

Complaint for Divorce form instructions

SEE G.L c. 208

The following must be filed with this complaint:

Certified copy of civil marriage certificate.

R-408 -Certificate of Absolute Divorce or Annulment Statistical Information form.

(SEE G.L. c. 208, Section 6B)

Affidavit of Care and Custody if parties have children together.

(form available at the courthouse)

Allegations in Paragraph 5 must comply with G.L. c.207, Sections 1 and 2  
and Massachusetts Rules of Domestic Relations Procedure Rule 8.

SEE Uniform Fee Schedule for applicable filing fees.

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Service of complaint on defendant is to be made in accordance with  
Rules of Domestic Relations Procedures Rule 4.

Financial Statements

SEE Uniform Probate Court Practice XXX and  
Supplemental Probate Court Rule 401

Short form or Long form

Child Support Guidelines Worksheet, if support for child(ren) is requested.

All requests for temporary relief must be made by motion, although several requests may be combined. For temporary restraining orders, SEE Massachusetts Rules of Domestic Relations Procedure Rule 65, affidavit requirement.

If attachment or trustee process is desired, a motion with affidavit must be filed. A certificate of insurance is normally not required in domestic relations cases.

SEE Massachusetts Rules of Domestic Relations Procedure Rules 4.1 and 4.2.

All parties to a divorce action in which there is/are minor child(ren) is required to attend and participate in an approved Parent Education Program unless requirement waived by the court. SEE Probate and Family Court Standing Order 1-03.

Each party to a divorce action shall deliver to the other within 45 days from date of service of summons, specific financial documents.

SEE Supplemental Probate Rule 410.

An automatic restraining order applies to both parties in a complaint for divorce. It prohibits either party from engaging in any action which changes the present financial status of the parties.

SEE Supplemental Probate Court Rule 411.

Attorneys are required to file Uniform Counsel Certification form.