



## Australian families



### What do Australian families look like?



In Australia there are many different types of families.



They can be very different to the type of families you are used to.



Australian families may include:

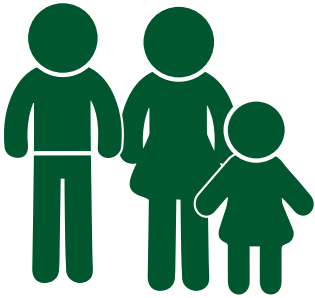
- a father, a mother and children



- step-parents and step-children



- foster parents and children



- brothers and sisters who look after each other



- parents of the same gender



- grandparents caring for grandchildren



- one parent caring for their children

## How big are Australian families?



Australian families can be any size.



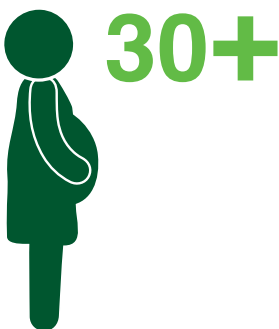
Many families only have 1 or 2 children.



Other families might have 3 or 4 children.



Some families have no children.



Many women will not have a child until they are over 30 years old.

## Extended families



Extended families can have many parts of the family living together.



An extended family might include:

- grandparents
- aunts and uncles
- cousins

Not all Australians live in extended families.

Parents who are getting old might live:

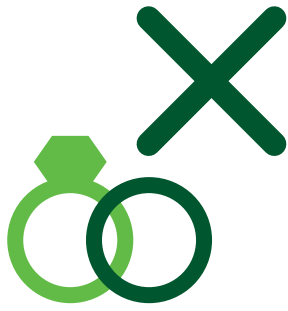
- in their own home



- in special homes that care for older people



## Being married



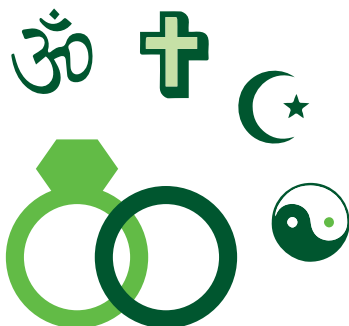
Men and women in Australia can live together without being married.



This is called a common-law or de facto relationship.



It is recognised by both society and the law.



In Australia you are free to marry people from other:

- races
- cultures
- religions

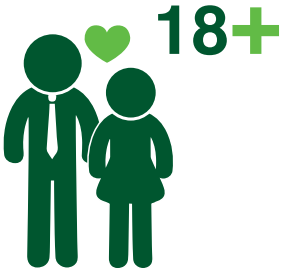
# 18+

You need to be older than 18 to get married.



If you are younger than 18 a court will decide if you can get married.

You need to have a very good reason.



Arranged marriages are ok in Australia if both people:

- want to marry each other
- are older than 18



No one can be forced to marry.



Forced marriages are illegal.



It is also against the law to have more than one husband or wife at the same time.



If 2 people do not want to be married anymore, they can get a divorce.

Divorce is:



- common
- acceptable in the community

It is common for people in Australia to get married again after a divorce.

## Work and jobs



Many Australian women have jobs and work outside the home.



Many Australian men help with work that is done around the home.



They might:

- shop for food the family needs
- cook
- clean
- take care of the children



Some men stay home and look after the children while the women go to work.



Teenagers often have part-time jobs that help them:

- earn money
- learn new skills



Having a job can help them get:

- experience at work
- money
  - for themselves
  - to help the family pay bills

