

Vow Verbiage

Standard Vows (non-religious)

Dearly beloved, we are gathered here today to witness and celebrate one of life's greatest moments. To give recognition to the worth, and beauty, of love, and to add our best wishes to the union of these two.

Lasting love is not the blaze of infatuation, but the smoldering embers that keep you warm through the coldest of days. It is being with your lover and your best friend. It is found in communication through looks without words, silly inside jokes, and shared memories. You will become a witness to all of each others best and worst moments, and share in the triumphs and hardships of them all, to grow together into your best selves, for each other.

Now will you please turn, face one another, and join hands to express your vows of love and devotion?

custom vows begin here, if applicable

Do you take this woman to be your wife? To have and to hold, in sickness and in health, for better or for worse, for richer or for poorer, until the end of your forever?

Do you take this man to be your husband? To have and to hold, in sickness and in health, for better or for worse, for richer or for poorer, until the end of your forever?

Having this kind of love in your hearts for one another, you have chosen to exchange rings as a physical symbol of your vows.

Rings are very large and their significance. They are designed in a circle to remind us that love has no end. As you wear these rings, whether you are together, or apart, may they be a beautiful reminder of the promises you are making to one another today.

Will you place this ring on her finger and repeat this promise? "With this ring, I seal my promise, to be your faithful and loving husband".

Will you place this ring on his finger and repeat this promise? "With this ring, I seal my promise, to be your faithful and loving wife".

I now pronounce you as husband and wife, you may now kiss.

Standard Vows (religious)

Dearly beloved, we are gathered here today to witness and celebrate one of life's greatest moments. To give recognition to the worth, and beauty, of love, and to add our best wishes and blessings to the union of these two.

Marriage is the clasping of hands, the blending of two hearts, the union of two lives into one, and your marriage must stand, not by the authority of the state, nor by the seal on your wedding certificate, but by the strength and power of the faith and love you have in one another.

The word of God tells us what love is and what love does:

"Love is patient. Love is kind. Love is not jealous. Love does not brag, and is not arrogant. It does not act unbecomingly. It does not seek its own, it is not provoked, and it does not take into account a wrong suffered. It does not rejoice in unrighteousness, but rejoices with the truth. For love bears all things, believes all things, hopes all things, and endures all things, but above all, love never fails".

Now will you please turn, face one another, and join hands to express your vows of love and devotion?

custom vows begin here, if applicable

Do you take this woman to be your wife? To have and to hold, in sickness and in health, for better or for worse, for richer or for poorer, until the end of your forever?

Do you take this man to be your husband? To have and to hold, in sickness and in health, for better or for worse, for richer or for poorer, until the end of your forever?

Having this kind of love in your hearts for one another, you have chosen to exchange rings as a physical symbol of your vows.

Rings are very large and their significance. They are designed in a circle to remind us that love has no end. As you wear these rings, whether you are together, or apart, may they be a beautiful reminder of the promises you are making to one another today.

Will you place this ring on her finger and repeat this promise? "With this ring, I seal my promise, to be your faithful and loving husband, as God is my witness".

Will you place this ring on his finger and repeat this promise? "With this ring, I seal my promise, to be your faithful and loving wife, as God is my witness".

I now pronounce you as husband and wife, you may now kiss.

Renewal Vows (young)

When you first joined hands and hearts years ago, you did not know where life would take you. You may have had goals that changed. You may have started a family or a career.

No matter where it took you both, you started building a life together and became a witness to each other's growth. You have learned that marriage is not simple or easy. It takes time to understand each other's needs. To see that you are both unique individuals and how important it is to respect the thoughts and ideas of one another. You learned to be able to forgive each other, and not hold grudges.

To be the refuge for each other from the stresses of everyday life and to recognize the efforts and achievements of the other. You learned that lasting love is not the blazing fire of infatuation, but the warm embers of companionship. You learned that you could overcome any obstacle and achieve anything... together.

In honor of your dedication to your love, you have chosen to renew the promises you once made, showing that they still hold true in your hearts.

Please join hands.

Will you continue to have as your is woman as you wife? Will you renew your promise to love, honor, and cherish her in sickness and in health, for richer or poorer, for better for worse, until the end of your forever?

Will you continue to have this man as your husband? Will you renew your promise to love, honor, and cherish him in sickness and in health, for richer or poorer, for better for worse, until the end of your forever?

Look at your joined hands.

The rings you have worn symbolize that like a circle, love has no end. When you were apart, they were a visible reminder of the connection you had to one another. They may have been your comfort or your strength in hard times. You may have looked down at them and smiled, thinking of your beloved. Let these continue to be a reminder of your feelings for one another and your endless commitment to be the best versions of yourselves, for each other.

It is my honor to, once again, pronounce you husband and wife. You may kiss to seal your promises.

Renewal Vows (Mature)

Sometimes we are blessed with love later in life. It takes time and experience to grow as an individual and become who you were meant to be. The life lessons we create are hard won and important to understand what we desire in a partner.

