

Template: Conversation Starter Scripts

SCRIPT 1: Starting the Planning Conversation

"I want to talk with you about something important. I've been thinking about my future and making some plans. I'm doing this because I love you and want to make things easier if something happens to me.

I'd like to share my plans with you so you know what I want. This isn't about dying tomorrow - it's about staying in control and making sure you know my wishes.

Can we set aside some time to go through this together?"

SCRIPT 2: Sharing Your Completed Plan

"I've finished my planning, and I want to share it with you. I did this because I love you and want to _____ [protect you from hard decisions / make sure my wishes are clear / stay independent as long as possible].

My main goal is _____ [to stay in my own home / to not be a burden / to make sure you know what I want].

Here's what I've written down..."

SCRIPT 3: Asking Someone to Be Your Helper

"I'm working on my future plans, and I'd like to ask if you would be willing to help me if I ever need it.

This would mean _____ [helping with my money / making health decisions for me / both] if I can't do it myself anymore.

You wouldn't have to do anything right now. But if something happens, you would speak for me and follow the wishes I've written down.

Would you be comfortable with this? Can we talk about what it would involve?"

SCRIPT 4: If Someone Disagrees

"I understand this might be hard to hear. I'm not planning to need help anytime soon. But I want to be prepared.

The most important thing to me is _____ [staying independent / not worrying about these things / knowing my family will be okay].

This plan helps me feel more secure. Can you help me with that?"

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