

# *Sample Ceremony Format Book.*



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\*Mandatory words that must be said are in **red font**.

### **INTRODUCTION**

Celebrant: I will welcome your guests and touch on the bond between the Bride / Groom / Partner, which has brought them to this day and their unity in marriage.

### **THE GIVING AWAY**

Optional: Usually the Bride / Partner's Father gives her / him away, however other variations are often used, such as both parents, an older brother as a representative of the father, family and many more.

### **A READING OR POEM**

Celebrant, family member or friend: Something special chosen by you to be read to set the mood of your ceremony.

### **CEREMONY RITUAL**

Optional: There are all sorts of ceremony rituals that can be incorporated into the ceremony. These can symbolise aspects of the bond between the parties. Some rituals are religious or cultural, some have historic significance and others are unique to the Bride / Groom / Partner's journey to this point and their future as husband and Wife / Partners / Spouse.

### **Monitum**

Celebrant: It is a requirement of the Marriage Act 1961, that the celebrant use a given definition of his or her authorisation with which to conduct the ceremony, and also of the nature of the marriage relationship.

Below is the mandatory Authorisation required for the solemnising of a marriage.

***I Adrian Downey am Duly authorised by law to solemnise 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."***

### **THE ASKING ("I Do")**

Celebrant: It is essential that within either the asking or the vows that the Bride and Groom take each other as Husband and Wife.

### **THE VOWS**

**(Required) I call upon the persons here present to witness that I Bride / Groom / Partner take you Bride / Groom / Partner to be my lawful weeded wife / husband / Spouse.** This is where the Parties exchange their vows and express their lifetime commitment to one another.

**RING CEREMONY**

Bride / Groom /Partner: The exchange of rings with some personal words (ring vow) by the Parties.

**DECLARATION OF MARRIAGE / KISS THE Bride / GROOM / PARTNER**

Celebrant: You are now pronounced husband and wife / Spouse /Partner, there are other options for this declaration.

**SIGNING OF THE MARRIAGE REGISTER**

Celebrant: At this stage I will ask the guests to sit quietly while the Bride / Groom / Spouse /Partner's and the witnesses sign the register and the marriage certificate.

**PRESENTATION / CONCLUSION**

Celebrant: Presentation of the marriage certificate and introduce the Bride / Groom / Spouse /Partner to their guests as Mr and Mrs or a title of their choice.

