



*Swindon Registration  
& Celebratory Services*

*Your Marriage  
Ceremony*

*Your choice of words*



**SWINDON**  
BOROUGH COUNCIL

# Ceremony A

Good morning/afternoon and may I extend a very warm welcome to you all to **{Name of your venue}**, where we will celebrate the marriage of **Name 1** and **Name 2**. My name is **{Celebrants name}** and I am Deputy Superintendent Registrar for the Borough of Swindon and it is my pleasure and privilege to be your celebrant today.

I am joined by my colleague **{Registrars name}** who is our Registrar for today's ceremony and will be responsible for ensuring the legalities are completed accurately.

Ladies and Gentlemen, today is a very special day where we join two hearts in marriage. Marriage is a commitment for life, the sharing of one another's dreams and goals. It offers opportunities to create a future you both can cherish; an equal partnership that is promised for a lifetime.

## **Giving the Bride/Partner Away** (will be inserted if requested)

One of the historic customs in a wedding ceremony is giving the bride/partner away. Today, this act is seen as support for his/her marriage and as a promise of continued love and affection from his/her family. I now ask the question – Who gives this **Name 2** to be married to **Name 1**? I do.

## **Children** (will be inserted if requested)

**Name 1** and **Name 2** view today's ceremony not just as a joining together as husband/wife and wife/husband but also as the formation of a family with **names of children** and all those close to them.

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

You are all here to witness the joining in matrimony of **Full name 1** to **Full name 2** and if any person knows of any lawful impediment to this marriage, they should declare it now.

**Name 1** and **Name 2** before you are joined in matrimony it is my duty to remind you of the solemn and binding character of the vows you are about to make. Marriage according to the law of this country is the union of two people, voluntarily entered into for life, and to the exclusion of all others.



Marriage is also a joining of two people who love each other deeply and provides the friendship, loyalty, help and support that only this relationship can bring; sharing the good and bad times and being there for each other in times of need.

I ask you now in the presence of your witnesses to declare that you are legally free to marry each other:

Are you **Full name 1** lawfully free to marry **Full name 2**? I am

Are you **Full name 2** lawfully free to marry **Full name 1**? I am

**Name 1** and **Name 2** will now make lifelong promises to each other in the presence of you, their family and friends:

**Name 1** will you be kind, trusting and understanding with **Name 2**? Will you try to bring happiness and laughter into your marriage and will you remain true to **Name 2** for the rest of your lives together? I will.

**Name 2** will you be kind, trusting and understanding with **Name 1**? Will you try to bring happiness and laughter into your marriage and will you remain true to **Name 1** for the rest of your lives together? I will.

We now come to your marriage vows, the reason that we are here today. A few simple words that will legally change you from being a couple to becoming husband/wife and wife/husband.

If you are able to, please stand for this very important part of the ceremony.

I call upon these persons here present to witness that I **Full name 1** do take thee **Full name 2** to be my lawful wedded wife/husband.

I call upon these persons here present to witness that I **Full name 2** do take thee **Full name 1** to be my lawful wedded husband/wife.

**The Rings (will be inserted if requested)**

We now come to the exchange of rings. The giving of a wedding ring signifies the promise of a love that is everlasting, as a circle it has neither a beginning nor an end, and is a symbol to you and the world of your union as husband/wife and wife/husband.

**Name 2** I give you this ring as a token that I have chosen you to be my wife/husband

**Name 1** I give you this ring as a token that I have chosen you to be my husband/wife

### **The Closing**

**Name 1** and **Name 2**, you have both made the declarations prescribed by law and have made a solemn and binding contract with each other in the presence of all the witnesses gathered here.

Let the world recognise that you are lawfully joined in marriage. May you treasure this trust and responsibility. May no failure or misfortune ever part you and may you live full and rich lives together.

It now gives me very great pleasure to tell you that you are now husband/wife and wife/husband together, united in marriage.

Ladies and gentlemen, we have now come to the end of the formal part of your celebrations today. It only remains for me to wish **Name 1** and **Name 2** on behalf of everyone here, many congratulations and a wonderful future together.

Would you all please stand and join with me to congratulate **{inserted from your request}** as they lead you from the room.



# Ceremony B

Good morning/afternoon and may I extend a very warm welcome to you all to **{Name of your venue}**, where we will celebrate the marriage of **Name 1** and **Name 2**. My name is **{Celebrants name}** and I am Deputy Superintendent Registrar for the Borough of Swindon and it is my pleasure and privilege to be your celebrant today.

I am joined by my colleague **{Registrars name}** who is our Registrar for today's ceremony and will be responsible for ensuring the legalities are completed accurately.

Ladies and Gentlemen, today is a very special day where we join two hearts in marriage. In the years **Name 1** and **Name 2** 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/wife and wife/husband. I know it means a great deal to them that you can be here today to share in this happy occasion.

