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weddings

Wedding Ceremony Planning Worksheet

Congratulations on your engagement! I am thrilled to be working with you and it will be my pleasure to help you create the wedding ceremony of your dreams!

Did you know that you may customize everything that is spoken during your ceremony? That's exciting ... but can be terrifying, too. Don't worry ... I am here to guide you through the entire process. After completing this worksheet together, I will create a draft for your review. Once the draft is in place ... we will bounce it back and forth over email until you are pleased with the result.

Are you ready? Let's get started!

The Happy Couple: _____

Type of Ceremony: ☐ Simple ☐ Basic Traditional ☐ Customized Traditional

Secular or Religious? _____

If religious, preferred bible translation? _____

Yes, No, Maybe	Description
	Procession <ul style="list-style-type: none">♥ The choreographed "walk down the aisle."♥ Symbolizes the transition of the couple's two separate lives into one.♥ Demonstrates your attendants' support of your union by participating in the ceremony.♥ Consider sequence, music, and placement at the altar.♥ Notes (Order of Procession, participants, etc.):

	Presentation <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ♥ This gives others (parents, children, etc.) the opportunity to give their approval or blessing on the ceremony. ♥ The Officiant asks something like, “Who supports the marriage of this couple?” ♥ After responding, “I do,” or “We do,” everyone takes their seat, and the ceremony begins. ♥ Notes:
	Officiant’s Welcome <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ♥ The Officiant calls together all in attendance to begin the ceremony. ♥ Welcome and thank the guests and introduce the purpose of the gathering. ♥ Notes:
	Opening Blessing <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ♥ Also known as the Invocation, the words spoken are intended to invoke a higher source to elevate the ceremony’s intent. ♥ Notes:
	The Address <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ♥ The Officiant shares the couple’s beliefs on the meaning of marriage. ♥ Encourages reflection on the ceremony’s importance. ♥ Notes:

	<p>Declaration of Intent</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ♥ The “I Do” portion of the ceremony. ♥ This is a LEGAL REQUIREMENT. ♥ The words spoken here are why the witnesses are at the wedding! ♥ Traditionally, the couple answers, “I Do” when asked a question by the Officiant. ♥ Notes:
	<p>Ring Blessing</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ♥ Prayer or sentiment spoken by the Officiant before the couple exchanges the rings. ♥ Notes:
	<p>The Vows</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ♥ A verbal exchange between the couple. ♥ Some couples recite their vows from memory. Some choose to repeat their vows after the Officiant. ♥ Notes:

	Exchange of Rings <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ♥ The physical exchange of rings. ♥ Traditionally, this is done immediately after the vows are spoken. ♥ Notes:
	Pronouncement of Marriage <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ♥ The Officiant pronounces the couple as married. ♥ Notes:
	The Embrace <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ♥ A kiss is shared between the newly married couple. ♥ This kiss symbolizes the sealing of the couple's promises. ♥ Notes:
	Closing Blessing <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ♥ Also known as the Benediction, these words send the couple into their new future together! ♥ Notes:
	Presentation <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ♥ The Officiant introduces the newly married couple. ♥ Notes:

	<p>Recession</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ♥ The wedding party, led by the married couple, exits down the aisle. ♥ This symbolizes the end of the ceremony and the beginning of the celebration. ♥ Notes:
	<p>Readings</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ♥ One or more selections of scripture, poetry, lyrics, original compositions, or a live performance offered during the ceremony. ♥ Old Testament: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Genesis 1:26-28 ○ Genesis 2:4-9, 15-24 ○ Psalm 22:25-31 ○ Psalm 127 ○ Psalm 128 ○ Song of Solomon 2:10-13; 8:6-7 ○ Isaiah 43:1-7 ○ Isaiah 55:10-13 ○ Isaiah 61:1-3, 10-11 ○ Isaiah 61:10-62:3 ♥ New Testament: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Matthew 5:1-10, 13-16 ○ Matthew 7:21, 24-29 ○ Matthew 19:4-6 ○ Matthew 22:35-40 ○ Mark 2:18-22 ○ Mark 10:6-9, 13-16 ○ John 2:1-10 ○ John 15:8-17 ○ 1 Corinthians 13:1-13 ○ Ephesians 3:14-21 ○ Ephesians 5:1-2, 21-33 ○ Colossians 3:12-17 ○ 1 John 4:7-16 ○ Revelation 19:4-9 ♥ Notes:

Additional Ceremony Elements

- ♥ An additional demonstration of the commitment being made by the couple.
- ♥ A great way to involve family members and children
- ♥ Examples include Witness Response, Unity Candle, Sand Ceremony, Rose Ceremony, Breaking of the Glass Ceremony, Wine Ceremony, Hand-Fasting Ceremony, and Love Letter Ceremony.
- ♥ Notes:

Congratulations!