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## Wedding Form

**\* indicates required field**

### **\*Wedding Venue Information**

Wedding Date:  
Wedding Time:  
Wedding Venue:  
Venue Address:

### **\*Bride's Information**

First Name: Last Name:  
Street Address: State:  
City: State:  
Zip:  
Phone Number:  
Email:

### **\*Groom's Information**

First Name: Last Name:  
Street Address: State:  
City: State:  
Zip:  
Phone Number:  
Email:

### **After you are married, what will your new address be?**

Street Address: State:  
City: State:  
Zip:

### **Wedding Party Information**

Bride's Father:  
Bride's Mother:



## Booking Contract

RevSteen will send you a Booking Contract to initial and sign. Besides the ceremony fee, there are two options that would add to the fee.

- Separate-Day Rehearsal adds \$100
- License Filing adds the current rate for USPS Priority Mail Express or \$30 for Personal Delivery.

Occasionally, a license is lost in the mail with USPS First Class mail. If this happens, you face a replacement fee and extra time for the County to record your marriage. RevSteen.Com offers USPS Priority Mail Express nationwide and Personal Delivery (only for Ventura County CA; Davis County UT; Darlington County & Florence County SC) to avoid these extracosts and delays. Please choose one.

- First Class Mail (included in each package)
- USPS Priority Mail Express (includes money-back guarantee – add the current rate to your package)
- Personal Delivery (Ventura County CA; Davis County UT; Darlington & Florence Counties SC only – add the current rate to your package)

## Wedding Ceremony Information

Rev. Steen officiates *Classic* and *Personal* ceremonies. Which type of ceremony do you desire?

We want a *Classic Ceremony*

A *Classic Ceremony* has a long, esteemed history and is familiar to generations. It remains essentially unchanged throughout the ages and is unmodified to fit the individuality of the couple. This is not a negative as classic ceremonies have proven through decades to be reliable, effective and powerful. A *Classic Ceremony* is required for the Same Day and Spontaneous Packages (with limited options) but also available for the Personal and Premier Packages (with unlimited options).

We want a *Personal Ceremony*

A *Personal Ceremony* maintains the primary character of a *Classic Ceremony* but with modifications. In addition to some customary elements being left out, there might be additions such as a sand ceremony, personal vows in addition to official vows or the inclusion of the couple's love story in bits 'n pieces or even in longer narrative. A *Personal Ceremony* is only available with the Personal and Premier packages. There are numerous options and additional questions to be answered for the *Personal Ceremony*.

## Options Available with the Same Day & Spontaneous Packages

- Communion

Communion brings a spiritual aspect into a marriage at the inception of the marital relationship. The origin of Communion comes from the New Testament as recorded by Matthew when Jesus broke bread and shared the cup with His disciples just prior to His betrayal and arrest in the garden of Gethsemane. It symbolized the breaking of His body and shedding of His blood which was soon to take place on the cross. To include this ceremony in a wedding establishes a family altar in the home where the couple is symbolically demonstrating their desire to recognize Christ as the head of their home. The officiant would serve a small loaf of bread and juice or wine in a goblet and allow the couple to have a few moments to pray over their new relationship. He could then also pray over them, if desired. This would be appropriately placed after the pronouncement. In the Catholic tradition the bread and cup could be offered to everyone attending the wedding.

#### Hands Ceremony

This is a very moving recitation of the importance of your hands. It is spoken by the officiant while the bride and groom are simply facing each other while holding hands:

*These are the hands of your best friend, young and strong and full of love for you, that are holding yours on your wedding day as you promise to love each other today, tomorrow and forever.*

*These are the hands that will work alongside yours as together you build your future.*

*These are the hands that will passionately love you and cherish you through the years, and with the slightest touch will comfort you like no other.*

*These are the hands that will hold you when fear or grief temporarily comes your way.*

*These are the hands that will countless times wipe the tears from your eyes, tears of sorrow when you cry and tears of joy when you laugh.*

*These are the hands that will tenderly hold your children, soothing them through illness and hurt, and encouraging them along the way.*

