

Registry Ceremony Marriage Vows



Te Tari Taiwhenua
Internal Affairs

Apply for a registry marriage ceremony at <https://marriages.services.govt.nz>

Registry ceremonies are standardised to meet the legislative requirements of getting married, which includes the marriage vows.

The ceremony usually takes 30 minutes in total from the time the couple arrive, saying the vows, and for signing the papers. The space for guests is often limited. Other persons may not generally be involved in the ceremony.

There are English and Māori versions of the vows. If the couple would like to use the Māori version, they will need to discuss that with the celebrant when booking the ceremony. If the celebrant agrees, the couple will need to provide an interpreter if any of the celebrant, couple and witnesses do not understand the language. Before the ceremony starts, the interpreter should sign the “Declaration to translate a marriage or civil union ceremony”, which can be downloaded from www.govt.nz/bdm. The form also needs to be signed by the celebrant.

	Option 1	Marriage Vows	Ngā Oati Mārena
1	Celebrant	Good morning/afternoon, my name is <.....> and it is my pleasure to welcome you all here today to celebrate this marriage between <Party 1 full name> and <Party 2 full name>.	Tēnā koutou, ko <.....> tōku ingoa, ā, tēnei te mihi atu ki a koutou katoa kua tae mai nei ki te whakanui i tēnei mārena i waenga i a <Party 1 full name> rāua ko <Party 2 full name>.
2		The law requires that each of you declare before me and at least two other witnesses that you are freely entering into this marriage and that you take the other person to be your lawfully wedded wife or husband/partner/wife/husband.	I raro i te ture me whakapuaki e kōrua i mua i ahau me ētahi atu tokorua i te iti rawa e whakauru herekore ana kōrua ki tēnei mārena, ā, ka whakaae koe ki a ia hei wahine mārena whaimana/tāne mārena whaimana/hoa mārena whaimana māu i raro i te ture.
3		I will now ask each of you to make that statement.	Ka tonoa kōrua ināianei ki te whakaputa i taua tauākī.
4		<Party 1 first name>, please repeat after me:	<Party 1 first name>, tēnā whakahua i muri i ahau:
5	Celebrant and Party 1	“I vow that I do not know of any legal objections to this marriage between myself <Party 1 full name> and <Party 2 full name>.	“E oati ana ahau kāore ahau i te mōhio ki tētahi whakahēnga ā-ture ki tēnei mārena i waenga i ahau, a <Party 1 full name>, me <Party 2 full name>.
6		I invite these persons to witness that I <Party 1 first name> take you <Party 2 first name> to be my lawfully wedded wife/husband/partner.”	E tono ana ahau i ēnei tāngata kia āta kite rātau ka tangohia koe, a <Party 2 first name>, e ahau, a <Party 1 first name>, hei wahine/tāne/hoa mārena whaimana māku.
7		<Party 2 first name>, please repeat after me:	<Party 2 first name>, tēnā whakahua i muri i ahau:
8	Celebrant and Party 2	“I vow that I do not know of any legal objections to this marriage between myself <Party 2 full name> and <Party 1 full name>.	“E oati ana ahau kāore ahau i te mōhio ki tētahi whakahēnga ā-ture ki tēnei mārena i waenga i ahau, a <Party 2 full name>, me <Party 2 full name>
9		I invite these persons to witness that I <Party 2 first name> take you <Party 1 first name> to be my lawfully wedded wife/husband/partner.”	E tono ana ahau i ēnei tāngata kia āta kite rātau ka tangohia koe, a <Party 1 first name>, e ahau, a <Party 2 first name>, hei wahine/tāne/hoa mārena māku.
10	Celebrant	THE RINGS	NGĀ RĪNGI
11		I’ll now invite you to exchange rings:	Tēnā whakawhitia ngā rīngi:
12		<Party 1 first name>, please place the ring for <Party 2 first name> on his/her finger.	<Party 1 first name>, tēnā whakamaua te rīngi mā <Party 2 first name> ki tōna mānawa.
13		<Party 2 first name>, please place the ring for <Party 1 first name> on his/her finger.	<Party 2 first name>, tēnā whakamaua te rīngi mā <Party 1 first name> ki tōna mānawa.
14		These rings serve as a symbol of your love and the vows that you have made to each other; giving all that you are and all you hope to be.	E tohu ana ēnei rīngi i tō kōrua aroha me ngā oati kua whakapuakina e kōrua ki a kōrua anō; e hono ana kōrua hei tinana kotahi me ngā tūmanako katoa mō kōrua.
15		<Party 1 first name> and <Party 2 first name>, I now pronounce you to be lawfully married as Husband and Wife/Partners/Wives/Husbands.	<Party 1 first name>, kōrua ko <Party 2 first name>, tēnei te whakahua i a kōrua kua hono kōrua hei Tāne me te Wahine mārena whaimana/Hoa mārena whaimana/Wāhine mārena whaimana/Tāne mārena whaimana.
16		Congratulations.	Tēnā rawa atu kōrua.

