



Ceremony Choices:

Instructions:

- 1. Choose one ceremony from the options listed below. Note: If you prefer non-spiritual ceremonies: Please let us know & we'll take out any spiritual references.**
- 2. (Optional) Choose your readings from the Optional Reading documents. Note: We recommend choosing no more than 3 optional readings.**
- 3. Complete the Officiant's Ceremony Checklist and return to the officiant by 2 weeks prior to your ceremony date.**

Please Note: Alternate Ring Vow Replacement(s) at the end of this document.

Beach Ceremony

Welcome everyone. The traditions of love have brought us together before God today to celebrate the union of _____ and _____. Thank you, guests, for casting a greater circle of love while sharing this waterside celebration with them. And thank you for believing in their love and their commitment to one another.

As the tides ebb and flow, so too do the fortunes of life. Footprints in the sand are washed away, driftwood moves on in its endless quest for a peaceful harbor. Only a deep and abiding love can withstand the many tides of change that will be shared in these two lives.

Let's bow our heads in prayer.

Dear Father, May the life shared by _____ and _____ be blessed, as it bears witness to the power of Your love for them and their love for one another. May this love be as profound, strengthening and enduring as the sea. Amen

We are gathered here to witness and support a deep and abiding love through your presence here and the vows you will now make to one another:

_____ and _____, please face each other, look into one another's eyes and hold hands.

It is time for you to join yourselves together for life, as friends and lovers, husband & husband/wife & wife.

Do you, _____, take this woman/man to be your lawful wedded Wife/Husband, to live together in the sacred estate of matrimony, to love her, honor her/him, comfort her/him and keep her/him, in sickness and in health, for better and for worse, and, forsaking all others, keeping you only unto her for as long as you both shall live?

Do you, _____, take this woman/man to be your lawful wedded Husband/Wife, to live together in the sacred estate of matrimony, to love him/her, honor him/her, comfort him/her and keep him/her, in sickness and in health, for better and for worse, and, forsaking all others, keeping you only unto him for as long as you both shall live?

Beach Ceremony continued...

Together, couple repeats after the Officiant: As steady as the tides our love has brought us to this moment. Let us join our lives today. Whether the waves that come our way are gentle or storm tossed, let us ride them together.

I offer myself to you, because I know that we should make the journey of life together. Let us never fail to respect each other and to work to keep ourselves always on a steady course.

In a moment, you will exchange the rings. These gifts are perfect circles, meant to symbolize a never ending love and commitment shared and honored by the two of you.

_____ places ring on _____'s finger & repeats: I give you this ring as a symbol of my love and my commitment. And with this ring I give you my heart. I have no greater gift to give. I am so honored to call you my Wife/Husband.

_____ places ring on _____'s finger & repeats: I give you this ring as a symbol of my love and my commitment. And with this ring I give you my heart. I have no greater gift to give. I am so honored to call you my Husband/Wife.

Please remain facing one another while I read the Apache Marriage Blessing.

Now you will feel no rain, for each of you will be shelter for the other. Now you will feel no cold, For each of you will be warmth for the other. Now you are two persons, but there is only one life before you. May Beauty surround you both in the journey ahead and through all your years, may happiness be your companion and your days together be good and long upon the earth.

In as much as you, _____ and you, _____, have this day consented together in sacred wedlock and have given and proclaimed your troth, each to the other, in the presence of God and this company by virtue of the authority vested in me under the laws of the State of Florida, I now pronounce you Husband/Wife and Wife/Husband.

_____, you may seal it with a kiss!

X X X X X

Our Favorite Ceremony

The traditions of love have brought us together before God today to celebrate the union of _____ and _____. We congratulate you both on coming to this union where now a new journey can unfold in your lives. We acknowledge the strength and the courage it has taken each of you in order to make your way here. There are no ties so sweet as those you are about to assume. There are no vows so solemn as those you are about to make. There is no institution on earth so precious as that of the place your love is about to take you.

You are linking your lives in the closest possible relationship. Your separate selves, with your hopes, joys, triumphs, temptations and trials, are being merged into one today. Your marriage will enable you to contribute more fully to the world around you, for you will be more full. May you have happiness & may you find it through making one another happy. May you have love always and may you find it through loving one another. May your life together be the celebration it is meant to be.

Ceremony Choices, Page 3
Our Favorite Ceremony, continued...

We come together to celebrate and witness a sacred agreement about to be made between _____ and _____. Please face each another, look into one another's eyes and hold hands. Do you, _____, take this woman/man to be your lawful wedded wife/husband, to live together in the sacred estate of matrimony, to love her/him, honor her, comfort her/him and keep her/him, in sickness and in health, for better and for worse, and, forsaking all others, keeping you only unto her/him for as long as you both shall live?

Do you, _____, take this man to be your lawful wedded husband, to live together in the sacred estate of matrimony, to love him/her, honor him/her, comfort him/her and keep him/her, in sickness and in health, for better and for worse, and, forsaking all others, keeping you only unto him/her for as long as you both shall live?

And so we have come to the presentation of the rings by which you will soon demonstrate and bind your love, as you repeat your vows. Let us pray. Lord, bless these rings about to be exchanged, so that each who gives one and each who receives one may live in Thy peace and journey in life's beauty together. Thank you for allowing _____ and _____ to feel this joy forever. These perfect circles symbolize a never ending love and commitment shared by _____ and _____. May this love be as great, powerful and endless, as the sea. Amen

_____ places ring on _____'s finger & repeats: I give to you my promise that from this day forward you will not walk alone. May my arms be your shelter and my heart be your home. May you be blessed always. May we walk together through all things. May you feel deeply loved, for indeed you are. May you always see your innocence in my eyes. With this ring I give you my heart. I have no greater gift to give. I am so honored to call you my Wife/Husband.

