

# Marriage Ceremony Scripts

## Script 1 (approx. 5 minutes)

**Note: Bold sections are mandatory.**

We are gathered together today to witness the formal joining of \_\_\_\_\_ and \_\_\_\_\_ in legal matrimony according to the custom and law prevailing by the Government of the Province of Ontario.

*Municipal Clerk to the 1<sup>st</sup> person:* Repeat after me, please:

**I do solemnly declare that I do not know of any lawful reason why I \_\_\_\_\_ may not be joined in matrimony to \_\_\_\_\_.**

*Municipal Clerk to the 2<sup>nd</sup> person:* Repeat after me, please:

**I do solemnly declare that I do not know of any lawful reason why, I \_\_\_\_\_ may not be joined in matrimony to \_\_\_\_\_.**

Please face each other to repeat your vows.

*Municipal Clerk to the 1<sup>st</sup> person:* Repeat after me, please:

**I call upon these persons here present to witness that I \_\_\_\_\_ do take you, \_\_\_\_\_ to be my lawful wedded (husband, wife, spouse, partner).**

*Municipal Clerk to the 2<sup>nd</sup> person:* Repeat after me, please:

**I call upon these persons here present to witness that I \_\_\_\_\_ do take you, \_\_\_\_\_ to be my lawful wedded (husband, wife, spouse, partner).**

*Ring Exchange (optional):*

These rings are a symbol of your marriage and a symbol of your love and of your life together.

*Municipal Clerk to the 1<sup>st</sup> person:* Please place the ring on the 3<sup>rd</sup> finger of the left hand of \_\_\_\_\_ and repeat after me:

With this ring, I thee wed. I shall love, honour and cherish thee and this ring shall be the symbol of my love.

*Municipal Clerk to the 2<sup>nd</sup> person:* Please place the ring on the 3<sup>rd</sup> finger of the left hand of \_\_\_\_\_ and repeat after me:

With this ring, I thee wed. I shall love, honour and cherish thee and this ring shall be the symbol of my love.

I, \_\_\_(Municipal Clerk)\_\_\_ by virtue of the powers vested in me by the Marriage Act, do hereby pronounce you ,\_\_\_\_\_ and \_\_\_\_\_ to be married.

You may celebrate your marriage with a kiss.

At this time, the couple and their witnesses will sign the Official Marriage Register.

*(Municipal Clerk guides signing on nearby table)*

I wish you long life, happiness, prosperity, and may the vows you made to each other today, sustain you forever.

It is my pleasure to introduce you to \_\_\_(Married Couple's Title)\_\_\_: the married couple.

Congratulations

## Script 2 (approx. 10 minutes)

**Note: Bold sections are mandatory.**

We are gathered together today to witness the formal joining of \_\_\_\_\_ and \_\_\_\_\_ in legal matrimony according to the custom and law prevailing by the Government of the Province of Ontario.

Marriage is the voluntary union of two persons to the exclusion of others. If any person can show just cause why these two may not be lawfully joined together, let them speak now or forever hold their peace.

By your presence, you celebrate with \_\_\_\_\_ and \_\_\_\_\_ the love they have discovered in each other and you support their decision to commit themselves to one another for the rest of their lives.

Today we are here to celebrate love.

*Municipal Clerk to the 1<sup>st</sup> person:* Repeat after me, please:

**I do solemnly declare that I do not know of any lawful reason why I \_\_\_\_\_ may not be joined in matrimony to \_\_\_\_\_.**

*Municipal Clerk to the 2<sup>nd</sup> person:* Repeat after me, please:

**I do solemnly declare that I do not know of any lawful reason why, I \_\_\_\_\_ may not be joined in matrimony to \_\_\_\_\_.**

Please face each other to repeat your vows.

*Municipal Clerk to the 1<sup>st</sup> person:* Repeat after me, please:

**I call upon these persons here present to witness that I \_\_\_\_\_ do take you, \_\_\_\_\_ to be my lawful wedded (husband, wife, spouse, partner).** I will trust you and respect you, laugh with you and cry with you, loving you faithfully through good times and bad. I give you my hand, my heart and my love, from this day forward as long as we both shall live.

**(Alternatively – personalized vows may be inserted following the declaration of each person)**

*Municipal Clerk to the 2<sup>nd</sup> person:* Repeat after me, please:

**I call upon these persons here present to witness that I \_\_\_\_\_ do take you, \_\_\_\_\_ to be my lawful wedded (husband, wife, spouse, partner).** I will trust you and respect you, laugh with you and cry with you, loving you faithfully through good times and bad. I give you my hand, my heart and my love, from this day forward as long as we both shall live.

**(Alternatively – personalized vows may be inserted following the declaration of each person)**

*Municipal Clerk to both persons:* These rings are a symbol of your marriage and a symbol of your love and of your life together.