*These are the hands that will give you support and encouragement to chase down your dreams.*

*These are the hands that will hold you tight as you struggle through difficult times.*

*These are the hands that will give you strength when you need it.*

*These are the hands that will lift your chin and brush your cheek as they raise your face to look into eyes that are filled with overwhelming love for you. And lastly, these are the hands that even when wrinkled and aged will still be reaching for yours, still giving you the same unspoken tenderness with just a touch.*

*May you see your four hands together as healer, protector, shelter and guide.*

#### Rose Exchange

This ceremony usually takes place after the wedding vows. The wedding officiant or the maid of honor and best man can offer the rose to the bride and the groom at the appropriate moment. Often a Rose Exchange can go like this.

Officiant: *After the exchanging of rings, your first gift to each other as husband and wife is a single rose. The rose is a symbol of love so it is appropriate that it is your first gift. Please exchange your first gift as husband and wife.*

Groom gives his rose to the bride.

Groom: *NAME, I give you this rose as a symbol of my love. It began as a tiny, tightly closed bud and blossomed into this perfect rose that opened with the warmth of the sun, just as my love for you has grown in the warmth of your soul.*

Bride gives her rose to the groom.

Bride: *NAME, I give you this rose as a symbol of my love. It began as a tiny, tightly closed bud and blossomed into this perfect rose that opened with the warmth of the sun, just as my love for you has grown in the warmth of your soul.*

Officiant: *NAME and NAME, in remembrance of this day and as a reaffirmation of your love and of the vows you have spoken here today, please give each other a single red rose each year on your anniversary. In the best of marriages there are difficult times. There are times of hurtful words, times of neglect, times when we must wait patiently to be together again. Those may be the times when the words you really need to speak are difficult. I ask that you remember this moment and that when words fail you, that you place a single rose on your spouse's pillow as a way to say, "I remember our vow," and "I love you." Let this exchanging of roses be the beginning of a lifelong tradition of unspoken love.*

### Salt Covenant

In Bible times, people understood the meaning of vows and keeping promises with each other at all costs. This was symbolized in something called 'The Covenant of Salt.' Men wore a pouch of salt tied to their belt and when they made covenants, they would each exchange a pinch of salt, putting their grains of salt into the other's pouch and vice versa. If a man would try to break his covenant, then the other would say, "Yes, if you can retrieve your grains and yours only from my pouch of salt."

Obviously, this was impossible because the grains of salt would all become as one when they were mixed together.

Here is one sample of the Salt Covenant:

*"NAME and NAME, our God is a God of Covenant and is loyal as expressed in the OT phrase, "The Lord keeps covenant for a thousand generations to those who fear Him." 'Covenant' is the most sacred word in human speech. There are several types of covenant spoken of in scripture. Today, your new relationship is symbolized through the pouring of these two pouches of salt, 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 these two pouches of salt are poured into the third container, the individual pouches will no longer exist, but will be joined together as one. Just as these grains of salt can never be separated and poured again into the individual containers, so will your marriage be.*

*NAME and NAME, you are now entering into an eternal covenant with each other. You have exchanged vows and now you are going to unify salt from each other's pouch and then shake it. The shaking of the box symbolizes the finality of the covenant of loyalty between you."*

### Sand Ceremony

The Sand Ceremony is very popular since sand is, well, abundant. Two vials of sand are poured together either into a third keepsake or into the wind to represent the coming together of your lives.

*The joining of two vials of sand into one vial symbolizes the union of your two hearts and lives into one. The separate vials symbolize your lives, families and friends apart from one another. They represent all you'd ever be as an individual but joining yourselves in marriage changes all that. Just as these grains of sand can never be separated into his and hers again, so will your marriage be. You are becoming*  
*one.*

### **Unity Candle**

The Unity Candle is a very traditional wedding touch. In this ceremony, the mothers of the bride and groom light the candles on either side of the unity candle, prior to the procession. The two lighted candles signify the separate lives, families and experiences of the Bride and Groom before the wedding. After the exchange of vows, the bride and groom take each side candle and light the unity candle together thus symbolically uniting their families and experiences into one. The verbiage for this ceremony can be as follows or a personalized ceremony can be created for you.

