

# How to Respond to a Divorce

You were served with divorce papers  
You **DO** agree with the items in the Petition  
There **ARE** children of the marriage

## Step 1: Determine your response deadline

20 days if you were served in person in the State of Washington  
60 days if you were served outside the State of Washington  
90 days if you were served by mail

Forms may be downloaded for free at [www.courts.wa.gov/forms](http://www.courts.wa.gov/forms) or you may purchase them at the Clerk's Office

## Step 2: Fill out this form

Completed	Form Name	Form #	Notes
	Agreement to Join Petition*	FL All Family 119	Indicate whether you do or do not want notice of the final hearing

\*You should not be signing a joinder waiving notice UNLESS a proposed parenting plan and proposed child support worksheets have been filed and you agree with them. The court will not finalize after the 90 days has run unless it is convinced both parties are in agreement regarding these documents.

## Step 3: Copies Needed

Original is to be filed with the Clerk  
1 copy for your records  
1 copy to give to the other party

## Step 4: Take your original form to the Clerk's Office to file

## Step 5: Provide copies to other party

You may do so by personal service or mail.

This means that they receive a copy of what you have filed. It does not require them to be personally served by a process server. It can be done by mail at least 10 days before the court date or in person at least 7 days before the court date.

Fill out this form:

Completed	Form Name	Form #	Notes
	Proof of Mailing for Hand Delivery	FL All Family 112	

**File Original with the Clerk and make a copy for your records**

## **Step 6: Finalize**

**IF** a joinder was signed waiving notice, you do not need to do anything else.

**IF** you signed a Joinder WANTING notice but do not want to attend the court hearing: EITHER sign the Citation for the court date **OR** sign off on the Decree of Dissolution, Findings of Fact and Conclusions of Law, Final Parenting Plan, Final Order of Child Support and Child Support Worksheet. You may also attend the finalization hearing and sign at that time.

These instructions are legal information, not legal advice.

The about mentioned form can be found on the Washington State Court website.

[www.courts.wa.gov/forms](http://www.courts.wa.gov/forms).