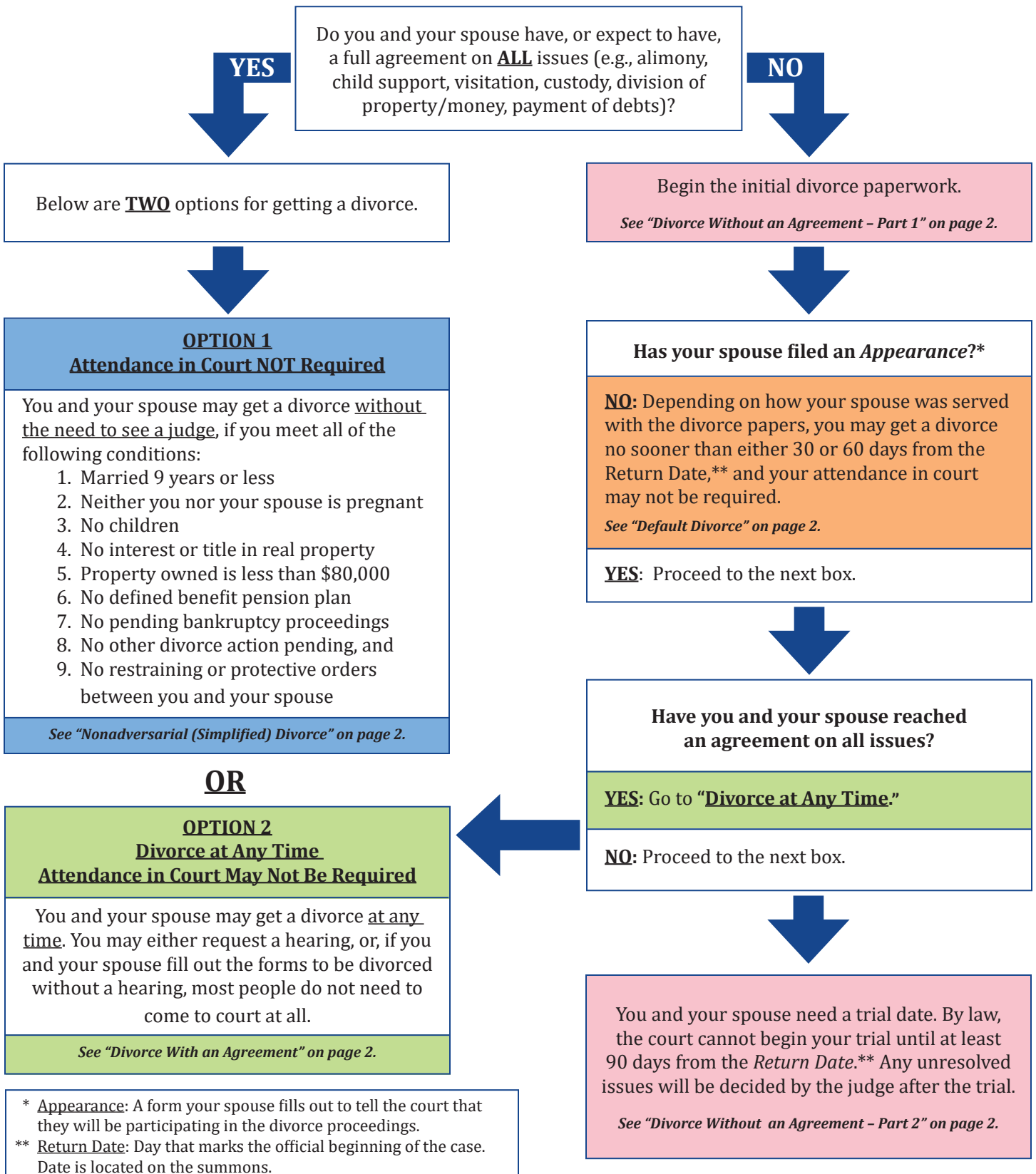


Divorce Options in Connecticut

In Connecticut, there are a number of ways to get divorced. Match the color from the chart below to the same color on page 2 for the options that apply to your case. Connecticut utilizes a "Pathways" process in divorce cases. For more information, go to www.jud.ct.gov/family/pathwaysprocess.htm.



* **Appearance:** A form your spouse fills out to tell the court that they will be participating in the divorce proceedings.
 ** **Return Date:** Day that marks the official beginning of the case. Date is located on the summons.

