

Answer to a divorce/ dissolution / (judicial) separation or nullity petition/application

To be completed by the Respondent	
Name of court	
Case No.	
To be completed by the court	
Date received by the court	
Date issued	

Help with Fees –
Ref no. (if applicable)

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Notes to Respondents

- In the case of a marriage, the parties are called Petitioner and Respondent and the document starting the court proceedings is called a petition. In the case of a civil partnership, the parties are called Applicant and Respondent and the document starting the court proceedings is called an application.
- This form should be completed if you wish to defend the divorce/dissolution/(judicial) separation or nullity petition/application issued by your spouse/civil partner. This could be because you do not agree that your marriage/civil partnership has irretrievably broken down, or you wish to defend allegations made against you by your spouse/civil partner.
- There is a court fee for making this application. You can find the current fee in leaflet EX50 Civil and Family Court Fees which can be downloaded from: <https://hmctsformfinder.justice.gov.uk> If you cannot afford to pay a court fee, you may be eligible for a fee remission or a reduced fee. The form EX160 Apply for help with fees and the EX160A guidance booklet gives you further information - <https://www.gov.uk/get-help-with-court-fees>
- If you wish to apply for a divorce/dissolution/(judicial) separation or an annulment against your spouse or civil partner you should complete your own petition/application. This will be issued within the existing case, and the judge will determine the outcome. There are **guidance notes within the D8 form** to help you complete your petition/application for a divorce/dissolution/(judicial) separation or nullity. If you require any further assistance with this form please seek legal advice. The court fee for this application is separate and in addition to the fee for filing this answer.
- If there is not enough room on the form, you may continue on a separate sheet. Please put the Petitioner's/ Applicant's name, your name and the number of the Part to which the information relates, at the head of any continuation sheet.
- If completing this form by hand, please use **BLOCK CAPITAL LETTERS** and tick the boxes that apply.

Notes to Co-Respondents

- If you have been named in a divorce/judicial separation petition as a Co-Respondent and you wish to defend the petition, you should complete Parts 3-8 of this form.
- You should amend any references to 'my spouse/civil partner' to 'the Petitioner' and references to 'Respondent' to 'Co-Respondent'.

I, (please state your full name)

wish to defend the application made by my spouse civil partner

(please state their full name)

for divorce dissolution (judicial) separation nullity which was issued at

(please state the name of the court)

under case number (please state the case number)

Please treat this as my answer to the petition/application.

Part 1

In the case of divorce/dissolution only –

Do you agree that the marriage/civil partnership has irretrievably broken down?

Yes No

If No, please explain why:

Part 2

In divorce/dissolution cases based on five years' separation only –

Do you oppose the granting of a decree/an order on the ground that the divorce/dissolution will result in grave financial or other hardship?

Yes No

If Yes, please provide details:

continued over the page ⇨

Part 3 Statement of case

See the supporting notes for guidance

(In all cases, please give details of your reasons for defending the petition/application or the allegations made against you.)

Part 4 Orders requested

- For the reasons above I ask the court to dismiss the Petitioner's/Applicant's petition/application
- Other

If Other, please specify any other order requested, apart from a costs order (see Part 5).

Part 5 Costs

Please select the statement which applies:

- I wish the court to order that my spouse/civil partner pay the costs of these proceedings
- or
- I do not wish to claim costs.

Part 6 Special assistance or facilities if you attend court

See the supporting notes for guidance

If you are required to attend court during these proceedings will you need any special assistance or facilities?

- Yes
- No

If Yes, please provide details:

Part 7 Service details

See the supporting notes for guidance

- I am not represented by a solicitor in these proceedings
- I am not represented by a solicitor in these proceedings but am receiving advice from a solicitor
- I am represented by a solicitor in these proceedings and all documents for my attention should be sent to my solicitor whose details are as follows:

My/Solicitor's details

Name (of solicitor if applicable)			
Name of firm (if applicable)			
Address to which all documents should be sent for service Postcode <input type="text"/> <input type="text"/> <input type="text"/> <input type="text"/> <input type="text"/> <input type="text"/>	Telephone no.		
	Fax no.		
	DX no.		
	Your ref.		
E-mail			

Part 8 Statement of truth

This **statement of truth** must be completed by the person filing this answer form with the court (referred to as the Respondent), or by a solicitor acting for them.

[I believe]* [The Respondent believes]* that the facts stated in this answer are true.
*delete as applicable

*[I am duly authorised by the Respondent to sign this statement.]

PRINT full name

Signed

Dated

Name of solicitor's firm (if applicable)

Proceedings for contempt of court may be brought against a person who makes or causes to be made, a false statement in a document verified by a statement of truth.