

### **ORDER OF CEREMONY FOR AN ENHANCED BESPOKE CEREMONY**

Registrar's welcome  
Introduction and presentation (optional)  
Personalized to your story  
Reading (optional)  
Declaratory words (legal requirement)  
Reading (optional)  
Contracting words (legal requirement), ring exchange (optional) and traditional vows  
Reading (optional)  
Pronouncement  
Signing of the schedule

Addition to your ceremony that can't be included within the legal civil ceremony

Concluding words

The words in blue are the legal words that must be included within the ceremony script as well as the declaratory and contracting words

Registrar will welcome guests before the arrival of the 2<sup>nd</sup> party or couple if entering together

*(words to reflect the requests of the couple, personalised by the Registrar but will generally encompass the following: mobile phone etiquette, photos during the ceremony, social media, confetti, when guests are asked to stand up, any wishes about crying babies)*



## INTRODUCTION

Good afternoon family and friends and a warm Shropshire welcome.

In the company of \_\_\_\_\_ and \_\_\_\_\_ we gather here today at (venue) to celebrate one of life's most beautiful moments, a wedding.

To \_\_\_\_\_ and \_\_\_\_\_ having you their family and here today you are expressing your love and support for them at this very special occasion.

You are all here today to experience the joyful, cheerful and engaging personal ceremony that \_\_\_\_\_ and \_\_\_\_\_ have created for you all to enjoy and be part of. This occasion is another way of \_\_\_\_\_ and \_\_\_\_\_ demonstrating to you all that making the most of times spent together is what is most important to them. It is a foundation of their relationship and one of the hundreds of reasons we are here today.

My name is \_\_\_\_\_ and I have the honour and privilege of conducting the marriage ceremony today.

My colleague is \_\_\_\_\_, and they are responsible for the legal aspects of today's ceremony. \_\_\_\_\_ will be listening very carefully to ensure that all the legal parts of the ceremony are performed correctly, so that \_\_\_\_\_ and \_\_\_\_\_ leave here today as they intended – a legally married couple.

Before this ceremony can begin, I am required to formally check your names:

\_\_\_\_\_ – Would you please confirm your full names?

\_\_\_\_\_ – Would you please confirm your full names?

This place in which we are met has been duly sanctioned according to the law for the celebration of marriages.

You are here today to witness the joining in matrimony of \_\_\_\_\_ to \_\_\_\_\_ and I am required to ask if any person here present knows of any lawful impediment to this marriage they should declare it now.



### **PRESENTING BRIDE/GROOM**

*(Optional according to couples' requests)*

*One of the customs in the wedding ceremony that brings together new and old is the presentation of the bride/groom. Today, presenting (the bride/groom) is seen as a symbolic act of love and support for the new couple*

*Who has the honour of presenting \_\_\_\_\_ to be married to \_\_\_\_\_ ?*



***Example introduction including how you met, what you thought of each other and what made you decide to get married. This will be written with you by your dedicated Registrar.***

\_\_\_\_\_ and \_\_\_\_\_ first met when they were at school, but never really spoke to each other. Having been reunited a few years later that quickly changed and they realised that they had that special connection that quickly blossomed into their relationship that brings them here today.

This is an exciting time to look ahead at all the moments that you have yet to come, creating those special memories on your future travels, your new home and perhaps one day even a family of your own.

We have thousands of important moments that happen throughout our lives, but this one is regarded as so critical, we acknowledge its special status by sharing it with others.

Because despite all of our differences, love is what we all share. It's the great unifier — our one universal truth. That no matter who we are, where we've come from, what we believe, we know this one thing: love is what we're doing right.

That's why you are both standing here. That's why you are all here to watch and support them today.

We have all loved in our lifetimes, and in this moment, we're reminded that the ability to love is the very best part of our humanity.

Getting married today confirms the love, respect, and true friendship that you have for each other.

**READING** – by guest, supplied by couple and approved before the ceremony by the Registration Service



### **DECLARATORY WORDS**

\_\_\_\_\_ and \_\_\_\_\_ before you are joined in matrimony, I have to remind you of the solemn and binding character of marriage and of the implicit promises you are about to make to each other.

According to the law of this Country, marriage is the union of two people, voluntarily entered into for life, to the exclusion of all others.

I must now ask each of you to declare that you know of no legal reason why you should not be married to each other.

Please repeat after me:

*Option to be selected by the couple when they complete the Options Questions on their online booking*

#### **Option 1**

I do solemnly declare, that I know not of any lawful impediment why I (full name) ,may not be joined in matrimony to (full name)

#### **Option 2**

I declare that I know of no legal reason why I (full name) may not be joined in marriage to (full name)

#### **Option 3**

*Registrar asks:* Are you (full name) free lawfully to marry full name)

*Response:* I am



\_\_\_\_\_ you describe \_\_\_\_\_ as being gentle, never quick to judge and welcoming to everyone.

