



Elegant Wedding Vows

Elegant wedding vows convey the essence of wedding in the truest sense. This collection of elegant wedding vows contains some of the most meaningful, unique and romantic wedding vows ever written. Each vow skillfully weaves innovation with tradition, with affirmations about love, life, partnership, and individuality. They are the expressions of the heart and the words of commitment that are an essence of the wedding ceremony.

Although your vows will be special just as they are, you can also add your own words or mix vows from different ceremonies. Even if you already have wedding vows, you can find that one special line that adds so much meaning to your wedding ceremony. Your wedding vows can be memorized declarations, or they can require nothing more complicated than "I do."



When Love Beckons

Minister:

We are gathered here today to witness the coming together of two people, (name) and (name), whose hearts and spirits are entwined as one. They now desire to profess before all the world their intention henceforth to walk the road of life together.

To these two young people, this marriage signifies the birth of a new spirit, a spirit which is a part of each of us, yet not of any one of us alone. This "birth of spirit" reminds us of spring, the season when all life is reborn and looms again. It is appropriate, therefore, that this wedding of (name) and (name) be in the spring, and that it be under the open sky, where we are close to the earth and to the unity of life, the totality of living things of which we are part.

The beliefs and thoughts about love which motivate these two people are perhaps best expressed in the words of poet Kahlil Gibran:

You were born to be together, and together you shall be forevermore.
You shall be together when the wings of death scatter your days.
Ay, you shall be together even in your silent memory.
But let there be spaces in your togetherness,
And let the winds of the heaven dance between you.
Love one another, but make not a bondage of love.
Let it rather be a moving sea between the shores of your souls.
Fill each other's cup, but drink not from one cup.

Give one another of your bread, but eat not of the same loaf.
Sing and dance together and be joyous, but let each of you be alone,
Even as the strings of a lute are alone,
Though they quiver with the same music.
Give your hearts, but not into each other's keeping,
For only the hand of life can contain your hearts.
And stand together, yet not too near together,
For the pillars of the temple stand apart,
And the oak tree and the cypress grow not in shadow.

Minister to Bride:

Do you *(name)*,
Knowing this man's love for you and returning it,
Realizing his strengths and learning from them,
Recognizing his weaknesses
And helping him to overcome them,
Take *(name)* to be your lawfully wedded husband?

Bride:

I do.

Minister:

Place the ring on his finger.

Minister to Groom:

Do you *(name)*,
Knowing this woman's love for you and returning it,
Realizing her strengths and learning from them,
Recognizing her weaknesses
And helping her to overcome them,
Take *(name)* to be your lawfully wedded wife?

Groom:

I do.

Minister:

Place the ring on her finger.

Let these rings serve as locks—not binding you together—but as keys,
Unlocking the secrets of your hearts for each other to know,
And thus bringing you closer together forever.

And now *(name)* and *(name)*,
Seeking the fulfillment of love and marriage,
Find again that the poet Gibran speaks for them:

Love has no other desire but to fulfill itself.
To wake at dawn with a winged heart
And give thanks to another day of loving.
To rest at the noon hour
And meditate love's ecstasy;
To return home eventide with gratitude,
And then sleep with a prayer
For the beloved in your heart
And a song of praise upon your lips.

I now pronounce you husband and wife.



May This Day Shine Eternally

Minister:

(Name) and (name), in presenting yourselves here today to be joined in marriage, you perform an act of faith. This faith can grow and develop and last, but only if you both decide to make it so. A lasting and growing love is not guaranteed by any ritual. If you would have the foundation of your marriage be the devotion you have for one another, not just at this moment, but for all the days to come, then treasure the hopes and dreams that you bring here today. Establish that your love will never be blotted out by the common nor obscured by the ordinary in life. Faults will surface where now you find comfort, and admiration can be shattered by the routine of daily life.

Dedication, love, and joy can grow only when you nourish them together. Stand fast in that hope and confidence, having faith in your shared destiny just as strongly as you have faith in yourselves and in one another today. Only with this spirit can you forge a union that will strengthen and endure all the days of your lives.

Groom:

I, (name), take you, (name),
As my friend and love,
Beside me and apart from me,
In laughter and in tears,
In conflict and tranquility,
Asking that you be no other than yourself,
Loving what I know of you,
Trusting what I do not know yet,
In all the ways that life may find us.

