



STATE OF KANSAS
TENTH JUDICIAL DISTRICT
JOHNSON COUNTY COURTHOUSE
OLATHE, KANSAS 66061

GENERAL FACTS ABOUT FILING FOR DIVORCE IN KANSAS:

1. The *pro se* forms available through Johnson County's Self Help Center are basic. These forms do NOT deal with every divorce situation. A divorce can be complicated, and using legal forms without an attorney's help may not be advisable.
2. Court staff CANNOT give you legal advice or tell you exactly how to fill out your pleadings. Court staff can only provide information about the divorce procedures and help you file the correct forms. If you have legal questions or a complicated case, you should talk to an attorney.
3. Our courts require everyone to follow court rules. If you cannot follow the court rules you will not be able to finalize your divorce case. Even if you do not have an attorney, you are still expected to know and follow the same court rules and laws as an attorney.
4. If your spouse is active-duty military, you should consult an attorney because you must meet specific additional requirements.
5. You should know that the way you and the Court divide your property in a divorce decree are binding rulings and may not be modified later. In addition, agreements or rulings regarding division of debts are not binding on, and do not affect the rights of your creditors or other third parties.
6. If one spouse is going to receive part of the other spouse's retirement benefits, additional documents may be needed to complete the transfer. You will need to seek the advice of an attorney to complete this process because it is outside the scope of *pro se* divorce forms.

7. You or your spouse must have lived in Kansas for at least sixty (60) days before filing a Petition for Divorce with the Court.
8. You must wait at least sixty (60) days after you file your Petition for Divorce before a final hearing can be held and you become legally divorced.
9. When your case is filed, you will be given a case number. Your case “caption” with this case number must be included on all pleadings or documents you file with the Court in the future.
10. After you have filed your initial pleadings and Civil Cover Sheet, which include your address and contact information, you must inform the Clerk of the District Court and your assigned Division of any changes. See Notice of Change of Address, available through the Help Center.
11. TERMINOLOGY. The filing spouse in a divorce case is called the Petitioner. The non-filing spouse is called the Respondent.