*NAME and NAME, two candles have been lit to commemorate your lives before today. Light is the essence of our existence. Proverbs 20:27 puts it this way, "The spirit of man is the candle of the Lord." Each one of us possesses an inner glow that represents our hopes, our dreams and aspirations in life. NAME and NAME, the two distinct candle flames represent your lives before this day, individual, unique and special. Please take the candle symbolizing your life before today and together light the center candle to symbolize the joining of your two lives. As this new flame burns undivided, so shall your lives now be undivided. From now on your thoughts will always be for each other rather than just yourself. Your plans will be mutual, your joys and sorrows both will be shared alike. You are becoming one.*

### **Beliefs (Choose one)**

Religious Ceremony

Non-Religious

### **Options Available with the Personal & Premier Packages**

#### **Breaking of the Glass**

There are several symbolisms associated with this Jewish ceremony. The historically orthodox symbolism is the destruction of the Jewish temple in Jerusalem and the recognition that its restoration remains an unfulfilled vision. The more familiar symbolism is the absolute finality of the marital covenant. Just as the broken pieces of glass can never be put back together and returned to its former state, so the covenant of marriage irrevocably binds the new husband and wife in their new state of marriage. It is symbolic of leaving the past behind and stepping forward into the future. It is best included after the couple has been pronounced husband and wife and have kissed. The wine glass should be wrapped in a white cloth and is placed on the floor or the ground by the officiant and the groom swiftly crushes the glass to the chorus of Mazel Tov meaning "congratulations" and "good luck" from the assembled guests. The recessional immediately commences.

#### **Broom Ceremony**

This ceremony has roots in the black American community, going back to the days of slavery here in America and even as far back as Africa. The symbolism of the broom relates to the sweeping away of the past, cleaning away all that is evil and unhealthy – and starting life anew. It involves the couple jumping over a ceremonial, decorative broomstick immediately after the Pronouncement and Kiss or

during the reception activities.

#### **Chuppah**

This Jewish tradition is a large, white canopy that provides covering for the bride, groom and officiant or sometimes for the entire wedding party. It represents the new home which will be occupied by the couple.

#### **Circling the Groom**

The number 7 has always had sacred significance for Jews, signifying completion. At the end of the processional and just before the bride reaches the Chuppah, she circles the groom 7 times. These circles hark back to the 7 days of creation and signify the creation of a new world for the bride and groom. After the Circling of the Groom they step forward into the Chuppah.

#### **Coins Ceremony**

This originated in Spain. Centuries ago a man would give his bride thirteen gold coins, a token of his pledge to support her. The coins represented Christ and His twelve apostles. The act symbolizes entrusting the stewardship of all his earthly possessions to his new bride. Her acceptance signifies her promise to be a wise and responsible steward for the sake of the family. Today it is common for her to pour the same coins back into the groom's hands representing a mutual commitment to provide for their joint needs. The coins are then placed back into a pouch and handed off to the best man for safekeeping.

#### **Communion:** Description under 'Options available with the Same Day or Spontaneous packages'

#### **Dove Release**

This is usually done immediately following the Introduction of the couple when the Recessional music begins and the bride and groom begin walking down the aisle. An alternative is the moment the couple kisses. The dove is the symbol of love and peace. The significance is that doves mate for life.

#### **Family ®Medallion**

This ceremony is used to include children in the wedding when couples marry with children. When a new stepfamily is being created this becomes a tangible way to build a bond between step-parents and step-children. The recognition of children offers a moving opportunity for your guests to bear witness not only to your vows as husband and wife but your family commitment as well. Go to [www.familymedallion.com](http://www.familymedallion.com) for more information.

