

CIVIL MARRIAGE CEREMONY D

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Celebrant #1 Name:	
Celebrant #2 Name:	

This couple has come here today to be joined in marriage, which is the voluntary union of two persons to the exclusion of all others.

{Celebrant #1} and **{Celebrant #2}**, nothing is easier than saying words. Nothing is more difficult than living those words day after day. What you promise today must be renewed and redecided tomorrow and then again each day that stretches out before you. At the end of this ceremony, legally



you will be **{husband and wife/spouses/ partners}**, but still you must decide every day that you want to be married.

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All who know you know that you are deeply in love. But beyond the warmth and glow, the excitement and romance, what is love really?

Real love is caring about the welfare and happiness of your marriage partner as about your own. Real love is not possessive or jealous; it is liberating; it sets you free to become your best self.

Real love is not total absorption in each other; it is looking outward in the same direction together. Love makes burdens lighter, because you divide them. It makes joys more intense, because you share them. It makes you stronger, so that you can

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reach out and become involved with life in ways you dared not risk alone.

In the words of the poet, Helen Steiner Rice, Love is...Sharing, and Caring...Giving and forgiving,

Loving and being loved...It is walking hand in hand,

Talking heart to heart, Seeing through each other's eyes, Laughing together, Weeping together,

And always trusting, and believing, in each other.

Officiant to **{Celebrant #1}**: 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 **{Celebrant #2}**."



Officiant to the **{Celebrant #2}**: Repeat after me, please.

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"I do solemnly declare / that I do not know / of any lawful impediment / why I may not be joined / in matrimony / to **{Celebrant #1}**."

Optional:

{Who gives {Celebrant #1} to be married to {Celebrant 2}?

Do you give this couple your blessing this day and promise to honour and respect them in their marriage?}

The Vows

{Celebrant #1}: I call upon these persons here present to witness that I, **{Celebrant #1}**, do take you **{Celebrant #1}**, to be my lawful wedded

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{wife/husband/spouse/partner}. To have and to hold from this day forward, for better, for worse, for richer, for poorer; in sickness and in health; in joy and in sorrow; to love and to cherish and to be faithful to you alone, as long as we both shall live.

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{Celebrant #2}: I call upon these persons here present to witness that I, {Celebrant #2}, do take you {Celebrant #1}, to be my lawful wedded {wife/husband/spouse/partner}. To have and to hold from this day forward, for better, for worse, for richer, for poorer; in sickness and in health; in joy and in sorrow; to love and to cherish and to be faithful to you alone, as long as we both shall live.

The Rings

Officiant: Have you rings for one another?



As a permanent reminder of the vows which you have made and entered into on this day, you will now give and receive these rings as a solemn seal to be known by all.

Officiant to **{Celebrant #1}**: Placing the ring on the third finger of **{Celebrant #2}**'s left hand, please repeat after me:

"**{Celebrant #2}**, I give you this ring that you may wear it as a symbol of the vows we have made this day.

Officiant to **{Celebrant #2}**: Placing the ring on the third finger of **{Celebrant #1}**'s left hand, please repeat after me:



"{Celebrant #1}, I give you this ring that you may wear it as a symbol of the vows we have made this day.

The Declaration

I, {Officiant}, by virtues of the powers vested in me by the Marriage Act do hereby pronounce you
{Celebrant #1} and {Celebrant #2}to be married.