

## Registry Office Ceremony Marriage Vows

Registry Office ceremonies are standardised to meet the legislative requirements of getting married, which includes the marriage vows. If you wish to personalise your vows we recommend you have a ceremony before a marriage celebrant.

There are limitations on the time the ceremony takes (usually 10 minutes), the space for guests and other persons may not generally be involved in the ceremony. You may book a Registry Office ceremony at the same time as you give notice of your intended marriage and pay the fee. Please contact the Registry Office where you intend to get married to discuss the arrangements.

The vows may be slightly different between Registry Offices but all will be similar to the following:

1.	<b>The Registrar will provide the parties with the correct words to be spoken during the ceremony.</b>
2.	<p><b>Registrar of Marriages will commence the ceremony by saying:</b></p> <p>My name is ..... I am a Registrar of Marriages, and it is my pleasure to welcome you all here today. Before we begin the ceremony I would ask that you check through your papers and ensure that your details are correct.</p> <p>Registrar to Party 1: Do you confirm that you are &lt;full name of party 1&gt;.</p> <p>Party 1 responds: Yes/No.</p> <p>Registrar to Party 2: Do you confirm that you are &lt;full name of party 2&gt;.</p> <p>Party 2 responds: Yes/No.</p> <p>Registrar: I will explain to you the nature of the short ceremony that follows: The law requires that each of you declare in my presence and in the presence of at least two other witnesses that you do not know of any impediment to this marriage and that you take the other person to be your legal wife or husband. The signing of the marriage registration papers then follows.</p>
3.	<p><b>The Registrar will call upon each party to make that declaration:</b></p> <p>Each party to state: 'I solemnly declare that I do not know of any impediment to this marriage between me &lt;full name of party 1&gt; and &lt;full name of party 2&gt;.</p> <p>Party 1 and 2 to state to the other: 'I call upon these persons here present to witness that I &lt;full name of party 1&gt;, take you &lt;full name of party 2&gt; to be my legal wife (or husband)'.</p>
4.	<p><b>If rings are to be given then state the following:</b></p> <p>Registrar to Party 1: Please place the ring for your partner on his/her hand.</p> <p>Registrar Party 2: Please place the ring for your partner on his/her hand.</p> <p>Registrar: These rings serve as a symbol of the vow you have just made.</p>
5.	<b>The Registrar will pronounce the parties to be lawfully married.</b>
6.	<p><b>The Registrar will then ensure the following details on the Copy of Particulars of Marriage are completed:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The two witnesses names, addresses and signatures.</li> <li>• Bride and Groom signatures.</li> <li>• The Registrar of Marriages will print their name and sign.</li> </ul>
7.	<b>The Registrar will give the couple their copy of the signed Copy of Particulars of Marriage, and retain the other copy so that the marriage can be registered.</b>
8.	<b>The Registry Office ceremony is completed.</b>