the stock exchange was closed, take the price for either the next or last day when the stock exchange was open, whichever is the lower. For example, if the person died on a Sunday you can take the price for either the Monday after or the Friday before. You can choose whether to use the price for Monday or Friday for each separate shareholding.

Shares in a private company that are not listed on the Stock Exchange

For private company shares, enter the open market value of the shares. You may need to contact the company's secretary or accountant to get this value. Do not include just the nominal value of such shares - for example, the nominal value for one thousand £1 ordinary shares is £1,000 - unless that genuinely reflects the open market value of the shares.

UK government stock

You can find out the value of UK government stock from your bank or stockbroker or from the UK Debt Management Office website at www.dmo.gov.uk

Stock Exchange markings

The Stock Exchange Daily Official List includes a number of markings that may affect the value of the stocks and shares. Some of the markings increase the value of the shares. Include any increase in the value in box 63 on form IHT400. Some markings decrease the value and you'll need to deduct the adjustment from the value you include for the shares. Others show that the deceased was entitled to some new shares at the date of death. Explanations of the markings are as follows.

- 'XD' (ex-dividend) - the dividend that's due remains payable to the deceased - include the net value of the dividend on Schedule IHT411
- 'IK' ('gilts' plus interest) - the interest that's accrued is part of the value at the date of death - include the net* interest that has accrued from the date interest was last paid up to the date of death on Schedule IHT411
- 'IM' (fixed interest securities, loan and debenture stock plus interest) - this is the same as 'IK', but applies to a different type of security - include the net* interest that has accrued from the date interest was last paid up to date of death on Schedule IHT411

Carry the total for all dividends to box 64 on form IHT400.

- 'IK ... X' ('gilts' minus interest) - interest due from the date of death to the date of payment of interest is deducted from the value at the date of death - take the net* interest that's accrued from the date of death to the date interest was paid away from the value of the stock. If a separate interest payment has been received, include the net amount of the interest payment on Schedule IHT411
- 'IM ... X' (fixed interest securities, loan and debenture stock minus interest) - this is the same as 'IK ... X', but applies to a different type of security - take the net* interest that's accrued from the date of death to the date interest was paid away from the value of the stock and if a separate interest payment has been received, include the net amount of the interest payment on Schedule IHT411
- 'XC' (ex-capitalisation) - include the new shares
- 'XR' (ex-rights) - account for the value of the new shares or rights
- 'XE' (ex-entitlement) - include the new shares or warrants, if any

If you do not know how many new shares, rights or warrants to include, the company's registrar should be able to tell you. Include the new shares, rights or warrants with the original holding in boxes 63, 65, 66 and 67 on form IHT400.

* net of Income Tax at basic rate

National Savings and Investments

Finding the value of National Savings and Investments

Write to National Savings and Investments and ask for a letter giving:

- the value of the deceased's investments at the date of death
- the National Savings and Investments reference

National Savings and Investments
SUNDERLAND
SR43 2SB

You can phone the National Savings and Investments general enquiry line on 08085 007 007 or get a copy of the death claims brochure and form at www.nsandi.com/downloads-and-forms

Household and personal goods

The term 'household and personal goods' means things such as furniture, pictures, paintings, china, TV, audio and video equipment, cameras, jewellery, cars, caravans, boats, antiques, stamp collections and so on.

You do not have to get a professional valuation for ordinary household and personal goods where you can use publicly available data to estimate the value, for example, to value second hand cars. If you do estimate the value, you need to use the open market value at the date of death, not an insurance or replacement value. The open market value is the realistic selling price for the item. This is the price the item would have been likely to fetch if sold at auction or otherwise advertised publicly. If you think any item may be worth more than £1,500, or you're not sure, we advise you to get a professional valuation.

Remember to tell the valuer that you want the open market value of the items at the date of death. Certain awards given to the deceased for gallantry, such as the Victoria Cross, are excluded from Inheritance Tax.

Valuing land and buildings can be a complicated area and you're strongly advised to use a professional valuer.

If you're deducting Agricultural Relief or Business Relief at 100% you may still want to consult a valuer to help you deduct the correct amount.

Land and buildings

Condition of the property

The valuer should provide an open market value at the date of death and you should ask them to take into account the state of repair of the property (which may decrease its value) and any features that might make it attractive to a builder or developer, such as large gardens, or access to other land that's suitable for development (which may increase its value). For more information phone our helpline on 0300 123 1072.

