

Your Yearly Estate Check-up Day

One appointment with yourself per year. Pick a date you can't forget — birthday week, New Year's weekend, or the day after taxes are filed. Two hours, good coffee, the organizer open on the table.

This year's Check-up Day: ____ Completed on: ____

The two-hour routine

Task	Time
☐ Reread your will and POAs: do they still match your wishes? Executor and agents still right?	20 min
☐ Rerun the Beneficiary Audit on every account and policy (Section F of the organizer)	30 min
☐ Update the Master Asset Inventory: new accounts, closed accounts, new valuables, changed balances	20 min
☐ Refresh the Digital Estate Register; confirm legacy contacts are still set and still the right people	20 min
☐ Check key contacts: everyone alive, well, and still the right choice?	10 min
☐ Update the Insurance & Benefits Register and the Document Locator	10 min
☐ Tell your family (or your executor) about anything that changed	10 min

Don't wait for Check-up Day

Update within the month if any of these happen:

marriage or divorce (yours or an heir's) · a death of a spouse, beneficiary, executor, or agent · a birth or adoption · moving to another state · buying or selling a home or business · a large inheritance · a serious diagnosis

Why the yearly rhythm matters: several states change their probate thresholds and rules every year — 2025 alone rewrote the numbers in nine states. Your Check-up Day is also the day to grab the freshest state-by-state table at ellisfamilyguides.com/bonus.