



the wedding man

@elmirweddingphoto

## THE CEREMONY

The wedding ceremony is the ritual, social and emotional focal point of your big day. So, to help you get your heads round exactly how yours might go, here is a *skeleton* sample script of a ceremony.

Please note that absolutely none of the content in the sample script below is obligatory. It is a purely orientative example that should ideally help to illustrate the possible order of your ceremony and familiarise you with its key moments and the different elements it might contain.

The ultimate aim is to create a personalised ceremony that really resonates with you as people, as a couple and with your nearest and dearest. I hope you find this useful, helpful... and possibly even inspiring!

Quick heads-up: the duration of a typical ceremony, based on this template, is approx. 20-25 minutes. Bilingual weddings are usually a little longer.

***NB:** It is my firm belief that **EVERYONE** has the right to get married (or not!), so in the interests of inclusiveness I have used generic terms like Happy Couple, Partner and Spouse throughout. Naturally, in your ceremony I will refer to you by your own names and use the gender specific terminology you and your partner identify with.*

# *Your Names*

date :: location

## *Welcome and Thanks*

The celebrant welcomes everyone and thanks them for helping to celebrate The Happy Couple's big day...

:: *affectionate recap of The Happy Couple's love story* ::

## *Reading 1*

The celebrant introduces a family member/friend to give a reading or say a few words...

:: *affectionate recap of The Happy Couple's love story (Contd)* ::

## *Reading 2*

The celebrant introduces a family member/friend to give another reading or say a few words...

## *Commitment*

The celebrant offers a few words about the commitment The Happy Couple is making...

## *The Vows*

The celebrant announces that The Happy Couple will now say their vows...

:: *vows written or chosen by The Happy Couple* ::

## *The Rings*

The celebrant announces that The Happy Couple will now exchange rings...

*:: if applicable, The Happy Couple will also say a few words here ::*

## *Vow of Support*

The celebrant asks everyone to offer a vow of support for The Happy Couple...

## *The Declaration*

The celebrant declares The Happy Couple to be married (E.g., "*I now pronounce you husband and husband, wife and wife, husband and wife...*").