

Instructing a solicitor

It's important that you feel confident and well-informed, and that you are well-prepared before you start to instruct a solicitor or lawyer to make sure you get the best outcome, so we've prepared some information about

- the best way to choose a solicitor [\[consumers/choosing/\]](#) or other legal service provider
- useful tips for getting the best from your solicitor [\[consumers/choosing/get-best-solicitor/\]](#)
- what to expect from a solicitor [\[consumers/choosing/what-to-expect/\]](#) regulated by us
- costs, including legal aid and other sources of legal advice [\[consumers/instructing/costs-legal-aid/\]](#); and
- some common legal terms [\[consumers/using-solicitor/legal-jargon-explained\]](#) you might come across.

For a quick introduction to using legal services, read our leaflet [Thinking of using legal services? What to expect \(PDF, 4 pages, 511K\)](#) [\[globalassets/documents/consumers/thinking-using-legal-services.pdf?version=4964af\]](#). This information is also available in a shortened format (PDF, 2 pages, 498K) [\[globalassets/documents/consumers/shortened-consumer-leaflet.pdf?version=496487\]](#) and several community languages [\[consumers/choosing/what-to-expect/community-languages/\]](#).

You can find key facts about other types of lawyers and common legal problems such as going to court, family disputes, employment problems on the Legal Choices website [\[http://www.legalchoices.org.uk/\]](http://www.legalchoices.org.uk/).