Will Preparation Checklist

Personal information about both you and your spouse
Full legal names
Address and telephone numbers
Occupations
Date and place of births
Full names and date of births of all your children
Information about your children: are they adopted, infirm, born out of wedlock or are your children from a previous relationship?
Information about your marital status
Date and place of current marriage
Do you have a prenup?
Information about previous marriages
Any children of previous marriage?
Is prior spouse still alive?
Are there any existing separation agreements?
Summary of your Assets
Cash and bank accounts, where located
Life insurance policies
What amount and who is the beneficiary?
Any securities, pension plans, annuities, etc?
With who, what amount, and is there a designated beneficiary?
Your principal residence (home)
Type of ownership: sole, joint tenants or tenants-in-common
Current market value, amount of your equity and mortgages
Similar information on any other real estate
Information on businesses owned: proprietorships, partnerships or companies you have an interest in
Any inheritance expected or other money or assets you are expecting?
List of household furnishings, cars, boats, jewelry and other personal belongings of sentimental value
List any debts, such as loans, mortgages, guarantees, promissory notes, and amount owed and to whom

Outline of beneficiaries
Do you have minor children or disabled children? At what age do you want your children to have access to their bequest?
In the event that you and your spouse are killed in a common disaster (e.g. auto or plane crash), how do you want your estate to be distributed?
Who do you want specific personal possessions to go to?
Do you have alternative beneficiaries in case designated beneficiaries die before you or cannot be located?
Who do you want cash requests to go to and the amounts of each request? (e.g. spouse, children, former spouse, children by former spouse, family relatives, friends, business associates, charitable organizations, educational or other institutions
Names of people in your Will who will represent your interests
An Executor handles your estate. Trustee and guardian are for your minor children
List Executor, trustee, guardian name and address
Do they know the location of your safe deposit box?
Have you selected alternatives?
Other Information to Obtain
Have you considered having a "Living Will" (name an agent in the case of a terminal or serious illness)
Have you considered having Power of Attorney to someone over your affairs in certain situations (financial)?
Do you have a previous Will and when was it last reviewed?
Details on burial wishes and funeral service instructions
Have you considered setting up a testamentary trust to have some or all of your assets in your estate manage your death on behalf of your spouse or children?

Additional information can be provided below