## **Giving the Bride/Partner Away (will be inserted if requested)**

One of the historic customs in a wedding ceremony is giving the bride/partner away. Today, this act is seen as support for his/her marriage and as a promise of continued love and affection from his/her family. I now ask the question – Who gives this **Name 2** to be married to **Name 1**? I do.

## **Children (will be inserted if requested)**

**Name 1** and **Name 2** view today's ceremony not just as a joining together as husband/wife and wife/husband but also as the formation of a family with **names of children** and all those close to them.

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

**Name 1** and **Name 2** before you are joined in matrimony it is my duty to remind you of the solemn and binding character of the vows you are about to make. Marriage according to the law of this country is the union of two people, voluntarily entered into for life, to the exclusion of all others.



It is also a union that provides love, loyalty, friendship and support to each other, both in times of sickness and in health and through the good and the tough times, but most importantly supporting each other in times of need.

I am now going to ask each of you in turn to declare that you know of no legal reason why you may not be married to each other.

**Name 1**

I do solemnly declare that I know of no legal reason why I **Full name 1** may not be joined in marriage to **Full name 2**.

**Name 2**

I do solemnly declare that I know of no legal reason why I **Full name 2** may not be joined in marriage to **Full name 1**.

**Name 1** and **Name 2** you have invited your friends and family here today to support you as you take this step, and to recognise the importance of this marriage.

I now ask you in the presence of your witnesses and guests to make lifelong promises to each other:

**Name 1** will you take **Name 2** to be your wife/husband. Do you promise to always love and respect her/him? Will you be kind, trusting and understanding, and will you try to bring happiness and laughter into your marriage whatever the future may hold? I will.

**Name 2** will you take **Name 1** to be your husband/wife? Do you promise to always love and respect him/her? Will you be kind, trusting and understanding, and will you try to bring happiness and laughter into your marriage whatever the future may hold? I will.

**The Contractual Words**

The time has now come for you to make your marriage vows, the reason that we are here today. A few simple words that will legally change you from being a couple to becoming husband/wife and wife/husband.



If you are able to, please stand for this very important part of the ceremony.

I call upon these persons here present to witness that I **Full name 1** do take thee **Full name 2** to be my lawful wedded wife/husband.

Today, I choose to stand by your side. I will trust you and respect you, laugh with you and cry with you, loving you faithfully through good times and bad. I give you my hand, my heart and my love for as long as we both shall live.

I call upon these persons here present to witness that I **Full name 2** do take thee **Full name 1** to be my lawful wedded husband/wife.

Today, I choose to stand by your side. I will trust you and respect you, laugh with you and cry with you, loving you faithfully through good times and bad. I give you my hand, my heart and my love for as long as we both shall live.

**The Rings (will be inserted if requested)**

We now come to the exchange of rings. The giving of a wedding ring signifies the promise of a love that is everlasting, as a circle it has neither a beginning nor an end, and is a symbol to you and the world of your union as husband/wife and wife/husband.

**Name 2** 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. Wear it always for part of me will forever be a part of you.

**Name 1** 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. Wear it always for part of me will forever be a part of you.

**Name 1** and **Name 2**, you have both made the declarations prescribed by law and have made a solemn and binding contract with each other in the presence of all the witnesses gathered here.

Every day that you live, treat yourselves and each other with respect. Remind yourselves often of what brought you together. If frustration, fear or difficulty should threaten your relationship, focus on what is right between you and not what appears to be wrong. Give the highest priority to the tenderness, gentleness, and kindness that your union deserves. We hope you have a wonderful day celebrating and that the love you feel today deepens and grows in the years to come. May your hands be forever held in friendship and your hearts be forever joined in love.

It now gives me great pleasure to tell you that you are now husband/wife and wife/husband together, united in marriage.

Ladies and gentlemen, we have now come to the end of the formal part of your celebrations today. It only remains for me to wish **Name 1** and **Name 2** on behalf of everyone here, many congratulations and a wonderful future together.

Would you all please stand and join with me to congratulate **{inserted from your request}** as they lead you from the room.



# Ceremony C

Good morning/afternoon and may I extend a very warm welcome to you all to **{Name of your venue}**, where we will celebrate the marriage of **Name 1** and **Name 2**. My name is **{Celebrants name}** and I am Deputy Superintendent Registrar for the Borough of Swindon and it is my pleasure and privilege to be your celebrant today.

I am joined by my colleague **{Registrars name}** who is our Registrar for today's ceremony and will be responsible for ensuring the legalities are completed accurately.

