



Adrian Downey
NSW Celebrant

Blending Sands/Stones Ceremony

If for whatever reason you choose not to use a Unity Candle during your ceremony, the sand ceremony can be a beautiful and meaningful addition to your vows. Simply find three containers, one for the bride and groom to pour the sand into, two for each of you to pour the sand from. After the celebrant reads the text below (or any text you choose), pour the two containers of sand into the third container. You may wish to leave a small amount of sand in each container to symbolize that although you are now joined as one, you each remain individuals.

Keep in mind that when pouring from two containers into the centre container it should have a large enough opening to accept the sand pouring from the two containers, however, if you need to have a special container with a narrow opening, such as a wine or champagne bottle, a funnel can be used to assist in this procedure. In keeping with the beach scene, two conch shells filled with sand can be the two side containers. One of the reason being that conch shells can provide a narrow stream because they have a narrowed opening on one end. But other containers of your choice can be used.

No. 1

Celebrant:

(Groom) and (Bride), you have just sealed your relationship by the giving and receiving of rings and the exchange of a kiss, and this pledge is a relationship promise between two people who agree that they will commit themselves to one another throughout their lives.

The most beautiful example of this partnership is the marriage relationship. You have committed here today to share the rest of your lives with each other. Today, this relationship is symbolized through the pouring of these two individual containers of sand one, representing you, (Bride) and all that you were, all that you are, and all that you will ever be, and the other representing you, (Groom), and all that you were and all that you are, and all that you will ever be.

As these two containers of sand are poured into the third container, the individual containers of sand will no longer exist, but will be joined together as one. Just as these grains of sand can never be separated and poured again into the individual containers, so will your marriage be.

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No. 2

(Bride) and (Groom), may your love always be as constant as the never-ending waves, flowing endlessly from the depths of the sea. Just as the waters touch and nourish the many shores of the earth, may your love be a moving sea between the shores of your souls. Just as there will never be a morning without the ocean's flow, there will never be a day without your love for each other. You have just sealed your relationship by the giving and receiving of rings.

This beautiful union is symbolized through the combining of these two individual containers of sand. The first container represents you (Bride), in all that you were, all that you are, and all that you will ever be, and the other container represents you (Groom), in all that you were, all that you are and all that you will ever be. Each one holds its own unique beauty, strength, and character.

They can stand on their own and be whole, without need of anything else. However when these two are blended together they create an entirely new and extraordinarily more intricate entity. Each grain of sand brings to the mixture a lasting beauty that forever enriches the combination. Please pour the sand into this common container to symbolize the union of your two lives.

Just as these grains of sand can never be separated and poured again into the individual containers, so will your marriage be a molding of two individual personalities, bonded together forming one heart, one love. The life that each of you experienced now, individually, will hereafter be inseparably united, for the two shall become one.

No. 3

Family Sand Blending Ceremony:

Today as (Bride) and (Groom) have sealed their commitment to each other with the exchange of rings they too make a commitment to their children. We recognize the significant role that (Child/Children), play in this marriage celebrated today. They will now join (Bride) and (Groom) in this commitment to each other by contributing a part of each individual person into one blended family.

Today, this relationship is symbolized through the pouring of these individual containers of sand, each representing a member of the family in all that they were, all that that are, and all that they will ever be. As each individual's sand is poured into the family's one united common

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container, the individual containers of sand will no longer exist, but will be joined together as one.

Just as these grains of sand can never be separated and poured again into the individual containers, so will become the bond with your family.

No. 4

When the wedding is outside and near water, Blessing or Wishing stones are provided by the couple not only for themselves but for the wedding party and guests as well. After the ceremony all follow the bride and groom's recessional to the water, make a wish or blessing for them and cast their stone into the water.

Celebrant:

The ripples that are made represent the love and good wishes for not only the couple, but for all the world... as our ripples cross and re-cross one another's, so do our love and good wishes touch and retouch all around us and those with whom we come into contact.

No. 5

Blending the Sands Ceremony Bride and Groom

Celebrant:

(Name) and (Name), today you are making a life-long commitment to share the rest of your lives with each other.

Your relationship is symbolized through the pouring of these two individual containers of sand; one, representing you, (Name) and all that you were, all that you are, and all that you will ever be, and the other representing you, (Name), and all that you were and all that you are, and all that you will ever be.

Each one holds its own unique beauty, strength, and character. They can stand on their own and be whole, without the need of anything else. When the two are blended together they represent an entirely new and extraordinary love relationship. Each grain of sand brings to the mixture a lasting beauty that forever enriches the combination.

The Bride and Groom pick up the containers of sand

As you each hold your sand the separate containers of sand represent your lives to this moment; individual and unique. As you now combine your sand together, your lives also join together as one.

