



NOTTINGHAMSHIRE REGISTRATION SERVICE MODERN MARRIAGE CEREMONY

Pre-ceremony Announcements

Before the ceremony begins, we will ask your guests to make sure their phones are on silent.

You may choose for us to announce that either your guests are welcome to take photos / video, or they are welcome to take photos / video but not to post on social media without your permission, or to request that they do not take photos / video during the ceremony.

You may choose how we refer to your guests throughout the ceremony; Ladies and Gentlemen, Family and Friends, Honoured Guests, Wedding Guests or One and All.

Your Entrance

To begin the ceremony, you may choose to make a grand entrance into the ceremony room or to informally begin the ceremony without fanfare. Music of your choice can be played, as you wish.

If you choose to make an entrance, you may do this as a couple, or with one of you waiting in the ceremony room and the other making an entrance (with or without an escort), or with each of you making a separate entrance (with or without escorts).

Celebrant Registrar's Welcome to Your Venue

"A very good morning / afternoon to you all and on behalf of _____ and _____, may I welcome you to (venue) and thank you for being here today, to witness their marriage and to share in their happiness.

My name is _____ and it is my pleasure to conduct their ceremony today, with the support of my colleague _____, who will complete the schedule, which is the legal record of _____ and _____'s marriage."

The Celebrant Registrar will say a few words here about the venue you have chosen for your ceremony.

Confirming Your Names and Calling for Objections

The Celebrant Registrar will ask each of you in turn, "is your full name _____?"

"We are here to witness the joining in marriage of _____ and _____. If anyone present knows of any legal reason why _____ and _____ should not be joined in marriage, they must speak now...."

All About Marriage

"From today, _____ and _____'s lives will change, because they have chosen to become a married couple.

No longer will they simply be two people in love, but instead, two people joined together in the trust, respect, and loving commitment of marriage.

Now and forever, they will be as one. They will celebrate each other's achievements. For when one succeeds, they both do.

They will share each other's hopes and dreams. They will plan for the future together.

Through the highs and lows of life, _____ and _____ will be there for each other. Sharing their lives in mutual support and appreciation.

Growing and developing as individuals and as a couple, safe in the confidence and security of their marriage."

Introducing the Legal Declaration

“This place has been approved for the celebration of marriages and I will now ask _____ and _____ to confirm that there is no legal reason why they should not be married to each other, and that they are each choosing to marry of their own free will.

_____ and _____, before you are joined in marriage, I must remind you that the vows you are about to make will join you together in law, sincerely and forever.

Marriage in this country means the union of two people, voluntarily entered into for life, to the exclusion of all others.”

The Legal Declaration

The Celebrant Registrar will say to each of you in turn, *“by replying ‘I am’ to the question. Are you _____ free lawfully to marry _____?”*

You must each respond, “I am”.

The ‘I Do’s’

The Celebrant Registrar will then say to each of you in turn, *“by replying ‘I do’ to the question. Do you _____ freely consent to me joined in marriage to _____?”*

You should each respond, “I do”.

(Optional) Reading

You may choose to include a reading here, either one of our suggested readings (1-8) or another of your choice. This could be presented by you, one of your guests, or one of the Celebrant Registrars, as you wish.

(Optional) Presentation and Exchange of Wedding Ring(s) and Personal Promises

“ _____ and _____ have chosen to exchange (wedding rings / a wedding ring) to seal their marriage vows.

The wedding ring is an unbroken circle, symbolising everlasting love. From this moment and forever, (these rings / this ring) will represent the promises of love and commitment, they are making to each other today.

I would like to invite _____ (your ring-bearer) to come forward, to present the wedding ring(s).”

The Celebrant Registrar will guide you through the exchange of rings / a ring and say to each of you in turn, *“Please repeat after me. _____ I give you (or I accept) this ring, as a symbol of my love, and a sign of our marriage.”*

The Celebrant Registrar will guide you through these words, a few at a time.

If you are choosing to exchange personal promises, the Celebrant Registrar will invite you to make your promise after giving or receiving a ring. If you have chosen one of our suggested promises (1-8), the Celebrant Registrar will hand you your promise on a card to read – if you would prefer the Celebrant Registrar to guide you through these words, please let us know.

Introducing the Legal Contract

“I will now guide _____ and _____ through the words which will join them together in marriage. Please can I ask you all to stand, if able, to show your support.”

The Legal Contract

The Celebrant Registrar will say to each of you in turn, *“please repeat after me, looking at _____ . I _____ take you _____ to be my wedded wife / husband.”*

The Celebrant Registrar will guide you through these legal words, a few at a time.

Celebrant Registrar's Pronouncement of Marriage

" _____ and _____, this is the start of a new chapter in your lives together.

We hope that the feelings of love you share, will grow ever deeper and stronger, throughout the years to come.

In the presence of your witnesses, you have confirmed your commitment to each other and made vows which have joined you together sincerely and forever.

It is with great pleasure that I now confirm you are legally joined together in marriage!"

You may choose for the Celebrant Registrar to invite you both to share a kiss, or not, as you wish.

The Celebrant Registrar will invite your guests to take a seat and will facilitate the signing of the marriage schedule by you and your witnesses, followed by an opportunity for photos. Music of your choice can be played, as you wish.

Celebrant Registrar's Closing Words

You may choose how we announce you upon exit; Mr/Mrs and Mr/Mrs + new married name, first names only, the happy couple, newly-weds etc.