If there is a range of values for the property

If you get several valuations which give a range of values for the property, it's probably best to adopt a value that's somewhere in between the highest and lowest values that you've got.

If I find the property is worth more than my initial valuation

If, after you have got a valuation and before you apply for a grant, you find out about other information that casts doubts on the initial valuation, you must reconsider it. For example, if you have a valuation that shows the property was worth £250,000, but when you try to sell the property you market it at £270,000 and receive some offers at that figure or more, it suggests that the open market value for the property may be more like £270,000. In these circumstances, we recommend that you ask the valuer to consider amending the valuation, taking into account such things as the length of time since the death and movements in the property market.

Land and buildings apart from the deceased's home

Include the open market value for any other land and buildings that were owned by the deceased, for example:

- farms
- business property, for example, a hotel, shop or factory
- timber and woodlands
- other land and buildings such as lock-up garages, redundant or derelict land, quarries, airfields
- other rights that attach to land such as fishing or shooting rights

It's strongly recommended that you get professional advice if the estate contains this sort of land as it can be very difficult to value.

If you're deducting Agricultural or Business Relief, you will still need to include a value and the rules can be complicated. Agricultural Relief is only due on the agricultural value of qualifying property, not its open market value, and a valuer can help you with this.

Write the address or location of the property in the space provided on Schedule IHT405, 'Houses, land, buildings and interests in land'.

Valuing the right to live in the house

It's very common for a married couple or civil partners to own their house jointly. Usually, they own their house as joint tenants and, on the death of the first to die, their share passes automatically to the survivor, so that when the survivor dies the whole property is part of their estate.

If, however, a married couple or civil partners own their house as tenants-in-common, where each owns a distinct share of the property, the first to die can say what is to happen to their share of the property in their will. The will might say something along the lines that:

'... while my husband/wife/civil partner remains alive and desires to reside in the property and keeps the same in good repair and insured to its full value with insurers approved by my trustees and pays all rates, outgoings etc. my trustees shall not make any objection to such residence and shall not disturb or restrict it in any way and shall not take any steps to enforce the trust for sale or to realise (sell) any share therein or to obtain any rent or profit from the property ...'

On the survivor's death, the property passes on to someone else, usually a child. So the surviving spouse or civil partner continues to live in the house, owning half of it in their own name and occupying the other half under the protection of the will.

Although the will does not talk in terms of leaving the property in trust for the husband/wife/civil partner for life, the wording is such that, for Inheritance Tax, it has the same effect.

If you're dealing with the survivor's estate and they occupied their matrimonial or civil partnership home (or a property that replaced it) under such terms, you'll need to treat the survivor's estate as if they were entitled to benefit from a trust.

The same rules about trusts apply. So you need to include an interest in the house as a 'trust' asset and the open market value of the house (or share of the house) is the value of the trust asset.

If, within 7 years of their death, the survivor ceases to occupy the property, or the property is sold and not all the proceeds are reinvested in a replacement property, the survivor will be treated as making a transfer of the trust capital in which they ceased to benefit. Include that value as a gift.

Valuing a business

You must include the open market value of the deceased's business or interest in a business. You may need to adjust the value taken from the business accounts, where the assets are included at 'book value' or where the assets are included separately in form IHT400.

Write the open market value in box 7 of Schedule IHT413, 'Business and partnership interests and assets'. Copy this figure to the appropriate box on page 8 of form IHT400.

Remember to deduct the relief using the same figure on form IHT400 at box 93.

Book value

Book value is a company's value as it appears on a balance sheet, equal to total assets and intangible assets such as goodwill, minus liabilities. The value of assets as they appear on a balance sheet will be equal to the cost of the assets less accumulated depreciation. Book value therefore often differs substantially from the open market value.

Open market value

For Inheritance Tax, the open market value of an asset is the price it might reasonably fetch if it was sold on the open market at the time of the transfer of that asset.

Other than land, the assets most commonly included in business accounts at book value are business stock and goodwill. You may be including the land separately in form IHT400. If so, you'll need to take that value, or the deceased's share of it, away from the value of the deceased's interest in the business.

If not, you'll need to get open market values for land and any other assets included at book value such as stock and goodwill. If the open market value is more than the book value, add the increase in value, or the deceased's share of that increase, to the value of the deceased's interest in the business. If the open market value is less than the book value, deduct the decrease in value, or the deceased's share of that decrease, from the value of the deceased's interest in the business.

