

Civil Marriage Ceremony Options

Civil Marriage Ceremony, Option 1

The Purpose

We are gathered together to witness the formal joining of _____ and _____ in legal matrimony according to the custom and law prevailing by the Government of the Province of Ontario.

Marriage is not to be entered upon thoughtlessly or irresponsibly but with a due and serious understanding and appreciation of the ends for which it is contracted. If either of you know of any lawful impediment why you should not be married, you are to declare it now.

Officiant to 1st person: Repeat after me please:

"I do solemnly declare that I do not know of any lawful impediment why I, _____, may not be joined in matrimony to _____".

Officiant to 2nd person: Repeat after me please:

"I do solemnly declare that I do not know of any lawful impediment why I, _____, may not be joined in matrimony to _____".

If either person is escorted forward, Officiant states:

Who is it that gives this _____ (man/woman/these individuals) in marriage?

Answer: "I/we do." (father, mother, children, relatives, etc.)

Declaration of Intent and Vows

Would you please face each other, join hands, and repeat after me:

Officiant to 1st person:

"I call upon these persons here present to witness that I, _____ do take you, _____, to be my lawful wedded (wife/husband/spouse/partner)."

Officiant to 2nd person:

"I call upon these persons here present to witness that I, _____ do take you, _____, to be my lawful wedded (wife/husband/spouse/partner)."

Exchange of Rings (Optional)

This ring is a symbol of your marriage and a symbol of your love and life together.

Officiant to 1st person:

Please place this ring on the third finger of _____'s left hand saying after me:

"With this ring, I thee wed. I shall love, honour, and cherish thee and this ring is the symbol of my love."

This ring is a symbol of your marriage and a symbol of your love and life together.

Officiant to 2nd person:

Please place this ring on the third finger of _____'s left hand saying after me:

"With this ring, I thee wed. I shall love, honour, and cherish thee and this ring is the symbol of my love."

As you wear these rings may you find them reminders of an endless love which may grow more meaningful with each passing day.

Pronouncement

_____ and _____ have pledged themselves to each other and have declared this symbolically by their vows and the exchange of rings.

I, _____, by virtue of the powers vested in me by the Marriage Act, do hereby pronounce you _____ and _____ to be married.

You may exchange a kiss (Optional).

Signing of the Register

At this time, the wedded parties and their witnesses will sign the Official Marriage Register.

Service Conclusion

I wish you a long life, happiness, prosperity, and may the vows you made to each other today sustain you forever.

May I introduce to you the married couple.

Civil Marriage Ceremony, Option 2

The Purpose

On behalf of _____ and _____ welcome and thank you for being here on this special day. By your presence, you celebrate with them the love they have discovered in each other, and you support their decision to commit themselves to one another for the rest of their lives. Today we are here to celebrate love.

This is an important and joyous occasion for _____ and _____ who will today make a commitment to each other, before witnesses, to pledge themselves, by mutual consent, to a union in friendship and life which is one of the most sacred of all human ties.

If either of you know of any lawful impediment why you should not be married, you are to declare it now.

Officiant to 1st person: Repeat after me please:

"I do solemnly declare that I do not know of any lawful impediment why I, _____, may not be joined in matrimony to _____".

Officiant to 2nd Person: Repeat after me please:

"I do solemnly declare that I do not know of any lawful impediment why I, _____, may not be joined in matrimony to _____".

(Optional) If either person is escorted forward, Officiant states:

Who is it that gives this _____ (man/woman/these individuals) in marriage?

Answer: "I/we do." (father, mother, children, relatives, etc.)

Declaration of Intent and Vows

Would you please face each other, join hands, and repeat after me

Officiant to 1st person:

"I call upon these persons here present to witness that I, _____ do you take you, _____, to be my lawful wedded (wife/husband/spouse/partner). To laugh with you in joy; to grieve with you in sorrow; to grow with you in love; to be faithful to you alone; as long as we both shall live."

Officiant to 2nd person:

"I call upon these persons here present to witness that I, _____ do take you, _____, to be my lawful wedded (wife/husband/spouse/partner). To laugh with you in

joy; to grieve with you in sorrow; to grow with you in love; to be faithful to you alone; as long as we both shall live."