	Option 2	Marriage Vows	Ngā Oati Mārena
1	Celebrant	Welcome ...	Nau mai, Haere mai...
2		A wedding is a wonderful occasion and I welcome you here today to celebrate, recognise and witness the marriage between << Party 1 Full name>> and <<Party 2 Full name>> They have asked you to be with them today because they value your friendship and love, and thank you for sharing this important day with them.	He wā whakahirahira te mārena, nō reira nau mai haere ki te whakanui, ki te whakamana me te mātakitaki i te mārena i waenga i a << Party 1 Full name>> rāua ko <<Party 2 Full name>>. Nā rāua te pōhiri ki a koutou kia noho tahi me rāua i te mea he nui rawa ki a rātau tō koutou piritata, aroha hoki, me te mihi atu i tae mai koutou ki te tautoko i tēnei rā tino whakaharahara me rāua.
3		In marrying <<Party 1 first name>> and <<Party 2 first name>> are making a sincere commitment to go forward in their lives as marriage partners ... promising love, support and encouragement throughout their lives together.	He tino paiherenga tēnei mārena i waenga i a <<Party 1 first name>> rāua ko <<Party 2 first name>> kia noho tahi rāua hei hoa mārena i roto i ō rāua ao... e kī taurangi ana i tō rāua aroha, tautoko, whakamanawa i te roanga atu o ō rātau rā.
4		No ceremony can create a marriage; only the couple can do that—through love and patience; through dedication and perseverance; through talking and listening, helping and supporting and believing in each other. What this ceremony can do is to witness and affirm the choice they make to stand together as life mates and partners.	E kore te mārena e puāwai i te whakaritenga anake; mā ngā tokorua anake tērā—mā te aroha me te manawanui; mā te pūmau me te manawaroa; mā te kōrero me te whakarongo, mā te āwhina, te tautoko me te whakapono tētahi ki tētahi. Mā tēnei whakahaere e whakaatu me te whakaū i tō rāua hiahia kia tū ngātahi rāua hei hoa pūmau, hoa rangatira hoki.
5		Vows	Ngā oati
6		We come now to the words that will confirm that choice ... the marriage vows. The vows that will declare to each other, and to us who witness, their intentions and commitment to their marriage.	I tēnei wā ka puta ngā kupu e whakaū ana i tērā hiahia... ngā oati o te mārena. Ka whakapuaki ki a rāua anō, me tātau e mātakitaki atu nei, ngā oati o tō rāua koronga me tō rāua paiherenga ki tō rāua mārena.
7		The law requires that each of you declare before me and at least two other witnesses that you are freely entering into this marriage and that you take the other person to be your lawfully wedded wife / husband / partner.	I raro i te ture me whakapuaki e kōrua i mua i ahau me ētahi atu tokorua i te iti rawa e whakauru herekore ana kōrua ki tēnei mārena, ā, ka whakaae koe ki a ia hei wahine mārena / tāne mārena / hoa rangatira whaimana māu i raro i te ture. I will now ask each of you to make that statement ... Ka tonoa kōrua ināianei ki te whakaputa i taua tauākī ...
8		<<Party 1 first name>> please repeat after me:	<<Party 1 first name>>, tēnā whakahua i muri i ahau:
9	Celebrant and Party 1	I vow that I do not know of any legal objection to this marriage between myself <<Party 1 full name>> and <<Party 2 full name>>	E oati ana ahau kāore ahau i te mōhio ki tētahi whakahēnga ā-ture ki tēnei mārena i waenga i ahau, a <<Party 1 first name>>, me <<Party 2 first name>>
10	Celebrant and Party 1	I invite these persons to witness that I, <<Party 1 first name>>, take you, <<Party 2 first name>>, to be my lawfully wedded wife / husband / partner	E tono ana ahau i ēnei tāngata kia āta kite rātau ka tangohia koe, <<Party 1 first name>>, e ahau, a <<Party 2 first name>>, hei wahine/tāne/hoa mārena māku
11		<<Party 2 first name>> please repeat after me:	<<Party 2 first name>>, tēnā whakahua i muri i ahau:
12	Celebrant and Party 2	I vow that I do not know of any legal objection to this marriage between myself <<Party 2 full name>> and <<Party 1 full name>>	E oati ana ahau kāore ahau i te mōhio ki tētahi whakahēnga ā-ture ki tēnei mārena i waenga i ahau, a <<Party 2 first name>>, me <<Party 1 first name>>

