

A Guide to Using
How to Do Your Own Divorce in Indiana,
for Residents of St. Joseph County

Since rules and procedures are a little different in each county, this guide was written to help the St. Joe County resident proceed through the steps discussed in How to do Your Own Divorce in Indiana.

This is not a substitute for reading the book itself, which contains information you need to know. How to Do Your Own Divorce is really quite short since most of the pages are simply examples of the kinds of forms you might be using.

After you have read the book (and you'll probably read at least parts of it more than once), the guide can help you to organize the steps you will be taking. The headings below are the same as the section headings in How to Do Your Own Divorce,

1, SHOULD YOU DO YOUR OWN DIVORCE

and

2, REACHING AN AGREEMENT

Read these first two sections carefully. How you proceed through these first two steps is between you and your spouse.

A practical suggestion: If you decide to do your own divorce, you are going to have quite a few important papers before you are finished. Get a large envelope (not an open folder) to keep all these papers together.

3, LEARNING ABOUT LOCAL COURT PROCEDURES

Divorces in this county are handled by the **St. Joseph** County Courthouse, located at 101 So. Main St, (across from Transpo).

The cost for filing a petition for a divorce (as of November 1993 is \$100 in cash).

The paper size required by the court is 8 1/2x 11 (standard typing paper size).

(To see if there have been any changes in the above information, you may call the County Clerk's office at the St. Joseph County Courthouse, 235-9635,)

4, PREPARING THE PETITION FOR DISSOLUTION OF MARRIAGE

Read this section;

The form you will be filling out can be typed by yourself, using the samples as a guide. The Library has a typewriter you can use. Or, you may photocopy one of the samples, use white-out to make necessary changes, and re-photocopy it to make your own form. However, if you do this, remember two things: St. Joseph County requires that