

WEDDING CEREMONY FORMAT

INTRODUCTION

Celebrant: I will welcome your guests and touch on the bond between the Bride and the Groom, which has brought them to this day and their unity in marriage.

A READING OR POEM

Celebrant: Something special chosen by you to be read to set the mood of your ceremony (at this stage you may choose to have a bridal party member speak).

AUTHORISATION

Celebrant: It is a requirement of the Marriage Act 1961, that the celebrant use a given definition of his or her authorisation with which to conduct the ceremony, and also of the nature of the marriage relationship. Below is the mandatory Authorisation required for the sublimation of a marriage.

I Andrea Watson am Duly authorized by law to solemnise marriages according to law. "

"Before you are joined in marriage in my presence and in the presence of these witnesses, I am to remind you of the solemn and binding nature of the relationship into which you are now about to enter. "

"Marriage, according to law in Australia, is the union of a man and a woman to the exclusion of all others, voluntarily entered in to for life. "

THE GIVING AWAY

Optional: Usually the Bride's Father gives her away, however other variations are often used, such as both parents, an older brother as a representative of the father and many more.

THE ASKING

Celebrant: It is essential that within either the asking or the vows that the Bride and Groom take each other as Husband and Wife.

THE VOWS

Bride/Groom: This is where the Bride and Groom exchange their vows and express their lifetime commitment to one another.

RING CEREMONY

Bride/Groom: The exchanges of rings with some personal words by the Bride and Groom.

A FINAL READING, SONG OR POEM

Optional: There are lots of readings and poems to chose from, or maybe just have a special song sung by a friend or family member.

CEREMONY RITUAL

Optional: There are all sorts of ceremony rituals that can be incorporated into the ceremony. These can symbolise aspects of the bond between the bride and groom. Some rituals are religious, some have historic significance and others are unique to the Bride and Groom's journey to this point and their future as husband and Wife.

DECLARATION OF MARRIAGE

Celebrant: You are now pronounced husband and wife, their are other options for this declaration.

SIGNING OF THE MARRIAGE REGISTER

Celebrant: At this stage I will ask the guests to sit quietly while the Bride and Groom and the witness sign the register.

CONCLUSION

Celebrant: Introduce the Bride and Groom to their guests as Mr and Mrs or a title of their choice.