Explain how you've arrived at your value for the business or interest in a business in box 9 on Schedule IHT413. If you need more space, use the 'Additional information' box, box 25 on form IHT413.

Lloyd's Underwriters

If the deceased was an underwriter at Lloyd's, include a value for the deceased's business as an underwriter as an interest in a business.

Valuing money

You should include as assets of the deceased's estate all kinds of money and debts owed to the deceased at the date of death.

Examples are:

- money that the deceased had lent to someone else and which had not been repaid at the date of death
- money that the deceased had lent to trustees linked to a life assurance policy held in trust
- money for which the deceased held a promissory note or 'IOU'
- money that the deceased had lent to someone and that's secured by a mortgage over property
- money owing to the deceased from a director's loan account or current account with a company

What value to use

Include the face value of the loan, after taking off any repayments that have been made.

Exemptions and reliefs – this section gives more detailed information about exemptions and reliefs

Exemptions that only apply to lifetime gifts

Small gifts up to £250 in any tax year to any one person. Such small gifts can be given to any number of different people.

Annual exemption of £3,000 in any one tax year. You can carry forward all or part of the £3,000 exemption that has not been used to the next tax year but no further.

Lifetime gifts that represent normal expenditure out of the transferor's income. These are exempt provided that the transferor's established standard of living is not reduced by the gifts, that the gifts came out of income and not capital and there is an established pattern of giving.

These gifts can include:

- monthly or regular payments to someone - including gifts for Christmas or other festivals, birthdays or other anniversaries
- regular premiums on a life assurance policy

Fill in pages 2 and 6 of Schedule IHT403, 'Gifts and other transfers of value' if you want to deduct this exemption.

Gifts in consideration of marriage or civil partnership up to the following amounts:

- £5,000 if the gift is made by a parent or step-parent of either party to the marriage or civil partnership
- £2,500 if the gift is made by a grandparent of one of the parties
- £1,000 in any other case

Exemptions that apply to lifetime gifts and transfers on death

Spouse and Civil Partner Exemption

All transfers between legally married spouses and legally registered civil partners are exempt with one exception. If the person making the transfer is a long-term UK resident (or for transfers on or before 5 April 2025, the person making the transfer was domiciled in the UK) and the recipient is not a long-term UK resident (or for transfers on or before 5 April 2025 was not domiciled in the UK), the Spouse or Civil Partner Exemption is limited to the amount of the nil rate band at the time of the transfer. However, if the transfer was made before 6 April 2013, the exemption is limited to £55,000.

If the deceased was married or in a civil partnership and they were not a long-term UK resident (or, for transfers on or before 6 April 2025, the deceased was not domiciled in the UK) at death, their personal representatives have the option to elect for the deceased to be treated as if they were long-term UK resident (or domiciled in the UK). In certain circumstances, this may be of benefit to the estate, but the personal representatives need to consider this very carefully as once an election is made, it cannot be withdrawn.

i Website:
www.gov.uk/inheritance-tax
 Helpline: 0300 123 1072

There is a special rule if the deceased benefited from a trust set up by the will or intestacy of a spouse or former spouse who died before 13 November 1974. The value of the trust is not taken into account if:

- Estate Duty was paid or treated as paid on the earlier death on the assets in the trust
- the deceased was not able to dispose of the assets

If the deceased was given the power to say how the assets should be dealt with during their lifetime or on their death, the exemption would not apply. If you're deducting this exemption from the assets in a trust, any apportioned income due in box 75 of form IHT400 is also exempt. But the exemption does not apply to accrued income that had not been paid to the deceased and included in box 75.

Qualifying charities

Gifts and bequests to qualifying charities

All lifetime gifts and bequests on death to qualifying charities and registered housing associations are exempt, provided the gift was made to the charity and housing association outright.

Qualifying charities

From 1 April 2023 a qualifying charity is one that meets the following conditions:

- if it is established for charitable purposes
- it is a UK registered charity from 1 April onwards for IHT purposes
- its managers are fit and proper persons to be managers of the charity

Outright gifts and bequests to certain national bodies are exempt from Inheritance Tax. Most of these bodies are national and local heritage bodies such as the National Gallery and the National Trust.