The Groom places the Bride's ring on her finger and says:

(Name), I give you this ring
As a symbol of my vow,
And with all that I am,
And all that I have
I honor you,
In the name of God.

Bride:

I, *(name)*, take you, *(name)*,
As my friend and love,
Beside me and apart from me,
In laughter and in tears,
In conflict and tranquility,
Asking that you be no other than yourself,
Loving what I know of you,
Trusting what I do not know yet,
In all the ways that life may find us.

The Bride places the Groom's ring on his finger and says:

(Name), I give you this ring
As a symbol of my vow,
And with all that I am,
And all that I have
I honor you,
In the name of God.

Minister:

With this statement made of love and trust,
Which we have just heard,
I now wish you to greet *(name)* and *(name)*
As husband and wife.
May this day shine eternally in your lives.
May it add brilliance to every achievement
And cast a divine light over any misfortune.
May you care for each other in all sadness.
May you give cheer to each other.
May you give vitality to each other in all undertakings.
May all that is virtuous, beautiful and honest,
Remain with you always.



Welcome to the Celebration!

Minister:

(*Name*) and (*name*), in presenting yourselves here today to be joined in marriage, you perform an act of faith. This faith can grow and develop and last, but only if you both decide to make it so. A lasting and growing love is not guaranteed by any ritual.

If you would have the foundation of your marriage be the devotion you have for one another, not just at this moment, but for all the days to come, then treasure the hopes and dreams that you bring here today. Establish that your love will never be blotted out by the common nor obscured by the ordinary in life. Faults will surface where now you find comfort, and admiration can be shattered by the routine of daily life.

Dedication, love, and joy can grow only when you nourish them together. Stand fast in that hope and confidence, having faith in your shared destiny just as strongly as you have faith in yourselves and in one another today. Only with this spirit can you forge a union that will strengthen and endure all the days of your lives.

Groom:

I, (*name*), take you, (*name*),
As my friend and love,
Beside me and apart from me,
In laughter and in tears,
In conflict and tranquility,
Asking that you be no other than yourself,
Loving what I know of you,
Trusting what I do not know yet,
In all the ways that life may find us.

The Groom places the Bride's ring on her finger and says:

(*Name*), I give you this ring
As a symbol of my vow,
And with all that I am,
And all that I have,
I honor you,
In the name of God.

Bride:

I, *(name)*, take you, *(name)*,
As my friend and love,
Beside me and apart from me,
In laughter and in tears,
In conflict and tranquility,
Asking that you be no other than yourself,
Loving what I know of you,
Trusting what I do not know yet,
In all the ways that life may find us.

The Bride places the Groom's ring on his finger and says:

(Name), I give you this ring
As a symbol of my vow,
And with all that I am,
And all that I have,
I honor you,
In the name of God.

Minister:

With this statement made of love and trust,
Which we have just heard,
I now wish you to greet *(name)* and *(name)* as husband and wife.



Witness and Share the Joy

Minister:

Welcome to the marriage of *(name)* and *(name)*. You have been asked to gather here to witness and share in the joy of this union.

Groom:

There was darkness for a long time
And then there was light,
And that light was you.
Your love has given me wings,
And our journey begins today.
I pledge before this assembled company
To be your husband
From this day forward.

Bride:

I have dreamed my whole life
Of having someone as wonderful as you
Love me the way you do.
I give myself to you as your wife,
And I promise here to treasure for all of my days
The love we celebrate today.
Let us bring together our lives
And find ourselves anew each day.

Minister to Bride:

(Name), will you take *(name)* as your husband,
In happiness and with patience and understanding,
Through conflict and tranquility?

Bride:

I will.

Ring is placed on Groom's finger.

Minister to Groom:

(Name), will you take (name) as your wife,
In happiness and with patience and understanding,
Through conflict and tranquility?

Groom:

I will.

Ring is placed on Bride's finger.

Minister:

In the years which shall bring *(name)* and *(name)* into greater age and wisdom, we hope that their love shall be ever young; that they shall be able to always recover from moments of despair. In this hope, may they keep the vows made on this day, in freedom, teaching each other who they are, what they yet shall be, enabling them to know that, in the fullness of being, they are more than themselves and more than each other, that they are all of us, and that together we share joyously the fruits of life on this earth, our home.

Inasmuch as *(name)* and *(name)* have declared their love to each other before family and friends, I now greet them with you as husband and wife.

You may kiss.