A revocable living trust (or a “living trust”) is a legal entity that, like a will, provides a list of instructions for distributing your assets at death. But, unlike a will, a revocable living trust avoids probate.
By creating a revocable living trust, you can keep control of your assets while you are living and direct where they go after you pass away. Without a living trust set up:

- your assets would be reduced by 2 to 12% (due to probate)
- it could take up to a year to pass your assets to your heirs
- your personal financial information would be made public

Probate is the legal process that changes asset ownership from your name to your heirs using the courts. Unfortunately, if you have a will, your assets must still go through probate. To avoid probate costs, delays, and invasion of privacy, you may want to consider a revocable living trust.

During Lifetime
- You manage and use your property as you have always done.
- Requires court management of your financial affairs.
- Court, legal, and executor costs
- 6 months to 2 year delay in distribution
- Public disclosure

During Incapacity/Disability
- Avoids court management of your financial affairs.
- No probate costs
- Swift distribution
- Private

At Death
- You manage and use your property as you have always done.
- Avoids court management of your financial affairs.
- No probate costs
- Swift distribution
- Private

Remembering Charity, Creating Your Legacy

Naming a charity as a beneficiary in your Revocable Living Trust can be an effective way to perpetuate your values. Many people would like to do more during life, but have other responsibilities to consider. A gift in your Revocable Living Trust allows you to give when you no longer need the funds and also lowers your estate taxes.

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