“Nonadversarial (Simplified) Divorce”

Complete and file the following forms with the court:

- [Joint Petition – Nonadversarial Divorce \(Dissolution of Marriage\) \(JD-FM-242\)](#)
- [Financial Affidavits \(JD-FM-6\)](#) for each spouse
- [Notice of Automatic Court Orders – Nonadversarial Divorce \(JD-FM-260\)](#)
- [Appearance \(JD-CL-12\)](#) for each spouse
- [If either spouse has ever received public assistance: Certification of Notice in Family Cases \(Public Assistance\) \(JD-FM-175\)](#)
- [If dividing property, money, or debt: Agreement – Nonadversarial Divorce \(Dissolution of Marriage\) \(JD-FM-243\)](#)

Divorce may be granted in approximately 35 days without the need to see a judge.

“Divorce With an Agreement”

Complete and file the following with the court:

- | | |
|---|---|
| <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Summons Family Actions (JD-FM-3)• Divorce Complaint (Dissolution of Marriage) (JD-FM-159)• Notice of Automatic Court Orders (JD-FM-158)• Financial Affidavits (JD-FM-6) for each spouse• Dissolution Agreement (JD-FM-172)• Certification of Waiver of Service of Process – Divorce, Legal Separation, Annulment (JD-FM-249)• Appearance (JD-CL-12) | <p>If minor children:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Worksheet for the Connecticut Child Support and Arrearage Guidelines (CCSG-1)• Advisement of Rights Re: Income Withholding (JD-FM-71)• Affidavit Concerning Children (JD-FM-164)• Parenting Education Program – Order, Certificate and Results (JD-FM-149) for each spouse |
|---|---|
- [If either spouse has ever received public assistance: Certification of Notice in Family Cases \(Public Assistance\) \(JD-FM-175\)](#)

You will be assigned your first court date after filing your case. If you and your spouse want your divorce right away, include a [Caseflow Request \(JD-FM-292\)](#) and tell the court you would like an uncontested hearing, or, if you would like the court to enter a divorce decree and approve your agreement without having to come to court, go to [How to Request the Entry of Judgment by Agreement, Or the Approval of Any Final Agreement, In a Divorce, Legal Separation or Custody/Visitation Action Without a Court Hearing](#).

“Default Divorce”

Complete and file the following forms with the court:

- [Financial Affidavit \(JD-FM-6\)](#)
- [Affidavit Concerning Military Service \(JD-FM-178\)](#)

If the papers were delivered to your spouse (served) personally or where your spouse lives (usual place of abode), complete and file a [Motion for the Entry of Judgment Upon Default of Appearance – Divorce or Legal Separation \(JD-FM-272\)](#) no sooner than 30 days from the Return Date to ask the judge to proceed on the divorce with or without a hearing. If the papers were delivered to your spouse in any other manner, you may obtain a date for your divorce no sooner than 60 days from the Return Date.

“Divorce Without an Agreement”

Step 1: Begin the process by completing the following forms and then bring them to the clerk’s office for signature:

- [Summons Family Actions \(JD-FM-3\)](#)
- [Divorce Complaint \(Dissolution of Marriage\) \(JD-FM-159\)](#)
- [Notice of Automatic Court Orders \(JD-FM-158\)](#)
- [If you need temporary orders: Motion for Orders Before Judgment \(Pendente Lite\) in Family Cases \(JD-FM-176\)](#)
- [If either spouse has ever received public assistance: Certification of Notice in Family Cases \(Public Assistance\) \(JD-FM-175\)](#)

Step 2: Deliver (“serve”) the completed forms, along with a blank [Appearance \(JD-CL-12\)](#) to your spouse.

NOTE: Your spouse can agree to waive service by completing and filing a [Certification of Waiver of Service of Process – Divorce, Legal Separation, Annulment \(JD-FM-249\)](#) and an [Appearance \(JD-CL-12\)](#)

Step 3: After the documents have been delivered to the other spouse (“served”) or the form to waive service has been signed by your spouse, return the originals with proof of delivery or the waiver to the clerk’s office with the proper fee for filing, or enroll in e-services and file the documents electronically.

You will be assigned your first court date after filing your case.

This information is not intended as legal advice, but is general information and should not be used as a substitute for legal advice.

For more information, you may go to the Judicial Branch website at: www.jud.ct.gov.