	Option 2	Marriage Vows	Ngā Oati Mārena
13		I invite these persons to witness that I, <<Party 2 first name>>, take you, <<Party 1 first name>>, to be my lawfully wedded wife / husband / partner	E tono ana ahau i ēnei tāngata kia āta kite rātau ka tangohia koe, a<<Party 2 first name>>, e ahau, <<Party 1 first name>>, hei wahine/tāne/hoa mārena māku
14	Celebrant	Exchange of Rings	Te Whakawhiti i Ngā Rīngi
15		Wedding rings are symbols of your love and the vows you have made. As you wear these rings, may they be constant reminders of your promises and your commitment to your relationship.	E tohu ana ngā rīngi i tō kōrua aroha me ngā oati kua puta i a koe. I a koe e mau ana i ēnei rīngi, he whakamahara ukiuki i ā kōrua oati, paiherenga hoki ki tō kōrua hononga.
16		I now invite you to exchange rings:	Tēnā whakawhitia ngā rīngi:
17		<<Party 1 first name>> please place the ring for <<Party 2 first name>> on his/her finger.	<<Party 1 first name>>, tēnā whakamaua te rīngi mā <<Party 2 first name>> ki tōna mānawa.
18		<<Party 2 first name>> please place the ring for <<Party 1 first name>> on his/her finger.	<<Party 2 first name>>, tēnā whakamaua te rīngi mā <<Party 1 first name>> ki tōna mānawa.
19		Pronouncement	Whakapuakanga
20		Congratulations ... today you have made a true commitment to each other ... we wish you both a fulfilling life together, rich in caring and in happiness.	Tēnā rawa atu kōrua... kua oti i a kōrua te paihere i a kōrua tētahi ki tētahi i tēnei rā ... ko te tūmanako ka rangatira tā kōrua noho tahi, i runga i te manaaki me te hari nui.
21		And now ...	Nō reira ...
23		<<Party 1 first name>> and <<Party 2 first name>>, I now pronounce you to be lawfully married as husband and wife / partners.	<<Party 1 first name>> kōrua ko <<Party 2 first name>>, tēnei te whakahua i a kōrua kua whaimana tā kōrua mārena hei tāne me te wahine / hoa rangatira.
24		Congratulations.	Ngā mihi ki a kōrua.