

## WEDDING VOWS

Wedding vows are such a personal expression of your love story and it is important to feel comfortable with the words you share on your wedding day. Some people choose not to have their personal vows and just have the legal vows spoken on the day. It is all part of the uniqueness and individual ceremonies and is totally up to you what you wish to share on the day. Some say the legal vows out loud and share their personal vows without the microphone.

I can help you create funny, romantic, serious or just plain silly vows to set the tone for the type of wedding ceremony you wish to have.

Below is the minimum wording which must be included in every Australian marriage ceremony for it to be legally binding.

- Introduction - Authorised celebrant must introduce themselves to the audience.
- Full names of both parties must be announced at some point within the ceremony, preferably early, for identification purposes.
- Vows - the legal vows are:  
"I call upon the persons here present to witness that I, (name of party 1), take you, (name of party 2) to be my lawful wedded wife, husband or spouse."  
"I call upon the persons here present to witness that I, (name of party 2), take you, (name of party 1) to be my lawful wedded wife, husband or spouse"
- Monitum -  
"I am duly authorized by law to solemnize marriages according to law."  
"Before you are joined in marriage in my presence and in the presence of these witnesses, I am to remind you of the solemn and binding nature of the relationship into which you are now about to enter."  
"Marriage, according to law in Australia, is the union of two people to the exclusion of all others, voluntarily entered into for life."; or words to that effect

## SAMPLE WEDDING VOWS

Below are some samples of wedding vows that you can use as a starting point to create your own vows. Remember, there are no rules.

....., you made me wait months for a date, Years to get married,  
And anything from 10 to 30 minutes to leave the house  
But when the chips are down and I need a hand, I know you will be there for me  
Now if I could just get you to look at me the way you look at your bloody car  
You would make me the happiest woman alive.

....., *you are my best friend, my rock, my everything,  
Life is so much better for me with you in it  
Thank you for sharing your love, your home and your family with me,  
For showing me the little things in life are what matters most,  
The laughter we share, the jokes, the fun  
Are for more important than the things we own  
And the people in our lives are the most valuable things we have*

*I promise to love, cherish, and care for you in sickness and in health...*

*Unless the reason for your illness  
Is the fact that you have just seen our credit card bill  
And realised how much you spent last month.*

*Unless it is 3am and the reason for your illness is alcohol-induced  
And the care requires me to sit on the floor  
Beside the toilet bowl with you and a wet cloth.*

*Unless you fall over in a drunken state and hurt yourself... again  
Then I'm sending you home to your mum  
and she can love, cherish and care for you.*

*Unless you buy another car / motorbike / boat etc  
Then I may be the cause of your ill health  
And will give you no love or care*

*....., you are my love  
You are the one who guides me through the storms  
The one who loves me as I am  
The one who encourages me to be my best  
The one who shares my home and family  
The one who I will stand by forever  
The one I will grow old with  
The one who I love more each day  
....., you are the woman I adore and am honoured to call my wife.*

*....., my life is now complete  
You have loved me and welcomed me  
Into your home and your heart  
You made a space for me and asked me to fill it  
You gave me love, warmth and a family  
You now give me your name  
And I accept it with pride  
I am honored to be your wife  
I will walk beside you my husband  
And love you more each day*

*....., you are my best friend  
I promise to laugh with you, cry with you and grow with you  
I promise to support your dreams and respect our differences  
And to love you and be beside you for all of our days and nights*

*....., I thank you for all that you have given me  
For the love we feel, the home we share and the family we have created  
You have helped me through the tough times, laughed with me in the good times  
And been a constant friend and support  
You are the man I love, the man I respect  
The man who loves me and shows me respect  
I am so grateful our paths crossed and that we stand here today  
Thank you for being you and allowing me to be me*