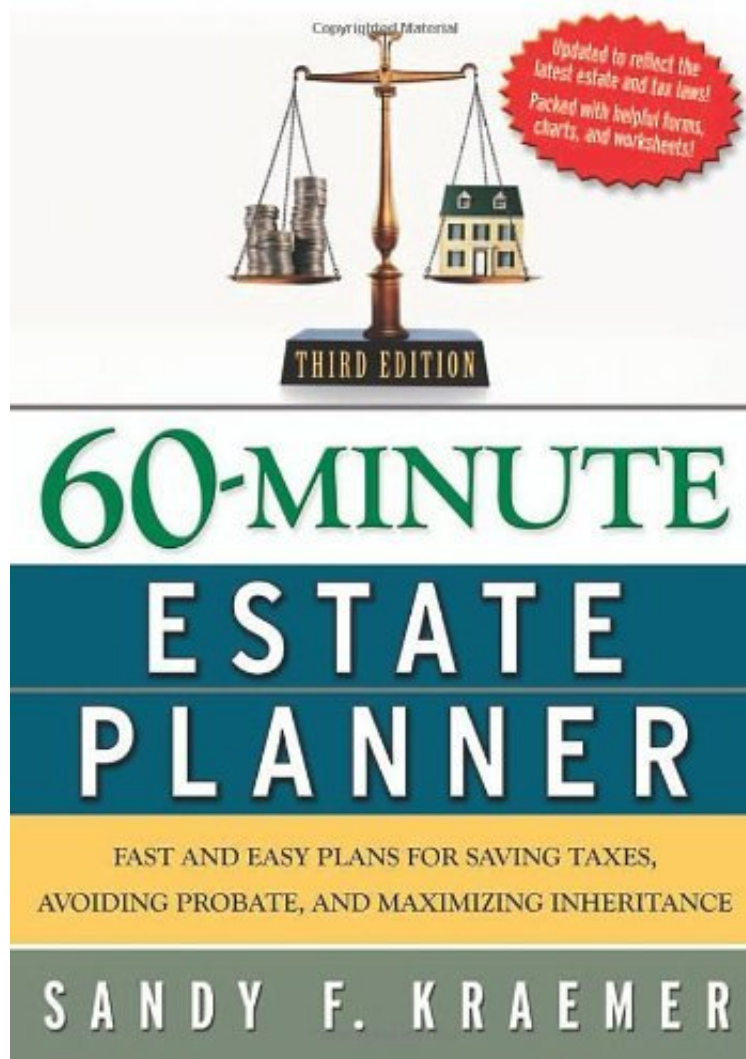


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60-Minute Estate Planner: Fast and Easy Plans for Saving Taxes, Avoiding Probate, and Maximizing Inheritance (Sixty Minute Estate Planner)

Sandy F. Kraemer

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7 of 8 people found the following review helpful. Best book on estate planning because of flow chartsBy Artephius

(.Back in 1999, I decided to do some estate planning. I decided to buy about 5 books to first learn the basics of estate planning.....then see an estate planning attorney to set up my estate plan.Of the five books that I read on estate planning, Kraemer's book was by far the best book. The main reason I liked Kraemer's book was his use of example flow charts, which show what happens to the money as each spouse dies. These flow charts also allow you to easily calculate the estate tax due at each step of the process.The other books were very dry and boring.....and without the flow chart approach...it was not clear to me how bypass trusts work.I highly recommend Kraemer's book as the best book on estate planning.....primarily due to the flow charts.Kraemer also explains that the use of disclaimers can be a good thing.....and a good way to deal with the changing estate tax laws.Kraemer's book allowed me to understand the basics of estate planning and bypass trusts. I was able to save time and money then working with an estate planning attorney to set up our bypass trusts.In this age of full disclosure, it can be noted that I am the author and publisher of the book INDEX MUTUAL FUNDS: HOW TO SIMPLIFY YOUR LIFE AND BEAT THE PROS. This book is an introduction to the concept of index funds is and is sold on . I am also a contributing author to the book THE BOGLEHEADS GUIDE TO RETIREMENT PLANNING available from with an estimated release date of October 2009. I have also written 21 short stories on investing which are also available on .Other good books on investing which may help you build a large enough estate so you get to worry about the problem of estate planning are shown below: The Richest Man in BabylonBogle on Mutual Funds: New Perspectives for the Intelligent InvestorThe Millionaire Next DoorThe Four Pillars of Investing: Lessons for Building a Winning PortfolioA Random Walk Down Wall Street: The Time-Tested Strategy for Successful Investing, Ninth EditionThe Coffeehouse Investor: How to Build Wealth, Ignore Wall Street, and Get On With Your LifeThe Bogleheads' Guide to Investing4 of 5 people found the following review helpful. Title can be misleading...By Samurai6I think this book does a fine job of describing different estate planning strategies and vehicles...as far as a college educated layman can tell with all the legally detailed and complex descriptions provided.The title and editorial reviews were a little misleading to me, perhaps because I was hoping to learn how to create my own estate plan without the participation of a lawyer. Forget it. The legal issues and procedures are too complicated. Lawyers have once more created a situation through the law that makes it impossible for the lay person to do straight forward things such as to assure his relatives obtain his estate without having to pay lawyers a whole stack of money.What I had hoped to do was learn how to create a living trust and get a will actuated without a lawyer, or at least with minimal advice from one. Wrong book for me. Unrealistic hope for almost anyone.What the 60-Minute Estate Planner is intended to do is enable you to tell a lawyer what it is you want the lawyer to do for you in an hour. The lawyer will then charge you thousands of dollars to do it.The book is alternately repetitive - each chapter seems to start with several pages of the same wordy assertions of the need for estate planning - and indecipherably detailed and opaque descriptions of different types of trusts.You can learn what you need to know to talk to an estate planning lawyer on the Internet for free. Getting it done is going to cast you thousands of dollars in lawyer's fees, so being able to make your plan in your lawyer's office in less than an hour is pretty meaningless. Good luck.0 of 0 people found the following review helpful. Five StarsBy Ronald Bilekgreat!

"No one can take their money, possessions, or land with them when they die - but they can ensure that their heirs are well taken care of. Updated to reflect the latest estate and tax laws, "60-Minute Estate Planner" simplifies the complicated process of estate planning, covering what kind of information readers need to gather before they can begin. Packed with helpful forms, charts, and worksheets, the book shows readers how to: communicate with heirs; manage medical decisions and provide for the special needs of the young and old; reduce, defer, and eliminate as much gift, estate, inheritance, and other tax as possible; use estate planning professionals and save on professional fees for planning and administration. The book clarifies all the different possible elements of an estate plan, including IRAs, living trusts, life insurance, annuities, and more. Thoroughly revised and filled with simple-to-follow instructions, this trusted resource allows readers to ensure that their memory lives on by providing for the ones they love."

About the Author Sandy F. Kraemer (Colorado Springs, CO) is an attorney and a nationally recognized expert in estate planning. He is the author of books including the two previous editions of 60-Minute Estate Planner.