

LIVING TOGETHER OR GETTING MARRIED?

	Factual cohabitation	Registered cohabitation	Marriage
Formation	No formalities	Declaration before a civil servant	Marriage before a civil servant
End	No formalities	Declaration before a civil servant (unilateral is an option)	Divorce
Inheritance for the surviving spouse?	No inheritance rights	Restricted inheritance rights: usufruct of the family home and home inventory	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Usufruct of the entire inheritance in case there are children - More elaborate inheritance rights (full ownership) in case of no children (depending on the marital property regime and other next of kin)
Protected reserved portion?	No	No	Yes, the family home and home inventory. Usufruct of other assets up until half of the entire estate can be added.
Assistance and support?	No	No, only contributing to the costs of living	Yes, including any alimony after divorce
Property of the partners?	Each their own property	Each their own property	Choices concerning the property via a marital property agreement (separation, common, etc.)
Family home protected?	No	Yes, consent of the other partner is needed to sell, or take out a loan on, the family home	Yes, consent of the partner needed to sell, or take out a loan on, the family home
Property agreement an option?	Yes, a notarial or private agreement	Yes, a notarial cohabitation agreement	Yes, a marriage contract
Pension for the surviving partner?	No	No	Yes
Responsibility for each others debts?	No	Yes	Yes
Granting each other more?	Via gift or will	Via gift or will	Via marital contract, gift or will