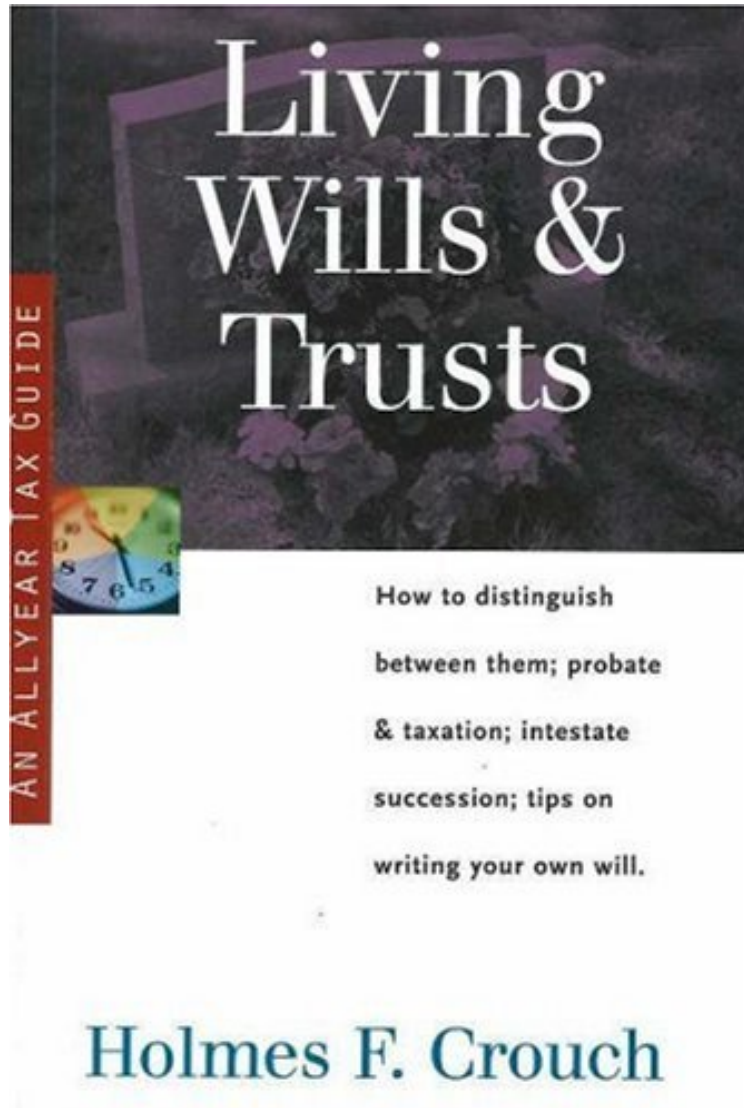


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Living Wills Trusts: How to Distinguish Between Them; Probate Taxation; Intestate Succession, Tips on Writing Your Own Will (Series 300: Retirees Estates)

Holmes F. Crouch

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Holmes F. Crouch : Living Wills Trusts: How to Distinguish Between Them; Probate Taxation; Intestate Succession, Tips on Writing Your Own Will (Series 300: Retirees Estates) before purchasing it in order to gage whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised Living Wills Trusts: How to Distinguish Between Them;

Probate Taxation; Intestate Succession, Tips on Writing Your Own Will (Series 300: Retirees Estates):

0 of 0 people found the following review helpful. Three StarsBy CustomerIts a little outdated, but it did let me find out about somethings1 of 1 people found the following review helpful. A book overviewing estate planning options and the settlement process.By A CustomerAt the outset let me say that the author should not have titled his book with the word "living" included. Living wills are not testamentary wills at all, and to refer to testamentary wills as living wills is inaccurate and misleading to say the least.The other problem I had with the title was that it really did not help me understand what the book was really about and who the intended audience is. After reading the book I think it is fair to say that the book is about options a living person has when planning his estate (no will, wills, trusts, and other will substitutes), and the processes (probate and transfer taxes) that must be dealt with after his death. I suppose the intended audience is someone who is about to undertake some estate planning. Maybe an executor might get something out of this book since part of the book discusses the probate and transfer taxes processes.The book has 12 chapters:1. Intestate Succession2. Testators and Trustees3. Features of a Will4. Features of a Trust5. Wills and Trusts Compared6. Executor, Trustee Roles7. Other Living Options8. Knowing Your Property9. Identifying Distributees10. The Probate Process11. The Taxation Process12. Writing Your Own WillI would have liked the book a lot better if it had been organized differently. I think chapters 3, 12, 8, 9, 10 had a lot in common and I was looking for a chapter just on executors (but did not find one). I think chapters 4 and 7 had a lot in common and I was looking for a chapter just on trustees (but did not find one). Then I would follow those chapters with chapters 5, 2, and 11. Where should Chapters 1 and 6 go? Probably out the door! And a new Chapter 1 should be added that would summarize the book and act as a good introduction to the material to follow.Without the new Chapter 1 that I just described I have trouble giving this book a "4 star" rating. However, there is quite a bit of good content in this book. It would be a shame to trample all over it by giving it only 3 stars.

In an effort to give readers the benefit of foresight when preparing for their own death, this guide explains the features and differences between living wills and living trusts and details the variations in distributing assets so that readers can make informed decisions about which prepared testamentary instrument is the best fit for their own estates and situations. Probate and after-death taxation are clarified, and pointers for writing one's own will are given. Also covered are the roles of trustees and executors, other living options, and identifying distributors.

About the AuthorHolmes F. Crouch has been an IRS-licensed tax practitioner and consultant for more than 25 years. He is the author of Small CS Corporations, Rental Real Estate, and Your Trustee Duties. He lives in Saratoga, California.