Gifts for national purposes

National Heritage exemptions

There are a number of exemptions available for gifts of heritage and other historic property. If you're claiming these exemptions, complete Schedule IHT420, 'National Heritage assets - conditional exemption and maintenance funds'.

Gifts to political parties

Outright gifts to UK political parties are exempt, provided that at the last general election before the date of the gift the party had at least 2 members elected to the House of Commons, or had one elected member and the party received at least 150,000 votes.

If you're not sure whether one of these exemptions applies because the money did not pass direct to the organisation or if the will restricts how the money should be used, phone our helpline and explain the circumstances.

Reliefs that may apply to lifetime gifts and transfers on death

Agricultural Relief and Business Relief may apply to transfers of agricultural or business assets. These reliefs are covered in the sections on Schedule IHT414, 'Agricultural relief' and Schedule IHT413, 'Business and partnership interests and assets'.

Successive charges relief

If in the 5 years before they died the deceased inherited money or assets from another person's estate, on which Inheritance Tax was paid, and the value of their estate increased you may deduct successive charges relief to stop the legacy being taxed twice in a short period of time.

The relief reduces the Inheritance Tax charged on the death estate by a percentage of the tax charged in the first death on the increase in the deceased's estate.

The amount of relief depends upon the number of years between the first death and the deceased's date of death and operates on a sliding scale.

Years between the 2 deaths	Percentage reduction
1 year or less	100%
1 to 2	80%
2 to 3	60%
3 to 4	40%
4 to 5	20%
Over 5 years	0%

If the second death is on the anniversary of the first death, use the higher percentage. If the deceased's death is more than 5 years after the first death, there is no relief. The relief can only reduce the tax payable to nil. It cannot create a repayment of tax.

Example

Tracy died in January 2010 and Hassan inherited £200,000 from her estate. Tracy's estate was valued at £340,000 and £10,000 Inheritance Tax was paid. Hassan dies August 2011.

The successive relief calculation is

Inheritance Tax charged on first estate	£10,000
Value of first estate	£340,000
Increase in the deceased's estate	£200,000
Percentage reduction	80%

£10,000 divided by £340,000

£0.0294

0.0294 x £200,000

£5,880

£5,880 x 80%

£4,704

£4,704 is the amount of successive charges relief that can be deducted from the Inheritance Tax chargeable on Hassan's estate.

Follow the instructions on form IHT400, 'Calculation' to claim the relief.

Other reliefs

There are 2 other exemptions that apply to gifts. These only apply if the total of gifts made during the deceased's lifetime is more than the tax threshold when the deceased died so that there is some tax to pay on the gifts themselves.

Taper Relief

If there is any tax to pay on a gift, the tax is reduced by a sliding scale for gifts made more than 3 but less than 7 years before the death, so long as the total of the gifts made by the deceased exceeds the nil rate band.

The tax must be paid by the person who received the gift so the relief would not normally be relevant in working out the tax that must be paid before you can apply for a grant.

However, if the person who received the gift would like to pay their tax when you apply for a grant, you can send the payments together. You must still follow all the steps on form IHT400 to work out the tax that you must pay on the deceased's estate. The example here helps you to work out the tax that's payable on a lifetime transfer. Enter the calculations you've made in the 'Additional information' box on page 19 of the IHT400 and say how the payment you're sending should be used. The amount of Taper Relief depends on the length of time by which the deceased survived the transfer. The tax charged is reduced by charging the following percentages of the full rate.

Years between transfer and death	Taper Relief %
3 to 4	20%
4 to 5	40%
5 to 6	60%
6 to 7	80%

Example

C made a gift of £300,000 on 1 February 2002. C died on 20 June 2005.

The nil rate band at the date of death was £275,000.

The gift exceeds the nil rate band by £25,000.

Full rate of tax on the gift: $40\% \times £25,000 = £10,000$.

The gift is within 3 to 4 years of the death, so Taper Relief at 20% is due. Taper Relief: $£10,000 \times 20\% = £2,000$.

Revised tax charge: $£10,000 \text{ less } £2,000 = £8,000$.

Fall in value relief

If the value of the assets given away has fallen between the date of gift and the date of death, tax may be charged on the lower value at death.

