THE RULES OF INTESTACY

ENGLAND & WALES

Are you married or in a civil partnership?

- **Yes** → Is your estate worth more than £270,000?
  - **No** → Spouse/civil partner gets everything
  - **Yes** → Do you have children?
    - **Yes** → Your spouse/civil partner gets personal chattels*, £270,000 and half of the remaining estate. Your children get the other half of the remaining estate which is held in trust for them until they reach 18.
    - **No** → Everything goes to your spouse/civil partner
- **No** → Do you have children?
  - **Yes** → Your estate is shared equally between them
  - **No** → Do you have parents?
    - **Yes** → Your estate is shared equally between them
    - **No** → Do you have brothers and sisters?
      - **Yes** → Your estate is shared equally between them
      - **No** → Do you have nieces and nephews?
        - **Yes** → Your estate is shared equally between them
        - **No** → Do you have any grandparents?
          - **Yes** → Your estate is shared equally between them
          - **No** → Do you have any uncles and aunts?
            - **Yes** → Your estate is shared equally between them
            - **No** → Do you have any cousins?
              - **Yes** → Your estate is shared equally between them
              - **No** → Everything goes to the Crown (Government) or to the Duchy of Cornwall or to the Duchy of Lancaster, if resident in those areas

ENFORTRO
WILLS & ESTATE PLANNING

* Personal chattels are items of personal property that may include, for example, furniture, jewellery and clothes.