

the REAL
MOM'S
GUIDE SERIES™

SURPRISE!

YOU'RE GETTING A
DIVORCE

PREVIEW-PRIMER

Right now, you may be in the midst of your divorce process, trying to decide whether or not you need one, in the private planning stages, or worse--you may be experiencing what feels like being hit from out of nowhere by an Armageddon Bombshell and you feel like you've just awakened to a shocking new reality. Or, you may be experiencing a combination of all of these and even more than we just mentioned.

Many of the action items and suggestions in the full version of this guide are enlisted to prepare you for the kinds of things you will be asked to produce and even things your attorney may not think to tell you about in advance, which can leave you feeling as though you're on a scramble mission with each request. While what we provide you in this preview-primer and the book are not in any way legal advice, this primer is a little of what you'll get in the full version, which we have found to be extraordinarily valuable (in action and in hindsight) that we want to make available to any woman who is facing the life-trial that is divorce.

The Preview Short-Lists

Priorities Checklist

IF YOU ARE IN DANGER

If you are in danger, or you suspect you might be contact your local domestic violence shelter, law enforcement or the National Hotline where advocates are available 24/7 at **1-800-799-SAFE(7233)** in over 170 languages. All calls are confidential and anonymous.

FIRST THINGS FIRST

Your Number One priority is getting clear about your priorities. When you get clear with yourself about what's most important to you moving forward, you can function more efficiently. Most importantly, it will help you define your action plan and help you tremendously during your divorce settlement negotiations.

With the above in mind, arrange the items below in the order of importance. If things change, you can always revise your list. This priority list can serve as a very powerful reference for you as you work with both your attorney and your counselor/therapist and will likely provide you with some much-needed clarity.

CHILDREN ParentingTime Support Custody	PROPERTY Real Estate /Car/Furnishings	FINANCES Spousal Support/Debts Assets
1.	1.	1.
2.	2.	2.
3.	3.	3.

Full versions of this and all worksheets are available in the actual guide.

Considerations Checklist

It's time to ask yourself some questions. These are really BIG decisions and may change as you travel this path. The questions are merely to help you start thinking about the things you will inevitably need to decide. If you don't know the answers to all of them, your attorney will be able to help you.

Here are a few from the list in the full version of the guide:

- Who will be staying in the family home?
- Who will pay the mortgage/rent? (Other expenses: electricity, gas, water and home repairs) while you are separated?
- How will you divide the money in your joint bank accounts?
- Do you have joint credit cards?
- Will one of you be paying child support? How much?

PLAN | Day 1

- Open a New Bank Account (*30-60 minutes*)
The bank account should be opened in your name only at a bank in which neither you nor your spouse currently banks.
- Employed? Change Your Direct Deposit (*15-30 minutes*)
Notify your HR or Payroll Department to change your direct deposit to your new bank account effective immediately.
- Change Every Password (*30-60 minutes*)
This will include computer, online accounts, bank card pin number.

What the divorce guide is . . .

The book is an ACTIONABLE guide with checklists and explanations that keep things as simple as possible and which is intended to help you organize your personal information, help you manage your life, and preserve your sanity and peace. To keep things simple we've broken the information down and separated the checklists from the "why" explanations.

Our intention is to help you:

- Protect yourself from unwittingly creating more chaos for yourself
- Prepare yourself for what will be asked of you during the divorce procedure/process in order to avoid future chaos, confusion and overwhelm
- Plan for and more easily respond to the realities of what can or will happen during this process.

We hope this primer-preview has been as eye opening as it has been thought provoking. The book release is just days away and we're looking forward to hearing from you in the [Facebook community](#) and on the upcoming live webcast!

Need to register for the webcast? [Request your invitation here!](#)

Surprise, You're Getting a Divorce

What you Need to Know and Do Right Now

Donna Syed and Michelle Kraxberger

© Copyright 2015, Donna Syed and Michelle Kraxberger,
All Rights Reserved

No part of this publication may be reproduced, distributed or transmitted in any form or by any means including photocopying, recording, or other electronic or mechanical methods or by any information storage and retrieval system without the prior written permission from the publisher except in the case of very brief quotations embodied in critical reviews and certain other non-commercial uses permitted by copyright law.

All trademarks and service marks are property of their respective owners. The information, stories and articles contained in this e-book are the opinion of the individual authors based on their personal observations and years of experience. Neither the authors nor publisher assume any liability whatsoever for the use of or inability to use any or all information contained in this publication. Use this information at your own risk.

Any characters or persons anecdotally referred to in this book are based upon the recollections of the authors own experiences or the related experiences of others. Any exact or identifying details have been intentionally changed to obscure the identity of any person whose alleged actions are described herein. Any identifying information is purely coincidental. All anecdotes are intended to be educational rather than evidentiary in nature.

North Arrow Publishing
The North Arrow | Be. Do. Live. TM

DISCLAIMER

Of course, the lists and suggestions contained in this preview are not meant to be construed as comprehensive or be used in place of actual legal advice. We, the authors, are not lawyers--and we don't pretend to be. We are, however, real women, both loving and protective mothers who have survived the process of very contentious divorces from men we experienced as both adversarial and punitive. What follows is a culmination of suggestions based upon our individual and collective experiences pursuing much-needed divorces. Everything in this book is to be understood and consumed as non-professional advice and is to be treated as a suggestion. Everything you choose to do during your divorce process is ultimately your responsibility. Your judgment is sound--and we don't suggest that you substitute our judgment for your own. Always seek the advice of an attorney when making legal decisions. These action-items are suggestions based upon our experience and the experience of others. By following any of the suggestions contained in this book, you understand that you are 100% responsible for your decisions and neither the authors nor publisher are responsible for any results you may experience.