

Why Use a Trust?

Benefits of Using Trusts

- Allows greater flexibility
- May minimize probate expenses (at death)
- May save the expense of guardians
 - Trustee acts on behalf of minor beneficiaries
 - May save expenses of guardianship, such as bonding requirements
- May provide greater privacy (probate is a public record)
- Can provide effective asset management
- Can provide desired restrictions, limitations, and incentives
 - Rules for use of trust funds
 - May protect trust assets from the creditors of trust beneficiaries
- May reduce or eliminate estate taxes
 - May remove some assets (including life insurance proceeds) from the taxable estate
 - May reduce or eliminate estate taxes at spouse's death

There are several types of trusts, including the revocable living trust and the irrevocable life insurance trust. Different trusts meet different needs. Consult with your legal/tax advisor to determine whether a particular type of trust would be beneficial for you.