



NOTTINGHAMSHIRE REGISTRATION SERVICE

ENHANCED CIVIL PARTNERSHIP 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, Ceremony 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 the formation of their civil partnership 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 document which once signed will join _____ and _____ in civil partnership."

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 civil partnership of _____ and _____. If anyone present knows of any legal reason why _____ and _____ should not be joined in civil partnership, they must speak now...."

All About Civil Partnership

"A civil partnership has its foundation in equality. Its' very roots are grounded in fairness and respect.

It is with a shared understanding of this that _____ and _____ have chosen today to form a civil partnership, as the means for them to legally recognise their intent to be lifelong equal partners, in a committed and loving relationship.

In forming a civil partnership, they agree to communicate, co-operate, and compromise, working together to maintain their closeness, as their relationship naturally evolves.

They will engage in shared activities, contribute to shared responsibilities, and openly discuss their thoughts and feelings. They will provide one another with assurances, accommodate each other's needs, and prioritise their partnership, planning 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 civil partnership."

Reading

We invite you 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 Ring(s) and Personal Promises

“_____ and _____ have chosen to exchange (rings / a ring) to seal the formation of their civil partnership. The 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 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 civil partnership.”*

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.

Words from the Civil Partnership Schedule

“I will now guide _____ and _____ through the words from the civil partnership schedule.”

The Celebrant Registrar will say to each of you in turn, *“please repeat after me, looking at _____. I declare that I know of no legal reason, why we may not register as each other’s civil partner. I understand that on signing this document, we will be forming a civil partnership with each other.”*

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

Partners' Signing of Civil Partnership Schedule

"My colleague will now guide _____ and _____ through the signing of the schedule, which will join them together in civil partnership. Please can I ask you all to stand, if able, to show your support."

The Celebrant Registrar will facilitate your signing of the civil partnership schedule.

Celebrant Registrar's Pronouncement of Civil Partnership

"_____ 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 signed the schedule, which has joined you together sincerely and forever.

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

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 civil partnership schedule by 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 civil partnership name, first names only, the happy couple etc.