

California Divorce Checklists

Free printable checklists from divorceroadmap.org — plain-English guides backed by official California Courts sources. Checked September 21, 2026.

These checklists are general information, not legal advice, and they don't cover every situation. Your county court's Self-Help Center or Family Law Facilitator can tell you if your case needs anything beyond what's listed here.

Checklist 1 — Before You File

- ☐ Your marriage or domestic partnership certificate
- ☐ Your spouse's full legal name and current address (needed for the Petition and for service)
- ☐ A rough list of what you own and owe — accounts, property, vehicles, debts
- ☐ If you have children: their names, dates of birth, and where they've lived for the last 5 years (needed for the UCCJEA form, FL-105)
- ☐ A decision on your filing route — standard, joint petition (Form FL-700), or summary dissolution — see the comparison table at divorceroadmap.org/free-resources/
- ☐ Whether you'll ask for a fee waiver (Form FW-001) if cost is a barrier

Checklist 2 — Financial Disclosure Documents (FL-150 & FL-142)

- ☐ Your last 2 months of pay stubs
- ☐ Your most recent tax return
- ☐ Recent statements for every bank, investment, and retirement account
- ☐ A list of your monthly expenses — rent or mortgage, utilities, insurance, debt payments
- ☐ Documentation for anything you're claiming as separate property — a gift letter, an inheritance record, proof of ownership before the marriage
- ☐ Statements for any retirement account (401(k), pension, IRA) that may need a QDRO or similar order

Checklist 3 — What to Bring to a Self-Help Center Appointment

- ☐ A photo ID
- ☐ Your case number, if you've already filed
- ☐ Every form you've filled out so far, even in draft
- ☐ A written list of your questions — appointments are often short
- ☐ Any document you're unsure about, rather than trying to describe it from memory

Quick Reference — Common California Divorce Forms

Form names and numbers as checked against the California Courts Self-Help site (selfhelp.courts.ca.gov) on September 21, 2026. Forms can be renumbered or replaced — always confirm you have the current version before filing.

Form	Name	Used for
FL-100	Petition — Marriage / Domestic Partnership	Opens the case
FL-105	Declaration Under UCCJEA	Any case with children
FL-110	Summons (Family Law)	Official notice; includes restraining orders
FL-115	Proof of Service of Summons	Confirms your spouse was served
FL-117	Notice and Acknowledgment of Receipt	Cooperative service by mail
FL-120	Response	Filed by the respondent
FL-140	Declaration of Disclosure	Cover sheet for financial disclosure
FL-141	Declaration Regarding Service of Declaration of Disclosure and Income and Expense Declaration	Confirms disclosures were served
FL-142	Schedule of Assets and Debts	Full inventory of what you own/owe
FL-144	Stipulation and Waiver of Final Declaration of Disclosure	Only if both spouses waive final disclosures
FL-150	Income and Expense Declaration	Required for support or fee requests
FL-160	Property Declaration	Simpler alternative to FL-142
FL-180	Judgment	Ends the divorce
FL-190	Notice of Entry of Judgment	Filed with the judgment paperwork
FL-195	Income Withholding for Support	Wage assignment for support orders
FL-300	Request for Order	Asks the court to set or change an order
FL-311	Custody and Visitation Attachment	Specifies a requested custody schedule
FL-700	Joint Petition	Both spouses file together (2026)

Form	Name	Used for
FW-001	Request to Waive Court Fees	Applies for a fee waiver
FW-003	Order on Court Fee Waiver	The court's granted/denied decision
FW-006	Request for Hearing About Court Fee Waiver Order	Appeals a fee waiver denial

This packet is for general information only and is not legal advice. Court rules, fees, and forms change — always confirm current requirements at selfhelp.courts.ca.gov or with your county court before filing. For guidance specific to your situation, consult a licensed California attorney or your court's free Self-Help Center.

Sources: California Courts Self-Help Center (selfhelp.courts.ca.gov) and current Judicial Council forms. Checked September 21, 2026. © Divorce Roadmap — free to print and share.