_____ places ring on _____'s finger & repeats: I give to you my promise that from this day forward you will not walk alone. May my arms be your shelter and my heart be your home. May you be blessed always. May we walk together through all things. May you feel deeply loved, for indeed you are. May you always see your innocence in my eyes. With this ring I give you my heart. I have no greater gift to give. I am so honored to call you my Husband/Wife.

Please remain facing one another while I read the Apache Marriage Blessing.
Now you will feel no rain, for each of you will be shelter for the other. Now you will feel no cold,
For each of you will be warmth for the other. Now you are two persons, but there is only one life before you. May Beauty surround you both in the journey ahead and through all your years, may happiness be your companion and your days together be good and long upon the earth.

In so much as you, _____, and you, _____, have given and proclaimed your love and commitment to one another in the presence of God and this company, by virtue of the authority vested in me under the laws of the State of Florida, I now pronounce you Husband/Wife and Wife/Husband. . _____, you may seal it with a kiss!

X X X X X

New Traditional Ceremony

Welcome everyone the traditions of love have brought us together today to celebrate the union of _____ and _____. They want to thank all of you for sharing in this celebration of their commitment to each other. Each of you – family and friends – have given something of yourself to help them become what they are today.

Marriage is an act of faith and a personal commitment, as well as a moral and physical union between two persons. And marriage has been described as the best and the most important relationship that can exist between two human beings. The construction of their love and trust into a single growing energy of spiritual life is a moral commitment that requires and deserves daily attention. Marriage should be a lifelong consecration to the ideal of loving kindness, backed by the will to make it last.

Please face one another, look into one another's eyes and hold hands. Do you, _____, take this woman/man to be your lawful wedded Wife/Husband and do you promise before God and these witnesses to love her/him, comfort her/him, honor and keep her/him in sickness and in health, for better and for worse and, forsaking all others, keep you only unto her/him so long as you both shall live?

Please face one another, look into one another's eyes and hold hands. Do you, _____, take this man/woman to be your lawful wedded Husband/Wife and do you promise before God and these witnesses to love him/her, comfort him/her, honor and keep him/her in sickness and in health, for better and for worse and, forsaking all others, keep you only unto him/her so long as you both shall live?

May the tokens of devotion you will soon offer one another be blessed as a symbol of this affectionate unity. These two lives will now be joined in one unbroken circle. Wherever they go, may they always return to one another. In their togetherness, may they grow in understanding and in compassion. May the home which they establish together be such a place of sanctuary that many will find there a friend. May their rings symbolize the touch of the spirit of love in their hearts.

_____ places ring on _____'s finger & repeats: I give you this ring as the pledge of my love and as the symbol of our unity. _____ places ring on _____ finger & repeats: I give you this ring as the pledge of my love and as the symbol of our unity.

In as much as you, _____, and you, _____, have this day consented together in marriage. And, before this company and God, you have pledged your faith and declared your unity, by each giving and each receiving a ring, and are now joined in mutual esteem and devotion, let this be your destiny:

To love and to live by the vows and the promises you have made today. To begin each new day together and to share your love forever. By virtue of the authority vested in me under the laws of the state of Florida, I now pronounce you Husband/Wife and Wife/Husband. . _____, you may seal it with a kiss!

X X X X X

Continued ...

Civil Ceremony (Simple w/Prayer)

Dearly Beloved, we are gathered here today to join _____ and _____ in matrimony. Please face one another and join hands. _____, do you take this woman/man to be your lawful wedded wife/husband, to live together in matrimony, to love, honor, comfort and keep her/him and, forsaking all others, keep you only unto her/him for as long as you both shall live? . _____, do you take this man/woman to be your lawful wedded husband, to live together in matrimony, to love, honor, comfort and keep him/her and, forsaking all others, keep you only unto him for as long as you both shall live?

_____, please repeat after me: I, _____, take you, _____, to be my Wife/Husband, to have and to hold from this day forward for better, for worse, for richer, for poorer, in sickness and in health, to love and to cherish, till death do us part.* _____, please repeat after me: I, _____, take you, _____, to be my Husband/Wife, to have and to hold from this day forward for better, for worse, for richer, for poorer, in sickness and in health, to love and to cherish, till death do us part.* (** Note: Alternative vow to replace "Till death do us part" with "Till God's Time do us part" or "Forever and Ever"*)

Let's bow our heads in prayer. Dear Father, through the power of Your love, active within _____ and _____, please bless this marriage with happiness, harmony and devotion. Thank you, Father, for the bringing together of these two loving persons. And thank you for allowing _____ and _____ to feel this joy forever. Amen

Now it is time to exchange the rings. _____ places ring on _____ finger & repeats: I give you this ring as a token and pledge of my constant faith and abiding love. _____ places ring on _____ & repeats: I give you this ring as a token and pledge of my constant faith and abiding love.

Please remain facing one another. Inasmuch as you, _____, and you, _____, have this day consented to be joined in wedlock and have given and pledged your love & commitment each to the other in the presence of this company, by virtue of the authority vested in me under the laws of the State of Florida, I now pronounce you Husband/Wife and Wife/Husband. _____, you may seal it with a kiss!

Alternate Ring Vow Replacements:

Ring Vow Replacement #1

From this day forward I promise you these things: I will laugh with you In times of joy and comfort you In times of sorrow. I will share in your dreams and support you as you strive to achieve your goals. I will listen to you with compassion and understanding and speak to you with encouragement. I will help you when you need it and step aside when you don't. You are my best friend. And I will love and respect you always.

Ring Vow Replacement #2

(To be read in conjunction with or to replace any "repeat after me" ring exchange vows in any ceremony)

This ring is my thanksgiving, my promise that I will always love you, that I will always cherish you and honor you for all the days of my life.