The relief only applies if the value of the gifts exceeds the nil rate band. There are other rules so phone our helpline if you think this relief may apply. If you wish to deduct this relief, include the date-of-death value in the 'description of assets' column on Schedule IHT403, 'Gifts and other transfers of value', but do not alter the value at the date of death. We'll look at the claim after the grant.

Where to include items in the estate

To help you fill in form IHT400 correctly we've produced this list of assets and debts commonly included in a person's estate, together with the schedule number, box number on form IHT400 where you need to include it, and where any information about completing that box that can be found in this guide.

Item	Schedules	Included in box on IHT400
A gricultural land	IHT405, IHT414	68
Antiques	IHT407	55
B ank accounts	IHT406	52
Boats	IHT407	55
Building society accounts	IHT406	52
Business	IHT413	69
Business assets	IHT413	69
Business property	IHT405, IHT413	69
C apital Gains Tax liability	-	82
Capital Gains Tax repayment	-	74
Caravans	IHT407	55
Cars	IHT407	55
Cash (coins and notes)	-	53
Credit card bills	-	82
D epts owed to friends or family	IHT419	82
Debts owed to the deceased	IHT416	73
Dividends on listed stocks and shares	IHT411	64
Dividends on unlisted stocks and shares	IHT412	64
F arm business assets	IHT414	69
Farms	IHT405, IHT414	68
Farmhouses	IHT405, IHT414	68
Farmland	IHT405, IHT414	68
Foreign bank accounts	IHT417	98
Foreign houses, land and buildings	IHT417	97
Foreign shares	IHT417	98
Furniture	IHT407	55
G ifts made by the deceased	IHT403	113
Gilts (UK government securities)	IHT411	62
Guarantee debts	IHT419	82
H ouse or flat (deceased's residence)	IHT405	51
Houses and flats (rented to others)	IHT405	70
Household bills	-	82
I ncome Tax liability	-	82
Income Tax repayment	-	74
Interest in another estate	IHT415	71, 72
Interest on bank accounts	IHT406	52
Interest on building society accounts	IHT406	52
Interest on stocks and shares	IHT411	64

	Schedule(s)	Included in box on IHT400
J ewellery	IHT407	55
Joint bank and building society accounts	IHT404	50
Joint household bills	IHT404	50
Joint life assurance policies	IHT404	50
Jointly owned houses, flats and land	IHT404	49
Jointly owned household goods	IHT404	50
Joint mortgage	IHT404	49
Joint mortgage protection policy	IHT404	50
L and (other than farmland)	IHT405	70
Life assurance policies	IHT410	57
M ortgage	-	80
Mortgage protection policies	-	57
N ational Savings and Investment products	IHT406	54
Nominated assets	-	101
P aintings and works of art	IHT407	55
Pension arrears	-	56
Pension funds	IHT409	56
Premium Bonds	IHT406	54
R educed rate of Inheritance Tax	IHT430	109
Reversionary interest	IHT418	76
S ecured loans	IHT419	80
Stocks and shares listed on the Stock Exchange	IHT411	63
Stocks and shares traded on AIM	IHT412	65
T imber	IHT405	69
Trust assets	IHT418	99, 100, 105
Trust income	-	75
U K government securities	IHT411	62
Unit trusts	IHT411	63
Unlisted stocks and shares	IHT412	65
Unsecured loans	IHT419	82
W oodlands	IHT405, IHT413	69



<p>1 How much of this guide did you read?</p> <p>All of it <input type="checkbox"/></p> <p>Most of it <input type="checkbox"/></p> <p>Some of it <input type="checkbox"/></p> <p>Hardly any of it <input type="checkbox"/></p>	<p>3 How easy was it to complete form IHT400?</p> <p>3a The form was easy to follow and I knew what to do <input type="checkbox"/></p> <p>3b Most of the form was easy to follow but some parts could be clearer <input type="checkbox"/></p> <p>3c It was hard to follow and I was not always sure what I had to do <input type="checkbox"/></p> <p>3d I could not complete it without help <input type="checkbox"/></p> <p>If you ticked either of boxes 3b or 3c, say which parts could be easier to understand</p> <table border="1"><tr><td> </td></tr><tr><td> </td></tr><tr><td> </td></tr><tr><td> </td></tr><tr><td> </td></tr><tr><td> </td></tr></table> <p>If you have any other comments about form IHT400, this guide or any of the schedules you had to complete, enter them over the page.</p> <p>If you need more space, continue on a separate sheet of paper.</p>						
<p>2 How easy was it to understand this guide?</p> <p>2a I understood it easily <input type="checkbox"/></p> <p>2b I understood most of it but some of it could be clearer <input type="checkbox"/></p> <p>2c It was hard to understand <input type="checkbox"/></p> <p>2d I did not understand it <input type="checkbox"/></p> <p>If you ticked box 2b, say which parts could be clearer</p> <table border="1"><tr><td> </td></tr><tr><td> </td></tr><tr><td> </td></tr><tr><td> </td></tr><tr><td> </td></tr><tr><td> </td></tr></table>							

If you want a response to your feedback, provide your name and address.

