

UNCONTESTED DIVORCE | WORKSHEET 2 OF 3

Sole vs. Joint Divorce Decision Sheet

Compares cooperation, service, signatures and control of the filing process.

BEST USED
WHEN

Use this after the issues are resolved but before choosing the application route.

ALBERTA LEGAL CHECKPOINT

Uncontested describes the filing process, not the importance of the result. Alberta's desk-divorce materials assume parenting and support are settled, do not deal with property division and require the Court's current package checklist. A clean divorce judgment should match the filed evidence and any existing agreements or orders.

Primary source: [Alberta Court of King's Bench: Divorce forms and instructions](#)

PREPARED FOR

DATE

1 Complete what you know

2 Mark gaps and assumptions

3 Attach supporting records

THE PRACTICE LENS

A joint filing is a procedural choice, not a certificate that the separation was amicable. We compare who can reliably sign, whether formal service is useful, who needs control of timing and what will happen if cooperation changes after the package is started.

A CONCRETE EXAMPLE

Two spouses agree on every substantive term, but one travels for long periods and is slow to return documents. A sole filing may keep the process moving after service; in another file, a joint application may reduce friction. The better route fits the actual cooperation available.

Compare the routes

Use one row per issue and identify the source for every important number or date.

Question	Sole filing	Joint filing
Who starts the claim?	One spouse	Both spouses
Is service required?	Usually yes	Usually no
Who signs initial documents?	Applicant	Both parties
Can one person control timing?	More easily	Requires cooperation
Does either route resolve property?	No	No

Practical questions

Use short factual notes. If an answer is uncertain, write what would confirm it.

1. Can both spouses review and sign documents promptly?

2. Is reliable contact information available for service?

3. Does either spouse live outside Alberta or Canada?

4. Is any relief being requested beyond the divorce itself?

5. Would waiting for cooperation create a deadline or timing problem?

Choose deliberately

Tick completed items. Circle anything that needs a document, follow-up or legal advice.

☐ Confirm the choice does not change unresolved support or property rights.

☐ Confirm who will prepare, review, sign and file each document.

☐ Confirm how filing fees and document costs will be handled.

☐ Set a fallback date if a joint filing does not progress.

☐ Obtain advice where service, jurisdiction or other relief is uncertain.

BRING THIS TO YOUR CONSULTATION

You do not need every blank filled. Mark the three items that matter most, attach the records you relied on and use this handoff to identify the next decision.

STATUS	☐ Ready to discuss ☐ Missing records ☐ Deadline or urgent issue
NEXT REAL DEADLINE	
RECORD OR ANSWER STILL NEEDED	
DECISION I NEED HELP WITH	

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