You learned that lasting love is not the blazing fire of infatuation, but the warm embers of companionship. You found your partner and realized that there was still so much to share and experience, and decided to take that journey into the next chapters of your life, together. You joined not just hands, but families. You had already learned that relationships of any kind require patience, compromise, and communication, and utilized that knowledge into creating the relationship you both wanted.

You have shared many new experiences together and watched your families grow and create families of their own. You have supported each other through the myriad changes of life and grown stronger because of it.

In honor of your dedication to your love, you have chosen to renew the promises you once made, showing that they still hold true in your hearts.

Please join hands.

Will you continue to have this woman as your wife? Will you renew your promise to love, honor, and cherish her in sickness and in health, for richer or poorer, for better for worse, until the end of your forever?

Will you continue to have this man as your husband? Will you renew your promise to love, honor, and cherish him in sickness and in health, for richer or poorer, for better for worse, until the end of your forever?

Look at your joined hands.

The rings you have worn symbolize that like a circle, love has no end. When you were apart, they were a visible reminder of the connection you had to one another. They may have been your comfort or your strength in hard times. You may have looked down at them and smiled, thinking of your beloved. Let these continue to be a reminder of your feelings for one another and your endless commitment to be the best versions of yourselves, for each other.

It is my honor to, once again, pronounce you husband and wife. You may kiss to seal your promises.

Commitment Vows (Life Partner)

We are gathered here today to give recognition to the worth, and beauty, of love. The term "life partner" means more than friendship or family. They are a witness to your life's journey. They are both your lover and your best friend. They will understand you as no one else, as they see all of your facets, and love them. You will be a refuge for each other from the stresses of everyday life and recognize the efforts and achievements of the other.

A partner is life's greatest gift. Please join hands to express your vows of devotion. Do you take this person as your life partner?

To have and to hold, in sickness and in health, for better or for worse, for richer or for poorer, until the end of your forever?

Do you take this person as your life partner? To have and to hold, in sickness and in health, for better or for worse, for richer or for poorer, until the end of your forever?

Having this kind of love in your hearts for one another, you have chosen to exchange rings as a physical symbol of your vows. Will you place this ring on your love's finger and repeat this promise? "With this ring, I seal my promise, to be your faithful and loving partner".

Will you place this ring on your love's finger and repeat this promise?

"With this ring, I seal my promise, to be your faithful and loving partner".

You are now bound in spirit. May your love continue to grow, as you both do.

Handfasting Ceremony

Handfasting is an ancient Celtic tradition dating back to 7000 B.C. Originally a commitment ceremony, it was considered a trial period of a year and a day, to ensure the couple were ready for marriage. It is the origin of the phrase “Tying the Knot” as handfasting involves a long cord that is wrapped around the joined hands of the couple, and tied, symbolizing the bonds they share. Today, we are invoking the intent of commitment and spiritual connection from this tradition.

Invocation of blessings (optional, found in Menu)**

Ring exchange (optional)

Take this ring and repeat after me:

I offer this ring as a symbol of my love. As a circle has no end, so too does my love for you.

(slide ring on) With this ring, I seal my promise, to be a faithful and loving partner, until the end of our forever.

I offer this ring as a symbol of my love. As a circle has no end, so too does my love for you.

(slide ring on) With this ring, I seal my promise, to be a faithful and loving partner, until the end of our forever.

Vows of the Heart blessings and weddings

Binding of Hands

(Couple) I bid you look into each other's eyes

Will you honor and respect one another,
and seek to never break that honor?

We will [the first cord is draped over the couples' hands]
And so the first binding is made.

Will you share each other's pain and seek to ease it?
We will [Second cord is draped over the hands]
And so the binding is made

Will you share the burdens of each, so that your spirits may grow in this union?
We will [third cord is draped over the couples' hands]
And so the binding is made.

Will you share each other's laughter, and look for the brightness in life
and the positive in each other?
We will. [forth cord is draped over the couples' hands]
And so the binding is made.

[Tie cords together]

As your hands are bound together now,
so your lives and spirits are joined in a union of love and trust.
Above you are the stars and below you is the earth.
Like the stars your love should be a constant source of light,
and like the earth, a firm foundation from which to grow.

The binding is complete, you may now kiss.

****Invocation of Blessings (for handfasting option)**

This is an ancient celtic ritual to request the blessings of the earth. Guests are invited to join

Blessed be this union with the gifts of the East and the element of Air,
for openness and breath, communication of the heart,
and purity of the mind and body.

From the east you receive the gift of a new beginning
with the rising of each Sun, and the understanding
that each day is a new opportunity for growth.

Blessed be this union with the gifts of the South and the element of fire,
for energy, passion, creativity and the warmth of a loving home.
From the fire within, you generate light, which you will share
with one another in even the darkest of times.

Blessed be this union with the gifts of the West, the element of water,
for your capacity to feel emotion.

In marriage you offer absolute trust to one another,
and vow to keep your hearts open in sorrow as well as joy.

Blessed be this union with the gifts of the North, the element of earth,
which provides sustenance, fertility and security.
The earth will feed and enrich you, and help you to build a stable home
to which you may always return.