#### **Hands Ceremony:** Description under 'Options available with the Same Day or Spontaneous packages'

#### **Hand Fasting**

Hand Fasting is a Celtic ritual. It involves the tying of hands together to symbolize the coming together and remaining tied together. One possible wedding vow during the Hand Fasting is this: *"As this knot is tied, so are your lives now bound. Woven into this cord, into its very fibers are all the*

*hopes of your friends and family, and of yourselves, for your new life together. With the entwining of this knot do I tie all the desires, dreams, love and happiness wished here in this place to your lives for as long as love shall last. In the joining of hands and the fashion of a knot, so are your lives now bound, one to another. By this cord you are thus bound to your vow. May this knot remain tied for as long as love shall last. May this cord draw your hands together in love, never to be used in anger. May the vows you have spoken never grow bitter in your mouth. Two entwined in love, bound by commitment and fear, sadness and joy, by hardship and victory, anger and reconciliation, all of which brings strength to this union. Hold tight to one another through both good times and bad, and watch as your strength grows. Remember that it is not this physical cord, but what it represents that keeps you together.”*

**Kiddush**

This is the blessing or sanctification of the wine. Wine is symbolic of health, happiness, prosperity and God’s blessing. At the proper time in the ceremony, the wedding officiant lifts the Kiddush cup and prays over the wine. The cup is then given to the groom for him to drink; then he hands it to the bride to drink; and she returns it back to the wedding officiant who returns it to the table nearby.

**Rose Exchange:** Description under ‘Options available with the Same Day or Spontaneous packages’

**Rose Presentation**

Looking for an elegant touch to your ceremony? You might try a Rose Presentation. The Bride and Groom can present a rose to their respective Mothers right after the presentation of the Bride during the Welcome.

**Salt Covenant:** Description under ‘Options available with the Same Day or Spontaneous packages’

**Sand Ceremony:** Description under ‘Options available with the Same Day or Spontaneous packages’

**Unity Candle:** Description under ‘Options available with the Same Day or Spontaneous packages’

**Veil & Cord Ceremony**

These two Hispanic Catholic ceremonies take place together following the Exchange of Rings and/or Unity Candle ceremony. The couple takes their place on a kneeler or for outside wedding ceremonies, on a pillow. Two veil sponsors bring forward a large, white veil and place it over the bride’s head and the groom’s shoulders symbolizing the oneness of marriage. Then the cord sponsors bring forward a white double lasso (in a figure eight shape) and loop it over and around the couple symbolizing the unbroken and unbreakable bond of marriage. At this point a prayer is usually offered by the officiant, designated individual or godparent. A song may be included as well.

Communion may also be served during the song. Following this the cord sponsors come and remove the cord. The veil sponsors remove the veil and the couple arises from kneeling to return to their place front and center.

**Other:**

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**Beliefs (Choose one)**

- Non-Religious: Overt religious references to God, prayers and blessings are absent from the ceremony.
- Religious: Ceremonies attached to a particular religion or two religions
- Semi-Religious: Recognizes the existence of God and desires His blessing but isn't "churchy."
- Spiritual: Ceremonies that draw from the writings and teachings of various religions

**Select Vows**

- Both Bride and Groom is writing own
- Bride is writing own
- Groom is writing own

Traditional Vows

- Vow #1:

Groom: With this ring I thee wed  
as a symbol of my abiding love.  
With a heart committed to you,  
I abandon all others.  
I will surround you with strength, provision and love.  
I will cherish you all the days of my life.

Bride: With this ring I thee wed  
as a symbol of my abiding love.  
With a heart committed to you,  
I abandon all others.  
I will surround you with respect, with honor and with love.  
I give you all that I am.

- Vow #2:

I, *NAME*, take you *NAME*, to be my wedded wife/husband;  
I will love, honor and cherish you,  
In all that lies before us.  
I pledge myself to you,  
As long as we both shall live.

- Vow #3:

I, *NAME*, take you, *NAME*,

to be my wife/husband.  
All that I am I give to you,  
And all that I have, I share with you.  
I promise to live in truth with you.  
Whatever the future holds,  
I will love you and stand by you,  
As long as we both shall live.  
This is my solemn vow.

