

Difference Between Lawyer and Advocate

The difference between lawyer and advocate is crucial to understand as many people often get confused between the two and use these terms interchangeably. The role of lawyers is to give legal advice to their clients, but they cannot represent them in a court of law, while advocates have more knowledge, they can give legal advice to their clients and represent them in court by pleading on their behalf.

Lawyer vs Advocate

Let's take a look at the difference between Lawyer and Advocate in India.

Lawyer	Advocate
Any person with knowledge of the law or who has studied law for 5 years is called a lawyer.	The title 'Advocate' can only be used by people who have obtained a license from the Bar Council of India after clearing the Bar exam.
The primary duty of a lawyer is to give their clients legal advice. They can also conduct research and prepare legal documents such as contracts and briefs.	The primary job of an Advocate is to represent clients in court.
Lawyers are less experienced since they have just graduated from law school and haven't practiced independently.	Advocates are experienced professionals who have several years of experience in representing clients in courts.
They charge less than advocates since they are less experienced and do not represent clients in court.	They can charge hefty compensation for representing a case in court as they are much more experienced and has more knowledge.

Who is an Advocate?

An advocate is someone who has received legal training to act on behalf of their client, who can either be an individual or an entity like a company, bank, etc. This legal training includes professional certification from a law program in a recognized institution and the license to practice law in India.

An advocate earns this license by clearing the Bar Council exam conducted by the Bar Council of India.

Who is a Lawyer?

A lawyer is a legal professional who has studied law. He or she is an attorney, counsellor or advisor, solicitor, or barrister. The person with the requisite qualification to practice law after undergoing the prescribed course of study can be called a lawyer.

Lawyers are the people who have complete knowledge of the laws that govern the country. They study and research the law to give justice to their clients. The primary function of lawyers is to advise their clients about their legal rights and responsibilities. In addition to this, they can also prepare legal drafts and documents for both individual clients and companies.

The Indian legal system is a common law system. It has the same basic structure as England. Legal education in India is conducted through a 5-year course (integrated BA-LLB or BBA-LLB). The difference between Lawyer and Advocate is that after completing this course, one is eligible to appear for the All India Bar Examination conducted annually by the Bar Council of India. And if you pass it, you can practice law in any court in India and become an advocate.