Exchange of Rings (Optional)

A ring is a symbol of your marriage and a symbol of your love and life together.

Officiant to 1st person:

Please place this ring on the third finger of ___'s left hand saying after me:

"This ring is my precious gift to you, a symbol of my love."

Officiant to 2nd person:

Please place this ring on the third finger of ___'s left hand saying after me:

"This ring is my precious gift to you, a symbol of my love."

As you wear these rings may you find them reminders of an endless love which may grow more meaningful with each passing day.

Pronouncement

_____ and _____ have pledged themselves to each other and have declared this symbolically by their vows and the exchange of rings.

I, ____, by virtue of the powers vested in me by the Marriage Act, do hereby pronounce you _____ and _____ to be married.

You may exchange a kiss (Optional).

Signing of the Register

At this time, the wedded parties and their witnesses will sign the Official Marriage Register.

Service Conclusion

May you enjoy length of days, fulfillment of hopes, and peace and contentment of mind as you day by day live and fulfil the terms of this covenant you have made with one another.

May I introduce to you the married couple.

Civil Marriage Ceremony, Option 3

The Purpose

We are gathered here today to witness the formal joining in the legal state of matrimony of _____ and _____.

By your presence, you celebrate with them the love they have discovered in each other, and you support their decision to commit themselves to one another for the rest of their lives. Today we are here to celebrate love. We come together to witness and proclaim the joining together of these two persons in a marriage based on love.

Both of you understand that marriage is not to be entered upon thoughtlessly, or irresponsibly, but with a due and serious understanding and appreciation of the ends for which it is contracted.

If either of you know of any lawful impediment why you should not be married, you are now to declare it.

Officiant to 1st person: Repeat after me please:

"I do solemnly declare that I do not know of any lawful impediment why I, _____ may not be joined in matrimony to _____.

Officiant to 2nd person: Repeat after me please:

"I do solemnly declare that I do not know of any lawful impediment why I, _____ may not be joined in matrimony to _____.

If either person is escorted forward, Officiant states:

"Who is it that gives _____ in marriage?"

Answer: "I/we do." (father, mother, children, relatives, etc.)

Declaration of Intent and Vows

Would you please face each other, join hands, and repeat after me

Officiant to 1st person:

"I call upon these persons here present to witness that I, _____ do take you, _____ to be my lawful wedded (wife/husband/spouse/partner). 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, from this day forward for as long as we both shall live."

Officiant to 2nd person:

"I call upon these persons here present to witness that I, _____ do take you, _____ to be my lawful wedded (wife/husband/spouse/partner). 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, from this day forward for as long as we both shall live."

Exchange of Rings (Optional)

Wedding rings are an ancient symbol that two persons have committed themselves to each other, to the exclusion of all others. But they also hold a deeper meaning. The precious metal is a sign that the love shared between a couple is very valuable, and as a circle the ring tells us that love has no real beginning or end.

Officiant to 1st person:

Please place this ring on the third finger of ___'s left hand saying after me:

"This ring is a symbol of my vows to you. Whenever you look at it, know that I love, honour and cherish you above all others."

This ring is a symbol of your marriage and a symbol of your love and life together.

Officiant to 2nd person:

Please place this ring on the third finger of ___'s left hand saying after me:

"This ring is a symbol of my vows to you. Whenever you look at it, know that I love, honour and cherish you above all others."

As you wear these rings may you find them reminders of an endless love which may grow more meaningful with each passing day.

Pronouncement

_____ and _____ have pledged themselves to each other and have declared this symbolically by their vows and the exchange of rings.

I, _____ by virtue of the powers vested in me by the Marriage Act, do hereby pronounce you _____ and _____ to be married.

You may exchange a kiss. (Optional)

Signing of the Register

At this time, the couple and their witnesses will sign the Official Marriage Register.

Service Conclusion

May you enjoy length of days, fulfillment of hopes and peace and contentment of mind as you day by day live and fulfill the terms of this covenant you have made with one another.

I wish you a long life, happiness, and prosperity. May the vows you made to each other today, sustain you forever.

It is my pleasure to introduce to you the married couple.