



JAY HAIT

DIARY FOR THE
PREPARATION / EVALUATION
OF DIVORCE

Because knowledge is power and if you are considering divorce it is important that the power be in your hands.



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Why should you use this diary?

You wouldn't be here, and you wouldn't have received this booklet if you and your spouse were happy in your marriage. You may have already decided to get divorced or you may just be thinking about getting divorced. No matter what the case, you need information – either information to prepare properly for divorce or information to help you evaluate whether or not divorce is the correct path for you.

We always tell people – we hope that divorce is not the correct path for them and that things can be worked out. However, we realize that many times this simply is not possible.

We have prepared this diary to help you to gather the information required for you to make the right decisions in either scenario.

How do you use this diary?

First – don't let the diary overwhelm you. Remember – it is a tool to help you and not a homework assignment that must be totally filled out and within a given timeline.

The diary is divided into four sections.

Section One is a place to gather vital information: about you, about your spouse, about your family members. These are the dry but necessary facts that anybody considering getting divorced in Israel has to deal with.

Section Two is a daily diary of events that happen before you (or your spouse) has taken the initial legal steps towards divorce or other disposition of the marriage by filing a "בקשה ליישב סכסוך"- a motion to settle differences – which starts the legally mandated "mediation" process required before filing divorce suits. In this section you can detail events that happen – arguments with your spouse, meetings or calls with social workers, police, school representatives, etc.

Section Three is similar to section two but is for the period after any legal proceedings have begun – i.e. after one of you has filed the motion to settle differences.

Finally, **Section Four** is the financial section of the diary. It covers assets and debts you may have, salaries, what your monthly expenses are, etc.

The goal behind the diary is both to empower you by helping you to gather the information you need to make an informed decision, and to enable you to, in an organized manner, gather the information that will be required if you do get divorced.

Remember, we have made this diary as a tool for you. This diary is yours and it is for your own personal use. Nobody else will ever see this diary unless you want them too.

Fill in the sections as you want, when you want, and remember that they are best used as a release for when pressure strikes you. Don't let filling in the sections become a burden.

Information about your children

Name		Special Notes (medical, psychological, educational, etc.)
ID No. (TZ)		
Birthdate		
Sex: (m/f)		
School		

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ID No. (TZ)		
Birthdate		
Sex: (m/f)		
School		

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ID No. (TZ)		
Birthdate		
Sex: (m/f)		
School		

Section Two

In this section you should be filling in important information of altercations, social interactions, police, social worker, school (for your kids), and other events that either gave you a hard time emotionally or physically, or which you think may have relevance if you get divorced. These events may or may not directly involve your spouse. You should be filling out this section even before wither of you have filed any legal papers.

Date and time	Parties involved	Location
What happened? <hr/> <hr/> <hr/> <hr/> <hr/>		

Date and time	Parties involved	Location
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Section Three

In this section you should continue filling in important information of altercations, social interactions, police, social worker, school (for your kids), and other events that either gave you a hard time emotionally or physically, or which you think may have relevance if you get divorced. These events may or may not directly involve your spouse. You should be filling out this section even before wither of you have filed any legal papers.

Date בקשה ליישב סכסוך (Motion to settle disputes) filed: _____

Who filed (you or your spouse)? _____

Where was it filed (i.e. what court and what city) _____

If your spouse file first, and filed with an attorney, what is the attorney's name, address, and phone number? _____

When is your initial mediation date? _____

Where and with whom is your initial mediation date? (include telephone number as well) _____

Date and time	Parties involved	Location
What happened?		

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Section Four

In this section you should continue filling in important financial information. Remember, if you and your spouse divorce, it's not just that you won't be living together anymore. You will be re-ordering and separating your financial lives. It is very important to have all of this information both to make an informed decision, and to make a strategy to maximize your position during this financial separation. Many times you will not know this information – but you can bet dollars to donuts that after divorce proceedings are initiated it will be much harder to find – so it is your interest to fill in this section as early as possible.