Ladies and Gentlemen, today is a very special day where we join two hearts in marriage. Marriage is about sharing and caring, supporting and encouraging, talking sensitively and listening attentively, it is giving generously and receiving graciously. Marriage is more than just two people committing to each other. It is more than a wedding ring. Marriage is the defining and deep-rooted sense of finding that one person in the world who is not only your best friend but the loving partner that you can share and cherish in your hearts forever.

**Name 1** and **Name 2** will enter into married life, pledging to work together as a couple and to build a happy and loving life together.

## **Giving the Bride/Partner Away (will be inserted if requested)**

One of the historic customs in a wedding ceremony is giving the bride /partner away. Today, this act is seen as support for his/her marriage and as a promise of continued love and affection from his/her family. I now ask the question – Who gives this **Name 2** to be married to **Name 1**? I do.

## **Children (will be inserted if requested)**

**Name 1** and **Name 2** view today's ceremony not just as a joining together as husband/wife and wife/husband but also as the formation of a family with **names of children** and all those close to them.

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



**Full name 1** and **Full name 2** have come to be married here today and have invited you to witness this occasion and to share in their happiness. However, if there is any person here present who knows of any lawful impediment why these two people may not be joined in matrimony, they should declare it now.

**Name 1** and **Name 2** before you are joined in matrimony it is my duty to remind you of the solemn and binding character of the vows you are about to make. Marriage according to the law of this country is the union of two people, voluntarily entered into for life, and to the exclusion of all others.

Marriage is also a joining of two people who love each other deeply and provides the friendship, loyalty, help and support that only this relationship can bring; sharing the good and bad times and being there for each other in times of need.

**Name 1** and **Name 2** I ask you now in the presence of your witnesses to declare that you are legally free to marry each other:

I do solemnly declare that I know not of any lawful impediment why I **Full name 1** may not be joined in matrimony to **Full name 2**.

I do solemnly declare that I know not of any lawful impediment why I **Full name 2** may not be joined in matrimony to **Full name 1**.

**Name 1** and **Name 2** you have invited your friends and family here today to support you as you take this step and to recognise the importance of this marriage and family.

I now ask you in the presence of your witnesses and guests to make lifelong promises to each other:

**Name 1** will you take **Name 2** to be your wife/husband? Will you be kind, trusting and understanding? Will you try to bring happiness and laughter into your marriage and will you remain true to **Name 2** for the rest of your lives together? I will.



**Name 2** will you take **Name 1** to be your husband/wife? Will you be kind, trusting and understanding? Will you try to bring happiness and laughter into your marriage and will you remain true to **Name 1** for the rest of your lives together? I will.

Having declared that you are free to marry and it is clearly your intention to do so, the time has now come for you to make your marriage vows to each other. This is the reason we are here today. A few simple words that will legally change you from being a couple to becoming husband/wife and wife/husband.

If you are able to, please stand for this very important part of the ceremony.

I call upon these persons here present to witness that I **Full name 1** do take thee **Full name 2** to be my lawful wedded wife/husband.

I vow to care for you with love and friendship, and will be there to support you in all that lies ahead. I will continue to love and respect you, to laugh with you and cry with you. I will grow old by your side as your loving partner and best friend. I will cherish our friendship and will love you today, tomorrow and forever.

I call upon these persons here present to witness that I **Full name 2** do take thee **Full name 1** to be my lawful wedded husband/wife.

I vow to care for you with love and friendship, and will be there to support you in all that lies ahead. I will continue to love and respect you, to laugh with you and cry with you. I will grow old by your side as your loving partner and best friend. I will cherish our friendship and will love you today, tomorrow and forever.



**The Rings (will be inserted if requested)**

We now come to the exchange of rings. The giving of a wedding ring signifies the promise of a love that is everlasting, as a circle it has neither a beginning nor an end, and is a symbol to you and the world of your union as husband/wife and wife/husband.

**Name 2** 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. Wear it always for part of me will forever be a part of you.

**Name 1** 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. Wear it always for part of me will forever be a part of you.

**Name 1** and **Name 2**, you have both made the declarations prescribed by law and have made a solemn and binding contract with each other in the presence of all the witnesses gathered here.

Today we have all witnessed **Name 1** and **Name 2** make solemn promises and dedicate themselves to each other for the rest of their lives. Marriage requires closeness and distance – the closeness of a couple growing together, yet enough space to be an individual. As you walk hand-in-hand through life's journey, no matter what lies in your path it will be your path together. So, may you face any pain or troubles together, with strength and a light heart, and may the love and commitment that you so clearly have for one another grow even deeper and stronger as the years pass.

It now gives me great pleasure to tell you that you are now husband/wife and wife/husband together, united in marriage.

Ladies and gentlemen, we have now come to the end of the formal part of your celebrations today. It only remains for me to wish **Name 1** and **Name 2** on behalf of everyone here, many congratulations and a wonderful future together.

Would you all please stand and join with me to congratulate {inserted from your request} as they lead you from the room.