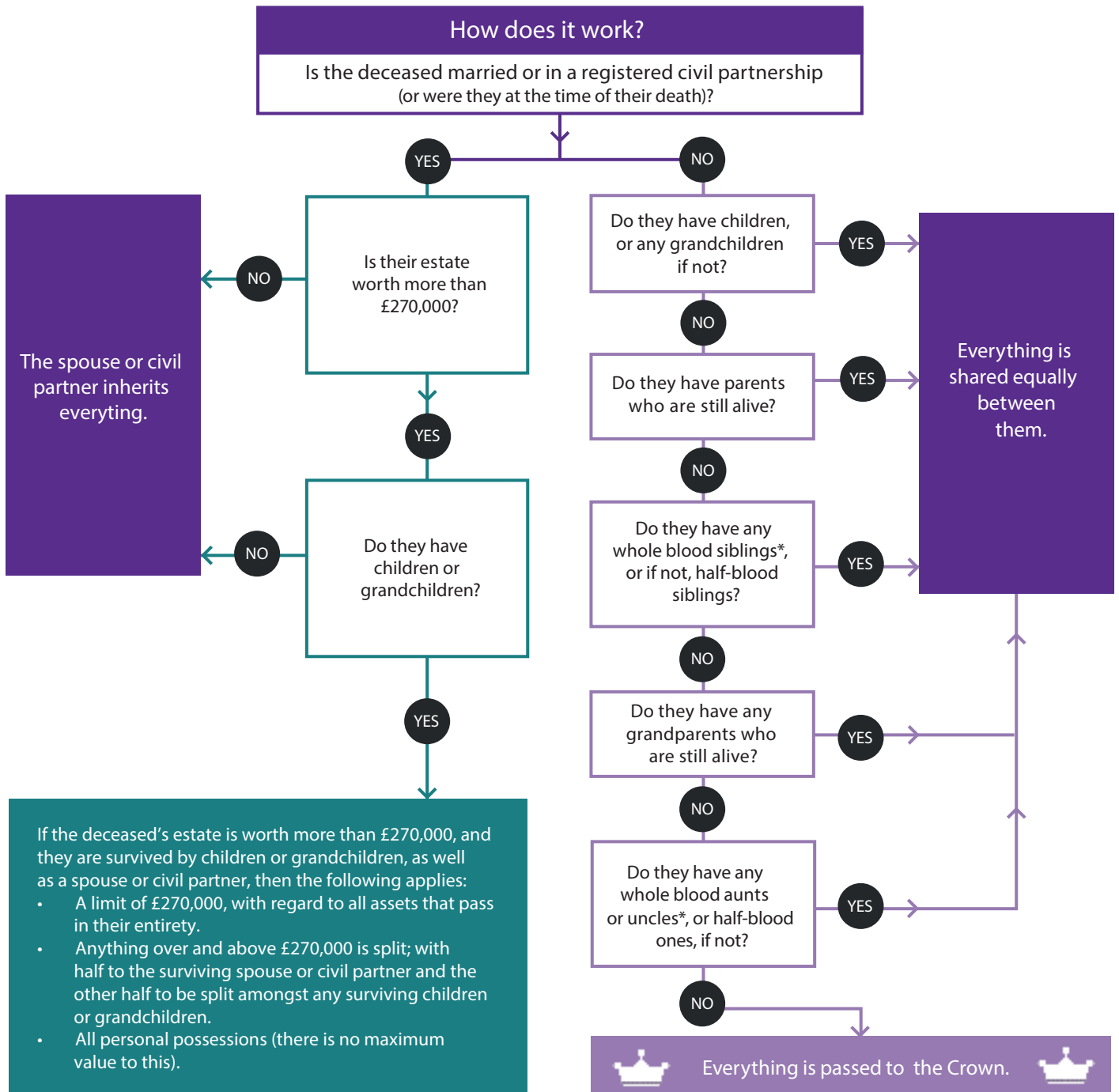


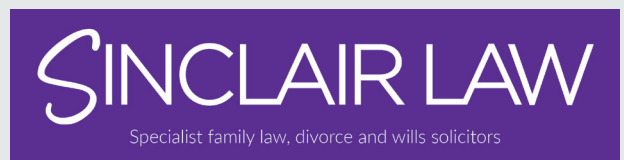
# What happens to an estate when a person dies without making a Will?

When a person dies without leaving a valid Will, their property (the estate) must be shared out according to certain rules. These are called the rules of intestacy. A person who dies without leaving a Will is called an intestate person. Only married or civil partners and some other close relatives can inherit under the rules of intestacy. If someone makes a Will but it is not legally valid, the rules of intestacy decide how the estate will be shared out.



Writing a Will allows you to have control over what happens to your property, money and belongings (known as your estate) after you die. It will reduce the stress for your loved ones and ensures your estate goes to the people and causes you care about.

Visit [www.sinclairlaw.co.uk](http://www.sinclairlaw.co.uk) for more information and to arrange a free 30-minute consultation.



\*If whole blood relatives have died leaving children, then their children will inherit in priority to the half-blood relatives or their children. Information is provided as guidance only; please contact us to speak with one of our wills and probate solicitors to discuss your particular circumstances. The Rules of Intestacy described relate to England and Wales only. Information correct as at November 2022.