

## Ceremony Template

Dear friends and family, we are gathered here today in the sight of God to witness and celebrate the joining of \_\_\_\_\_ and \_\_\_\_\_ in marriage. In the years they have been together, their love and understanding of each other has grown and matured, and now they have decided to live their lives together as husband and wife. Friends & family please be seated.

Who gives \_\_\_\_\_ to be married today?

Dad responds "I do," or "Her mother and I do." or we do

Marriage gives permanence and structure to a couple's love. It's a way to tell one another that no matter (Anything funny can be added here: how much you spent at the mall or how many times you forget to throw the trash) what happens you're not going anywhere and that's a powerful commitment for two people to make to one another.

Any Reading or favorite scripture can go here

In the Bible, first Corinthians chapter 13, verses four through eight tells us:

Love is patient, love is kind. It does not envy, it does not boast, it is not proud. It is not rude, it is not self-seeking, it is not easily angered, it keeps no record of wrongs. Love does not delight in evil but rejoices with the truth. It always protects, always trusts, always hopes, always perseveres. Love never fails.

No other human ties are more tender and no other vows more important than those you are about to take. Both of you come to this day with the deep realization that the covenant of marriage is sacred, as are all of its obligations and responsibilities. You will leave here today embracing one of the greatest human bonds that life has to offer. May your days together be many and rewarding.

### 3 ways to say your vows

1. I Do - Officiant begins with "Do you", then reads the entire vow, followed by the participant's response of "I do"

Do you \_\_\_\_\_, take \_\_\_\_\_ to be your (wife/husband), to have and to hold from this day forward, for better or for worse, for richer, for poorer, in sickness and in health, to love and to cherish; from this day forward until death do you part?

Do you \_\_\_\_\_, take \_\_\_\_\_, to be your lawfully wedded (husband/wife), my constant friend, my faithful partner and my love from this day forward.

2. Echo - Officiant says "Please repeat after me", then reads the vow one line at a time, with participant repeating each line, one line at a time, until the vow is complete.

I, \_\_\_\_\_, take you \_\_\_\_\_, to be my (wife/husband), to have and to hold from this day forward, for better or for worse, for richer, for poorer, in sickness and in health, to love and to cherish; from this day forward until death do us part.

I, \_\_\_\_\_, take you, \_\_\_\_\_, to be my lawfully wedded (husband/wife), my constant friend, my faithful partner and my love from this day forward.

3. Do your own vows

The wedding ring symbolizes unity, a circle unbroken, without beginning or end. And today \_\_\_\_\_ & \_\_\_\_\_ exchange these rings as confirmation of their vows to join their lives, to create a life that is complete and unbroken and to love each other unconditionally. May the Lord bless these rings which you give to each other as the symbol of your love and fidelity.

I \_\_\_\_\_ give you \_\_\_\_\_ this ring as an eternal symbol of my love and commitment to you.

With this ring, I thee wed.

I give you this ring, a symbol of my love, as I give to you all that I am, and accept from you, all that you are.

I give you this ring as a symbol of my love for you. Let it be a reminder that I am always by your side and that I will always be a faithful partner to you.

**Unity Candle**

**Unity Sand**

**Wine Ceremony**

**Any other activity Planned**

Let us Pray.....Lord Bless This Couple with a lifetime of love & happiness may they grow Closer to you each and every day of their lives, in Jesus name we pray...Amen

Now that you have professed your vows and exchanged rings I now pronounce you husband and wife. What God has joined together let no man take apart. \_\_\_\_\_ you may kiss your bride.

It's my great honor and privilege to be the first to present to you Mr. and Mrs. \_\_\_\_\_  
Or \_\_\_\_\_ & \_\_\_\_\_

## What is Legally required to get Married

### Bride & Groom

must obtain a marriage license from county clerk's office

(Public Marriage license)

They'll need their driver license or birth certificate

The Ceremony must have a Declaration of intent other than that the format is open

(I do's)

### Witnesses

Need to be old enough to understand & witness the Declaration of intent

### Officiant

the officiant, must witness the declaration of their wish to be husband and wife.

The officiant is required to examine the marriage license prior to the ceremony and must be satisfied as to the correctness of the statement of facts before solemnizing the marriage. For this purpose, the person may administer oaths and examine the parties and witnesses in the same manner as the county clerk does before issuing the license.

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The Officiant must return the marriage license to the County Clerk within 10 days of the ceremony.

In California, it is the ordination by the denomination that gives each clergy member the authority to perform the marriage rite (Ordination Certificate)