

Michigan Revocable Living Trust Guide

A Clear Overview for Families

What Problem Does a Trust Solve?

Most people think a will is enough. But in Michigan, a traditional will means your family must wait for **probate court** to transfer your assets. That process is:

- Public
- Can take 6–18 months
- Adds unnecessary expense

A **revocable living trust** sidesteps probate entirely. It holds your assets while you're alive and distributes them privately after you pass—no judge required.

How It Works: Four Key Benefits

Benefit	Why It Matters
You Stay in Charge	You create the trust and serve as trustee. Add, remove, or sell any asset at any time. Nothing is locked in.
Automatic Succession	If you become incapacitated or pass away, your chosen successor trustee takes over immediately. No court guardianship needed.
Privacy Protected	Unlike probate records (which anyone can see), trust administration stays confidential. Beneficiaries receive only what they need to know.
Flexible Terms	Stagger distributions, protect heirs, and plan for blended families, minors, or second marriages on your own terms.

Probate vs. Trust: Quick Comparison

	Without Trust	With Trust
Court Involvement	Required	None
Timeline	6–18+ months	Immediate
Privacy	Public	Private
Cost	Higher fees	Lower admin costs

Important Things to Know

Creditor Protection: A revocable trust offers little creditor protection while you're alive. After death, beneficiary protections depend on how distributions are structured—ask us about ongoing trusts for additional safeguards.

Funding Requirement: A trust only avoids probate for assets that have been **retitled into the trust**. A home still in your name alone will not skip probate just because a trust exists. Proper

funding is essential.

Bottom Line

A Michigan revocable living trust gives you control during life, keeps matters private after death, and saves your family time and money—provided the trust is properly drafted and funded.

Ready to Discuss Your Family's Estate Plan?
? [Visit Our Website](https://cooper.cc/) – <https://cooper.cc/>

This is general information about Michigan law, not legal advice.