So I ask you in the presence of this company,

\_\_\_\_\_ will you take \_\_\_\_\_ to be your husband/wife. Will you comfort, rejoice, and remain true to \_\_\_\_\_ today, tomorrow and always?

*Response: I Will or I Do*

\_\_\_\_\_, you describe \_\_\_\_\_ as being caring, encouraging and supportive.

So I now ask you in the presence of this company,

\_\_\_\_\_ will you take \_\_\_\_\_ to be your husband/wife. Will you comfort, rejoice, and remain true to \_\_\_\_\_ today, tomorrow and always?

*Response: I Will or I Do*

**READING** – by guest, supplied by couple and approved before the ceremony by the Registration Service



### **CONTRACTING WORDS**

Ladies and gentlemen, family and friends, we have now come to the most important part of the ceremony, the formal vows of marriage and the exchange of rings.

The wearing of a wedding ring is the ancient and traditional seal of a marriage. The wedding ring is an unbroken circle that symbolises unending and everlasting love, a circle that has no beginning and no end.

(Ring bearer) would you please bring forward the rings

Please repeat after me:

*Option to be selected by the couple when they complete the Options Questions on their online booking*

#### **Option 1**

I call upon these persons here present to witness that I ( full name)  
do take thee ( full name) to be my lawful wedded wife/husband

#### **Option 2**

I (full name) take you (full name) to be my wedded wife/husband

#### **Option 3**

I (full name) take thee ( full name) to be my wedded wife/husband

Followed by the Traditional Vows

I give you this ring as a symbol of our marriage and I promise to care for you give you my love and friendship support and comfort you and to respect and cherish you throughout our lives together.

Or

You can include your own personal vows instead of the traditional vows. Your dedicated Registrar will guide you if you need any ideas for personalised vows.

May these rings which by long tradition form the seal of the marriage, be a reminder of the vows made here today. May you wear them with happiness and pride now and always and may the feelings of love that you have for each other, deepen, and grow ever stronger throughout the years to come.



**READING** – by guest, supplied by couple and approved before the ceremony by the Registration Service

### **PRONOUNCEMENT**

*Example conclusion includes what are you most looking forward to in your life as a married couple and your plans for your future together. This will be written with you by your dedicated Registrar.*

\_\_\_\_\_and \_\_\_\_\_ invited you all here to witness their commitment to each other and by being here today and witnessing this marriage, you will all now be sharing in their future.

You have symbolised your marriage by the joining of hands and the giving and receiving of rings in the presence of your witnesses, family and friends gathered here today. These special people are here to support you, be proud of you, and to remind you that love isn't happily ever after, love is the experience of writing your own story.

It's not one moment, it's every moment. Big ones like saying "I love you," having your children, moving in together, getting engaged, getting married here today — but mostly a million little ones that come in between the big moments.

Falling asleep next to one another, making dinner together, getting that hug when you need it. Having someone to laugh with you and someone to cry with you, being there for each other through the bad and good times

This day will be one of those amazing times, to be celebrated and cherished forever.

**You have both made the declaration that is required by law, you have made solemn and binding promises to each other in the presence of your witnesses, family, and friends.**

We are honoured to be able to tell you that by your own words, and by the law of this country, you are now (husband and wife/husband and husband/wife and wife), and it is my privilege to introduce you as a married couple for the first time

If you wish you may seal your marriage with a kiss

### **SIGNING OF THE SCHEDULE**





### **EXAMPLES OF INCLUSIONS INTO ENHANCED BESPOKE CEREMONY**

- HAND FASTING
- RELIGIOUS PRAYER/HYMN
- LIGHTING OF A UNITY CANDLE
  - SAND CEREMONY
- GUESTS SINGING A SIGNIFICANT SONG
  - A MUSICAL INTERLUDE
  - ADDITIONAL READINGS

### **CONCLUDING WORDS**

Ladies and Gentlemen, this brings the formal proceedings to a close. I would like to wish you a wonderful time celebrating with \_\_\_\_\_ and \_\_\_\_\_ here at \_\_\_\_\_

Please make sure you savour this very special day, make lots of memories and ensure that \_\_\_\_\_ and \_\_\_\_\_ have a day they will never forget.

It just remains for me to ask you all to stand..., and join us in offering congratulations to the newly married couple as they take their first steps into married life together

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Ladies and Gentleman;

Mr & Mrs/Mr & Mr/Mrs & Mrs (*surname as requested*)

or

First names

or

The happy couple