

# Easy ways to save on legal fees

Let's be honest, having a lawyer is expensive. But, good lawyers are really useful in resolving disputes and can save you money in the long run.

Below are some tips to reduce your legal fees.

## See a lawyer early

It's generally cheaper to engage a lawyer before your case is urgent. Leaving the problem until it is urgent means the lawyer has to do more work to either fix the problem or resolve the dispute.

## Ask about fees when you first contact a lawyer

There is nothing wrong with asking a lawyer about fees as lawyers are obligated to tell you their costs up front.

There are a number of ways lawyers can charge. Whatever the lawyer charges, it must be reasonable.

## Be prepared

No one knows what has happened in your life better than you. Experienced lawyers will ask you to bring certain information to the first meeting.

You should ask about what kind of information they will need.

Usually, we will need copies of rates notices, current agreements or orders.

**When you contact us, we can tell you what to bring so you get the most out of your initial appointment.**

## Be clear about your goals

Changing what you seek half way through your case can be very expensive. For instance, there are often filing fees for changing the orders you seek, costs with amending agreements, etc.

Discuss with your lawyer your goals and what is realistic.

For instance, there is no point filing an application to retain a house if you are unable to refinance the mortgage.

## Be practical

Ask your lawyer about what you can do to resolve your dispute or limit the issues. Often, there are things you can do that will have a big impact on resolving the dispute and save you money.

## Be organised

You will save yourself a lot of money by simply arranging your documents or evidence in an order easy for your lawyer to review.

## Look at the whole picture

It is a good idea to ask your lawyer who else you should consult to obtain the best outcome. For instance, it may be beneficial for you to speak with a financial planner, accountant, psychologist, etc.

## Focus on resolving issues

You should think about what is important to you. Discuss and resolve as much as possible with the other person. If you limit the issues to be resolved, you will limit your legal fees.