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You may now blend the sand together symbolizing the uniting of the bride and groom into one.

The life that each of you have experienced until now, individually, will hereafter be inseparably united, for the two shall become one. Just as these grains of sand can never be separated and poured again into the individual containers, so will your marriage be.

No. 6

Blending the Sands Ceremony Bride, Groom and Children

Celebrant:

(Bride) and (Groom), today you are making a life-long commitment to share the rest of your lives with each other and honor your children as well. Your family relationship is symbolized through the pouring of these individual containers of sand; one, representing you, (Bride) and all that you were, all that you are, and all that you will ever be, one representing you, (Groom), and all that you were and all that you are, and all that you will ever be and another container for each child.

There are children who will share in this marriage. The gathering of this new family will have a deep influence upon them. We realize that in order for the home to be a happy one, it is essential that there be love and understanding between the children and the adults being married.

As you each hold your sand the separate containers of sand represent your lives to this moment; individual and unique. As you now combine your sand together, your lives also join together as one family.

You may now blend the sand together symbolizing the uniting of the children and bride and groom into one.

Just as these grains of sand can never be separated and poured again into the individual containers, so will your marriage and your family be.

No. 7

Blending the Sands Ceremony - Bride, Groom and Parents

Celebrant:

(Groom) and (Bride), today you are making a life-long commitment to share the rest of your lives with each other. Your relationship is symbolized through the pouring of these individual containers of sand;

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one, representing you, (Name) and all that you were, all that you are, and all that you will ever be, and the other representing you, (Name), and all that you were and all that you are, and all that you will ever be.

As you each hold your sand the separate containers of sand represent your lives to this moment; individual and unique. As you now combine your sand together, your lives also join together as one family.

At this time, I would invite the parents of (Name) and (Name) to come forward. These four vials of sand represent the bride and groom and each family.

You may now blend the sand together symbolizing the uniting of the two families into one.

Just as these grains of sand can never be separated and poured again into the individual containers, so will your marriage and your families be.

No. 8

Celebrant:

(Bride) and (Groom) may your love always be as constant as the never-ending waves, flowing endlessly from the depths of the sea. Just as there will never be a morning without the ocean's flow, may there never be a day without your love for each other.

No. 9

Celebrant:

The Family (Children) Ceremony

We are all members of one family, God's family. Today as (Groom) and (Bride) have sealed their commitment to each other with the exchange of rings they too make a commitment to their children.

We recognize the significant role that (Child), (Child), (Child) and (Child) play in this marriage celebrated today.

They will now join (Groom) and (Bride) in this commitment to each other by contributing a part of each individual person into one blended family.

Today, this relationship is symbolized through the pouring of these individual containers of sand, each representing a member of the family in all that they were, all that are, and all that they will ever be. As each individual's sand is poured into the family's one united common

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container, the individual containers of sand will no longer exist, but will be joined together as one.

Just as the grains of sand can never be separated and poured again into the individual containers, so will become the bond with your family.

No. 10

Celebrant:

Bride, Groom and Parents

(Bride) and (Groom), today you are making a life-long commitment to share the rest of your lives with each other. Your relationship is symbolized through the pouring of these individual containers of sand; one, representing you, (Groom) and all that you were, all that you are, and all that you will ever be, and the other representing you, (Bride), and all that you were and all that you are, and all that you will ever be.

As you each hold your sand the separate containers of sand represent your lives to this moment; individual and unique. As you now combine your sand together, your lives also join together as one family.

At this time, I would invite the parents of (Groom) and (Bride) to come forward. These four vials of sand represent the bride and groom and each family.

You may now blend the sand together symbolizing the uniting of the two families into one.

Just as these grains of sand can never be separated and poured again into the individual containers, so will your marriage and your families be.

No. 11

Celebrant:

Bride, Groom and Children

(Bride) and (Groom), today you are making a life-long commitment to share the rest of your lives with each other and honor your children as well. Your family relationship is symbolized through the pouring of these individual containers of sand; one, representing you, (Groom) and all that you were, all that you are, and all that you will ever be, one representing you, (Bride), and all that you were and all that you are, and all that you will ever be and another container for each child.

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There are children who will share in this marriage. The gathering of this new family will have a deep influence upon them. We realize that in order for the home to be a happy one, it is essential that there be love and understanding between the children and the adults being married.

As you each hold your sand the separate containers of sand represent your lives to this moment; individual and unique. As you now combine your sand together, your lives also join together as one family.

You may now blend the sand together symbolizing the uniting of the children and bride and groom into one.

Just as these grains of sand can never be separated and poured again into the individual containers, so will your marriage and your family be.