

# Smooth ownership transitions, even when you least expect it

It can be easy to think you'll have plenty of time to prepare for a transition in business ownership, but time can go by faster than you think. And there are many events—both planned and unplanned—that could impact your business, like retirement, dissolution, death, disability, divorce, or termination of you, another owner, or a key employee.

**You've worked hard to build your business. Now take the time to protect its future and those who depend on it.**

There are many succession strategies to consider, and we can help. Start with a simple question to narrow down your options.

To whom will you transfer  
or sell your business?

| FAMILY                                |                       |                   |                                       | NON-FAMILY                                     |                       |                       |                                                 |
|---------------------------------------|-----------------------|-------------------|---------------------------------------|------------------------------------------------|-----------------------|-----------------------|-------------------------------------------------|
| Gift to family                        | Sell to family        | Bequest to family | Combination of gift, sale, or bequest | Sell to co-owner or business                   | Sell to third party   | Sell to employee      | Sell to an employee stock ownership plan (ESOP) |
| Gift                                  | One-way buy-sell      |                   |                                       | Cross purchase                                 | Select buy-out        | Select buy-out        |                                                 |
| Grantor Retained Annuity Trust (GRAT) | Sole owner transition |                   |                                       | Entity purchase                                | One-way buy-sell      | One-way buy-sell      |                                                 |
| Inheritance equalization              | Select buy-out        |                   |                                       | Multi-owner buy-sell                           | Sole owner transition | Sole owner transition |                                                 |
|                                       | Installment sale      |                   |                                       | Business continuation general partnership/ LLC | Installment sale      | Installment sale      |                                                 |
|                                       | Interest-only note    |                   |                                       | Installment sale                               |                       |                       |                                                 |
|                                       |                       |                   |                                       | Wait and see                                   |                       |                       |                                                 |

We can help.

A **Business Continuation Proposal** from Principal can walk you through transition options, then help you document your intentions in an effective buy-sell agreement.

 For more information | Contact your financial professional today.



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