

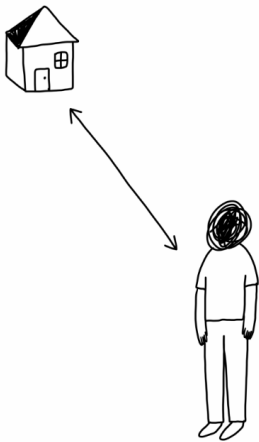
# How do I get my stuff back If there's an ADVO?



FAMILY VIOLENCE LAW HELP

[www.familyviolencelaw.gov.au](http://www.familyviolencelaw.gov.au)

## New South Wales (NSW)



Sometimes an Apprehended Domestic Violence Order (ADVO) will change where you live, or who you have contact with. This can make it difficult to get your stuff back—for example, if you've left your things at their house. Not all ADVOs have conditions that will stop you from getting your things, so you should get legal advice about your situation. Sometimes you can ask the police if they can help you get your things.

Sometimes the court can make an order so you can safely collect your personal things, like:

- your clothes
- toiletries
- documents like passports, tax returns, birth certificates or other personal papers
- children's toys.

You can get legal advice about this.



If you were in a relationship with the other person, the two of you may need to divide up your things by doing a property settlement. You need to tell the court if you already have family law property orders, or have applied for family law property orders.

When it makes an ADVO, the court may make a Property Recovery Order for:

- the defendant (the person the order is against) to collect their personal things from the protected person
- the protected person to collect their personal things from the defendant
- the police or someone else to go with the person when they collect their personal things.

For more information, get legal advice.



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*While we have tried to make the information here as up-to-date and accurate as possible, the law is complex and always changing. All legal problems are different. You should see a lawyer to get advice about your problem. Legal Aid NSW, National Legal Aid and the Commonwealth Attorney-General's Department are not liable for any errors or omissions, or for any loss or damage that arises from any person who relies on any information on this factsheet. This factsheet was developed in 2019.*