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Tips from the Divorce Support Club

Co-habitation

1 Your cohabitation **rights**

There is a common myth known as "common law husband or wife". Essentially meaning that you have some of the same rights in cohabitation as you do in marriage. This myth has no legal standing.



Unlike marriage, couples are not granted rights by the law.

If you move in to your partners property, and then you separate, you will have no rights to the property.

Finances are also not split upon separation. No matter how long you and your partner were together, you do not gain any rights.

2 Think about who **you** are

When entering into a new relationship after divorce, it's important to think about who you are. Many people jump into a relationship with somebody that is the complete opposite to their ex, but this isn't always the solution.

- What mistakes have you made in the past?
- What differences are you looking for in your next relationship?
- What traits do you want to avoid in a partner?



3 Moving in with someone before your divorce is finalised

Sometimes, people can find themselves in a new relationship before their divorce has come to an end, and they may want to start thinking about moving in with their new partner.



Divorce settlement figures are calculated based on each individual's needs. If you were living alone, your needs would be greater.

If you move in with a new partner do you need as much financial support as you once did?

Even if you believe you do require the same amount of support, your ex partner can argue this, and you can end up with a lesser financial settlement.

4 Tying up loose ends

Whether you've entered in to a new relationship or not, it's important to tie up the loose ends of your divorce.

- Don't get too carried away with your new relationship that it distracts you from the importance of your divorce
- Stay in the here and now
- You don't want the distraction of your new relationship to cause a loss for you in your divorce