*Municipal Clerk to the 1st person:* Please place the ring on the 3<sup>rd</sup> finger of the left hand of \_\_\_\_\_ and repeat after me:

With this ring, I thee wed. I shall love, honour and cherish thee and this ring shall be the symbol of my love.

*Municipal Clerk to the 2<sup>nd</sup> person:* Please place the ring on the 3<sup>rd</sup> finger of the left hand of \_\_\_\_\_ and repeat after me:

With this ring, I thee wed. I shall love, honour and cherish thee and this ring shall be the symbol of my love.

**I, \_\_\_(Municipal Clerk)\_\_\_ by virtue of the powers vested in me by the Marriage Act, do hereby pronounce you , \_\_\_\_\_ and \_\_\_\_\_ to be married.**

You may celebrate your marriage with a kiss.

At this time, the couple and their witnesses will sign the Official Marriage Register.

*(Municipal Clerk guides signing on nearby table)*

May you enjoy length of days, fulfillment of hopes and peace and contentment of mind, as you day by day live and fulfill the terms of this covenant you have made with one another.

I wish you long life, happiness, prosperity, and may the vows you made to each other today, sustain you forever.

It is my pleasure to introduce you to \_\_\_(Married Couple's Title)\_\_\_: the married couple.  
Congratulations

### Script 3 (approx. 15 minutes)

**Note: Bold sections are mandatory.**

We are gathered together today to witness the formal joining of \_\_\_\_\_ and \_\_\_\_\_ in legal matrimony according to the custom and law prevailing by the Government of the Province of Ontario.

Marriage is the voluntary union of two persons to the exclusion of others. If any person can show just cause why these two may not be lawfully joined together, let them speak now or forever hold their peace.

To the Invited Guests: By your presence, you celebrate with \_\_\_ and \_\_\_ the love they have discovered in each other and you support their decision to commit themselves to one another for the rest of their lives.

Today we are here to celebrate love.

Marriage is a commitment. Its success does not depend on feelings, circumstances or moods, but on two people who are loyal to each other, and the vows they take on their wedding day. Marriage acknowledges that while each of you is an amazing and unique individual, you are even better together. So I would ask that you always remember to cherish each other as special and unique individuals; respect each other's thoughts and ideas; and live each day that you may share it together.

A happy marriage is one which is continually developing while growing in understanding of the other person. By growing together in love, it is not only possible to share in the burdens of sorrow but in the all joys of life as well.

\_\_\_\_\_ and \_\_\_\_\_ have invited us to share in this celebration as they affirm their love before us, pledge their faith to one another and enter into the joys and privilege of marriage. Love is one of the highest experiences we human beings can have and it can add depth of meaning to our lives.

*Municipal Clerk to the 1<sup>st</sup> person:* Repeat after me, please:

**I do solemnly declare that I do not know of any lawful reason why I \_\_\_\_\_ may not be joined in matrimony to \_\_\_\_\_.**

*Municipal Clerk to the 2<sup>nd</sup> person:* Repeat after me, please:

**I do solemnly declare that I do not know of any lawful reason why, I \_\_\_\_\_ may not be joined in matrimony to \_\_\_\_\_.**

Please face each other to repeat your vows.

*Municipal Clerk to the 1<sup>st</sup> person:* Repeat after me, please:

**I call upon these persons, here present to witness, that I \_\_\_\_\_ do take you, \_\_\_\_\_ to be my lawful wedded (husband, wife, spouse, partner).**

I will trust you and respect you,  
laugh with you and cry with you,  
loving you faithfully  
through good times and bad.  
I give you my hand, my heart and my love,  
from this day forward  
as long as we both shall live.      *(Take ring out)*  
With this ring,  
I thee wed.  
I shall love, honour and cherish you  
and this ring is the symbol of my love.

**(Alternatively – personalized vows may be inserted following the **bolded** declaration of each person)**

*Municipal Clerk to the 2nd person: Repeat after me, please:*

**I call upon these persons here present to witness that I \_\_\_\_\_ do take you, \_\_\_\_\_ to be my lawful wedded (husband, wife, spouse, partner).**

I will trust you and respect you,  
laugh with you and cry with you,  
loving you faithfully  
through good times and bad.  
I give you my hand, my heart and my love,  
from this day forward  
as long as we both shall live.      *(Take ring out)*  
With this ring,  
I thee wed.  
I shall love, honour and cherish you  
and this ring is the symbol of my love.

**(Alternatively – personalized vows may be inserted following the **bolded** declaration of each person)**

Municipal Clerk to both persons: These rings that you have just exchanged are a symbol of your marriage, your love and of your life together.

**I, \_\_\_(Municipal Clerk)\_\_\_ by virtue of the powers vested in me by the Marriage Act, do hereby pronounce you , \_\_\_\_\_ and \_\_\_\_\_ to be married.**

You may celebrate your marriage with a kiss.