Work related information:

Your place of work (if any)	Your Spouse's place of work (if any)
Your monthly salary	Your Spouses monthly salary
Value of your pension fund (if any)	Value of your Spouse's pension fund (if any)
Value of your kumat gemel or any other work related fund (if any)	Value of your Spouse's kumat gemel or any other work related fund (if any)

Asset Related Information

Your home

Home Address (again...)	If owned, when did you purchase your home?
If owned, purchase price?	If owned, owned equally?
Block Lot Sub-lot	Owned / Rented / Long term lease (חכירה) / other

Other Real Estate

Address	When purchased?
Purchase Price?	Percentages of ownership in Israel Lands Authority (Tabu)?
Block Lot Sub-lot	Owned / Rented / Long term lease (חכירה) / other

Address	When purchased?
Purchase Price?	Percentages of ownership in Israel Lands Authority (Tabu)?
Block Lot Sub-lot	Owned / Rented / Long term lease (חכירה) / other

Address			When purchased?
Purchase Price?			Percentages of ownership in Israel Lands Authority (Tabu)?
Block	Lot	Sub-lot	Owned / Rented / Long term lease (חכירה) / other

Automobiles

Manufacturer	Year	License No.	How titled?
Manufacturer	Year	License No.	How titled?
Manufacturer	Year	License No.	How titled?
Manufacturer	Year	License No.	How titled?

Bank / Financial Accounts

Institution	Branch	Address	Account	Balance
Institution	Branch	Address	Account	Balance
Institution	Branch	Address	Account	Balance
Institution	Branch	Address	Account	Balance
Institution	Branch	Address	Account	Balance
Institution	Branch	Address	Account	Balance
Institution	Branch	Address	Account	Balance

Other Assets

Debts

Monthly Household Expenses

* You will have to bring proof of these things – so start copying and collecting receipts for up to six months

** Fill in amounts and to whom paid, and other information you feel to be relevant

Health Related:

Additional Insurances

Medications

Private Doctors

Dental

Housing Related

Rent / Mortgage

Water

Arnona (property taxes)

Vaad Bayit

Electric

House phone

Cell phones

Gas

Cable

Internet

Repairs

Transportation Related

Car Payment

Gas

Insurance

If no car - transportation (taxis, busses, etc.)

Educational Expenses

Payments to schools (non-tuition)

Tuition

Tutoring

Books and materials (notebooks, etc.)

Special Education

Chugim (after school activities)

Gan (preschool)

Babysitter

After school care (moadon, tinokiah, etc.)

Misc.

Beauty Parlor

Cosmetics

Maid

Movies

Restaurants

Plays

Travel out of Israel

Hotels etc. in Israel

Newspapers

Insurances

We hope that this diary has been helpful to you, no matter what direction you elect to go.

As a complementary service to all of our clients, we store diary pages pending any legal filings we do on their behalves. To utilize the service, just fax your filled out diary pages to us at 072-244-9026 together with a filled out cover page (the last page in this diary) each time you send a transmission*.



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* it is your responsibility to confirm that we have received all of the pages that you transmit via facsimile.

Diary Fax Transmission Cover Page

Name	
Teudat Zehut	
Phone Number	
Number of Pages faxed (including this page)	
Pages numbers transmitted (pages at bottom of each page)	
Date	

If you want us to call you back and confirm receipt and subsequent storage, please mark yes



Jay Hait has been practicing law in the U.S. and/or Israel for nearly twenty years. When in the United States, Jay had a boutique securities related practice in New York City. When he moved to Israel with his family in 2004, Jay initially flew back and forth and continued to practice securities law in the United States. After going through an ugly divorce in Israel, with ancillary divorce litigation both in the United States and Israel, Jay was awarded custody of his three minor children (then 10, 7, and 4). Jay realized that despite the archaic family law system in Israel, there had to be a better way to get divorced than the process he had gone through, and opened a law practice in Israel focused on family law.

Today Jay's practice focuses on family law issues for the Jewish Anglo Saxon community in Israel, with affiliated offices in Tel Aviv, Haifa, and Jerusalem, and local intake offices in most areas with large Anglo communities. Jay and his staff pride themselves on helping people from western countries navigate through the seemingly archaic intricacies of the Israeli family law system.