



# WRITING YOUR OWN VOWS

## MANDATORY WORDING

These are the words you have to say for your wedding to be legal:

*"I call upon the persons here present to witness that I (full name) take you (full name) to be my lawfully wedded husband/wife/spouse."*

Technically speaking, you can leave it at that! However many couples like to add to these words in order to make their vows more personal.

A traditional ending would be something like the following;

*"...to have and to hold from this day forward, for better, for worse, for richer, for poorer, in sickness and in health, until death do us part."*

But there are many other options for you to make the vows your own.

## SOME TIPS...

The easiest way to keep your vows short and sweet is to start with the mandatory wording then add on some brief sentiments after. If you and your partner want to keep your vows a surprise it can be a good idea to pick how many sentences you will stick to, to avoid you having drastically different length vows. For example;

**Start with the mandatory wording;** *I call upon the persons here present to witness that I (full name) take you (full name) to be my lawfully wedded husband/wife/spouse...*

**Then add;** *You are my best friend. Today I give you all that I am, and all that I will be. I promise to encourage and inspire you, to laugh with you, and to comfort you in times of sorrow and struggle.*

**Or;** *I promise to choose you every day. To laugh with you and cry with you, to grow with you and to create with you. I vow to love you with my whole heart and to do the hard work of turning now into always.*

**Or;** *I vow to be the person you need me to be. Your best friend, your biggest supporter, your personal comedian, your voice of reason and your soul mate. You are my person. You are my now. You are my forever. I love you.*

*Or; I promise to love you in good times and in bad, when life seems easy and when it seems hard, when our love is simple, and when it is an effort. I promise to cherish you, and to always hold you in highest regard. These things I give to you today, and all the days of our life.*

## USE A TEMPLATE

If you want to do something more personal and are struggling with coming up with your own original vows, you can use a template like the below and fill in the blanks. You can make them sweet, funny, romantic... or all of the above! The most important thing is that they are true to *you*.

'Name', you are my \_\_\_\_\_ (best friend, one true love, one I want to spend the rest of my life with, etc).

I promise you that I will be \_\_\_\_\_ (faithful, worthy of your trust, worthy of your love, your loving partner, your partner in crime, etc).

I vow to \_\_\_\_\_ (honour you, cherish you, respect you, laugh with you, cry with you, wash the dishes every night, etc) for \_\_\_\_\_ (length of time eg; as long as we both shall live, the rest of our lives, forever and beyond).

## OR TRY THIS...

Write two or three sentences about each of the following elements, then combine them together to make a vow:

Begin by talking about something you love about your partner, or something they have contributed to your life. This is a good spot to include an anecdote or story that brings this moment to life. For example, you could talk about the day that you met, and how that was the day that your whole life changed.

Eg; 'Name', from the moment I met you 'number' years ago at 'location' I knew you would be the one to make me laugh for the rest of my life. I love how you lift my spirits even when I'm having a terrible day. I love how you can always tell what I need, whether it be a cuddle, a compliment, or a tim tam.

Next, include some promises. Ones that you will look to guide your marriage. These can be serious: "I promise to stand by your side, and bring out the best in you, in everything we do." Or a little sillier: "I promise to always beat you at Monopoly, and never let you pick

[what we watch on Netflix.](#)” Some of the best vows are a beautiful balance of seriousness and humour.

And now, end it with a look to the future. What do you look forward to sharing in your marriage? What are your goals, your aspirations, the qualities you want to embody as a couple? Eg: "[I can't wait to share the rest of my life with you, to watch our children grow up, to travel with you, to wake up beside you every day](#)".

## STILL STUCK?

Get googling! There's THOUSANDS of vow examples online, so it's easy to just chop and change bits from your favourite ones to create your own if the words just aren't coming to you. You could also include lines from your favourite poems, movies, books, songs, etc – the possibilities are endless!

Just remember your vows are the one part of your day that is just for the two of you. So as long as you listen to your heart, you really can't go wrong!

### MY TOP RECOMMENDATIONS:

<https://offbeatbride.com/wedding-vows/>

<https://www.minted.com/wedding-ideas/wedding-vows/funny>

<https://www.thespruce.com/sample-wedding-vows-3489433>

<https://apracticalwedding.com/wedding-vow-examples/>

