For generations, people of substantial means have made the private trust the cornerstone of their wealth management strategy. They have used trusts as a means to distribute their wealth in accordance with their personal goals and family’s needs, protect and preserve their assets, ensure the well-being of their family and share their wealth to make this world a better place.

Building family trust for generations.

Trusts make sense now more than ever. Regardless of your family history, business, or personal interests, trusts are still widely used and valued for their outstanding benefits: flexibility, privacy, asset protection and wealth preservation and transfer.
Wealth. It takes trust.

Life’s issues can be complex, challenging and often unpredictable. This is especially true when building substantial wealth. Building wealth takes hard work, patience, investment acumen and, usually, some luck. Keeping wealth and passing it on is yet another challenge and requires that you have the right kind of help when you need answers to a host of challenging questions.

Questions such as…

• What is an appropriate inheritance for our children? Our grandchildren? Future generations?
• How do we prepare our children to manage their financial inheritance responsibly?
• How might our resources be used positively and not as a disincentive to the initiative or drive of our family?
• How do we structure the family business and share family assets — such as our summer home — to unite, not divide, our family?
• How do we encourage the next and future generations to create their own vision and achieve their personal goals while fulfilling our own?

And, ultimately,

• Who will take care of my family when I’m not around or able?
So, what is a trust?

Essentially, a trust allows you to place assets in the care of a trustee, with the trustee required to manage those assets for the benefit of one or more beneficiaries, typically family members and, often, charities. A trust can be quite simple or, where tax or other considerations warrant, quite complex, so as to accomplish a host of estate planning and wealth transfer objectives. A trust can also be created to address a specific need, such as ensuring the care of an aging parent or looking after a child with special needs.

Whether simple or complex, a well drawn trust will be custom-tailored to address your specific needs and goals.

What is a trustee and what is the trustee’s role?

The trustee plays a key role in the fulfillment of a trust’s mission, ensuring that your goals are carried out faithfully, year after year, and generation after generation. A trustee’s role and responsibilities will be dictated by the law and the terms of the trust and will typically include knowing and addressing the needs of the beneficiaries, making sensitive, discretionary decisions, safeguarding and distributing assets, managing investments, planning for taxes, and providing administrative support, such as bill paying and bookkeeping.

Beyond these critical financial and legal responsibilities, an experienced trustee will understand the personal, emotional, and psychological aspects of wealth and the impact that wealth can have on your family.
Why Hemenway Trust Company?

At Hemenway Trust Company, we know that choosing the right trustee can make all the difference for you, your family and your financial future. The right trustee will be guided by your goals and your objectives, as it brings to bear the experience and judgment needed to make investment decisions designed to build and preserve real wealth.

At Hemenway Trust Company, we will always take the time to understand your needs, to develop a deep knowledge of your family and to earn your trust. Our work centers on the individual client and his or her family. It is not about selling products or building a volume practice, nor is it a component of a big bank or financial services company. Ours is a focused fiduciary practice, crafted to meet a broad range of an individual’s needs for comprehensive wealth management and advice.

Hemenway Trust Company is affiliated with Hemenway & Barnes, a highly regarded, Boston-based law firm, which has advised individuals, families and business owners on legal and fiduciary matters since 1863. We are part of a tradition of excellence which generations of the region’s leading families and institutions have relied upon throughout the firm’s history.

Our clients have come to expect highly personalized service and unrivaled responsiveness. They appreciate our dedication to this field and to the clients whom we serve.

This is our legacy, our commitment. It is at the heart of all we do.