At this time, the couple and their witnesses will sign the Official Marriage Register.  
*(Municipal Clerk guides signing on nearby table)*

*The Announcement:*

I wish you long life, happiness, prosperity, and may the vows you made to each other today, sustain you forever. It is my pleasure to introduce you to \_\_\_(Married Couple's Title)\_\_\_: the married couple. Congratulations.

## Script 4 (approx. 15 minutes)

**Note: Bold sections are mandatory.**

We are gathered here today to witness and to celebrate the marriage of \_\_\_\_ and \_\_\_\_, and to be with them as they pledge themselves to each other according to the custom and law prevailing by the Government of the Province of Ontario. Their partnership is freely chosen and founded on love, friendship, trust and respect. It is a partnership that encourages not only self-expression, understanding and the development of wisdom through the sharing of knowledge, but also an enthusiasm for life and living. Celebrating life together must be done with respect, consideration and a deep and gentle caring for one another. To the invited guests, by your presence, you celebrate with them the love they have discovered in each other and you support their decision to commit themselves to one another for the rest of their lives

*The Expression of Intent:*

*Municipal Clerk to 1st Person:* You have chosen \_\_\_\_ to be your life partner (or husband/wife). Will you love and respect him/her? Will you be honest with him/her always? Will you stand by him/her through whatever may come?

*1st Person:* I will.

*Municipal Clerk to 2nd Person:* You have chosen \_\_\_\_ to be your life partner (or husband/wife). Will you love and respect him/her? Will you be honest with him/her always? Will you stand by him/her through whatever may come?

*2nd Person:* I will.

*Municipal Clerk to both:* And do you both promise to make the necessary adjustments in your personal lives in order that you may live in a harmonious relationship, together?

*Both Persons:* We do.

*Municipal Clerk to the 1st person:* Repeat after me, please:

**I do solemnly declare that I do not know of any lawful reason why I \_\_\_\_ (full legal name) \_\_\_\_ may not be joined in matrimony to \_\_\_\_ (full legal name) \_\_\_\_.**

*Municipal Clerk to the 2nd person:* Repeat after me, please:

**I do solemnly declare that I do not know of any lawful reason why, I \_\_\_\_ (full legal name) \_\_\_\_ may not be joined in matrimony to \_\_\_\_ (full legal name) \_\_\_\_.**

Please face each other to repeat your vows.

*Municipal Clerk to the 1st person:* Repeat after me, please:

**I call upon these persons, here present to witness, that I \_\_\_\_ (full legal name) \_\_\_\_ do take you, \_\_\_\_ (full legal name) \_\_\_\_ to be my lawful wedded (husband, wife, spouse, partner).**

I will trust you and respect you,  
laugh with you and cry with you,  
loving you faithfully  
through good times and bad.

I give you my hand, my heart and my love,  
from this day forward  
as long as we both shall live.     *(Take ring out)*  
With this ring,  
I thee wed.  
I shall love, honour and cherish you  
and this ring is the symbol of my love.

**(Alternatively – personalized vows may be inserted following the **bolded** declaration of each person)**

*Municipal Clerk to the 2nd person:* Repeat after me, please:

**I call upon these persons, here present to witness that I \_\_\_\_\_(full legal name)\_\_\_\_\_ do take you, \_\_\_\_\_(full legal name)\_\_\_\_\_ to be my lawful wedded (husband, wife, spouse, partner).**  
I will trust you and respect you,  
laugh with you and cry with you,  
loving you faithfully  
through good times and bad.  
I give you my hand, my heart and my love,  
from this day forward  
as long as we both shall live.     *(Take ring out)*  
With this ring,  
I thee wed.  
I shall love, honour and cherish you  
and this ring is the symbol of my love.

**(Alternatively – personalized vows may be inserted following the **bolded** declaration of each person)**

*Municipal Clerk to both persons:* Now may those who wear these rings live in love all of their lives. Now may the love which has brought you together continue to grow and enrich your lives. May you continue to meet with courage any problems that may arise to challenge you. May your relationship always be one of love and trust. May the happiness that you share today be with you always and may everything that you have said and done here today become a living truth in your lives.

\_\_\_\_\_ and \_\_\_\_\_, we have heard your promise to share your lives in marriage. We recognize and respect the covenant you have made here this day before each one of us as witnesses. Therefore, in the honesty and sincerity of what you have said and done here today **I, \_\_\_\_\_(Municipal Clerk)\_\_\_\_\_ by virtue of the powers vested in me by the Marriage Act, do hereby pronounce you, \_\_\_\_\_(full legal name)\_\_\_\_\_ and \_\_\_\_\_(full legal name)\_\_\_\_\_ to be married.**

You may celebrate your marriage with a kiss.

At this time, the couple and their witnesses will sign the Official Marriage Register.  
*(Municipal Clerk guides signing on nearby table)*

*The Announcement:*

I wish you long life, happiness, prosperity, and may the vows you made to each other today, sustain you forever. It is my pleasure to introduce you to \_\_\_\_\_(Married Couple's Title)\_\_\_\_\_: the married couple. Congratulations.