Name

--

Address

Postcode

--

Additional information

i If you need to, continue on a separate sheet of paper.

Contacts

If you need a copy of any of our forms you can:

- download them from www.gov.uk/government/collections/inheritance-tax-forms
- phone the Inheritance Tax orderline on 0300 123 1072

If you want to know more about any particular aspect of Inheritance Tax, go to our website or phone the Inheritance Tax Helpline.

Our address

Inheritance Tax
HM Revenue and Customs
BX9 1HT

Our website and helpline

Website: www.gov.uk/government/collections/inheritance-tax-detailed-information

Helpline: 0300 123 1072

This booklet has no legal power. It reflects the tax law at the time of writing. We may need to take into account special circumstances for a particular estate. You can find more information about Inheritance Tax on our website at www.gov.uk/government/collections/inheritance-tax-detailed-information or, if you do not have access to the internet, by phoning our helpline.

HMRC's email disclaimer

Your rights and obligations

HMRC Charter explains what you can expect from us and what we expect from you. For more information, go to www.gov.uk/government/publications/hmrc-charter

If you have a complaint

For information about our complaints procedures, go to www.gov.uk/complain-about-hmrc

How we use your information

For more information go to www.gov.uk/hmrc/information-charter

Confidentiality

You've a right to the same high degree of confidentiality that all taxpayers have. We've a legal duty to keep your affairs completely confidential and cannot give information to others about an estate, trust or transfer even if they have an interest in it, unless the law permits us to do so. This means we may only discuss a taxpayer's affairs with that person, or with someone else that the taxpayer has appointed to act for them. In the case of someone who has died, this means that we can only discuss an estate with the people (or person) who have signed and delivered form IHT400, that's the executors or administrators, or another person appointed to act for them, usually a solicitor or an accountant.

Use the following information to decide whether you want to deal with us by email. We take the security of personal information very seriously. Email is not secure, so it's very important that you understand the risks before you email us. We will not deal with you by email unless you tell us you accept the risks of doing so.

About the risks

The main risks associated with using email that concern HMRC are:

- confidentiality and privacy – there's a risk that emails sent over the internet may be intercepted
- confirming your identity – it's crucial that we only communicate with established contacts at their correct email addresses
- there's no guarantee that an email received over an insecure network, like the internet, has not been altered during transit
- attachments could contain a virus or malicious code

How we can reduce the risks

We'll desensitise information, for example by only quoting part of any unique reference numbers. We can also use encryption. We're happy to discuss how you may do the same but still give the information we need.

If you do not want to use email

You may prefer that we do not respond by email, for example because other people have access to your email account. If so, we're happy to respond by another method. We'll agree this with you either by telephone or in writing by post.

If you do want to use email

If you would like to use email as one of the ways HMRC will contact you, we'll need you to confirm in writing by post or email:

- that you understand and accept the risks of using email
- that you're content for financial information to be sent by email
- that attachments can be used

If you are the authorised agent or representative we'll need you to confirm in writing by post or email that your client understands and accepts the risks.

Also:

- send us the names and email addresses of all people you would like us to use email with – for example, you, your staff, your representative, your agent
- confirm that your junk mail filters are not set to reject and/or automatically delete HMRC emails

How we use your agreement

Your confirmation will be held on file and will apply to future email correspondence. We'll review the agreement at regular intervals to make sure there are no changes.

Opting out

You may opt out of using email at any time by letting us know.

More information

You can find more information on HMRC's privacy policy. Go to www.gov.uk and search for 'HMRC Privacy Notice'.

These notes are for guidance only and reflect the position at the time of writing. They do not affect any right of appeal.

HMRC CDIO Chief Platform Office
April 2026 © Crown copyright 2026

HMRC 04/26