Vow #4:

In the presence of God  
and before these witnesses  
I, *NAME*, take you, *NAME*,  
to be my partner in life.  
I will cherish our friendship  
and love you today, tomorrow, and always.  
I will trust you and honor you.  
I will love you faithfully  
through the joys and the challenges.  
Whatever may come I will always be there.  
As I have given you my hand to hold  
so I give you my life to share  
This is my solemn vow.

Contemporary Vows

Vow #5:

I *NAME*, take you *NAME* to be my wife/husband,  
my partner in life and my one true love.  
I will cherish our union  
and love you more each day than I did the day before.  
I will trust you and respect you,  
laugh with you and cry with you,  
loving you faithfully through good times and bad,  
regardless of the obstacles we may face together.  
I give you my hand, my heart and my love  
from this day forward for as long as we both shall live.

Vow #6:

I, *NAME*, choose you *NAME* to be my wife/husband,  
to respect you in your successes and in your failures,  
to care for you in sickness and in health,  
to nurture you, and to grow with you  
throughout the seasons of life.

Vow #7:

From this day on I choose you to be my beloved soul mate,  
to live with you and laugh with you;  
to stand by your side and sleep in your arms;  
to be joy to your heart and food to your soul;  
to bring out the best in you always;  
to be the best I can be, just for you;  
to celebrate with you in the good times;  
to struggle with you in the bad;  
to solace you when you are down-hearted;  
to wipe your tears with my hands;  
to care for you with my entire being;  
to share with you everything that I have;  
as we treat each other with tenderness, compassion and love.

Vow #8:

"NAME, today I take you by the hand and into my heart.  
My love for you is difficult to measure with words,  
for the feelings I receive from you are unmatched.  
My mind is stimulated by your undeniable capability to love.  
The beauty of your smile overwhelms my body.  
My soul has been poured out to you with complete trust.  
You fill my heart with so much warmth.  
NAME, you are my anchor.  
I promise to cherish and support you from this day forward."

Other Vows

Vow #9:

I, NAME, take you, NAME, to be my wife/husband.  
I choose you this day  
To love and confide in,  
To hold on to and reach out from.  
I choose you this day  
To believe in and to share with,  
To learn from and grow with.  
I choose you this day  
To give you my heart.

Vow #10:

I, NAME, take you, NAME,  
to be no other than yourself.  
Loving what I know of you,  
trusting what our future will bring to us.

What so ever life may bring to you,  
I will be at your side,  
for all the risings and settings of the sun,  
for all the days of fullness and in challenging times.  
In the foreknowledge of joy and pain,  
strength and weariness,  
I pledge myself to deepening in love  
and understanding as the years go by.  
I commit to do all I can  
to make our shared life one of  
friendship and love.

Vow #11:

I, *NAME*, in the presence of God  
and before these witnesses,  
I take you, *NAME*, to be my wife/husband.  
I give you my hand, I give you my love,  
and I give you myself.  
I pledge to stand by you  
as long as we live.  
Come, travel with me,  
and share the road  
both in our joys and in our challenges,  
wherever it may lead.

Vow #12:

I, *NAME*, take you, *NAME*,  
to be my beloved wife/husband,  
to have and to hold you,  
to honor you,  
to treasure you,  
to be at your side in sorrow and in joy,  
in the good times, and in the bad,  
and to love and cherish you always.  
I promise you this from my heart,  
for all the days of my life.

**\*Personal Ceremony Questions**

*Answer these questions and keep in mind that details create the special moments. In order for your answers to be useable, you should include context, setting, feelings, expectations and details and more details in your answers.*

What is the Groom's occupation?

What is the Bride's occupation?

(Bride) Paint a picture of what you consider to be your dream ceremony (50-word minimum):

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How long have you known each other? \_\_\_\_\_

How long have you been a couple? \_\_\_\_\_

How did you meet (50-word minimum)?

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(Groom) What was your first attraction to her (25-word minimum)?

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(Bride) What was your first attraction to him (25-word minimum)?

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(Bride) When, where and how did he propose to you (50-word minimum)?

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You have been building something special from the day you began to be a couple. During the time you've been together:

What challenges have you faced together (50-word minimum)?

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What endearing things have you experienced together (50-word minimum)?

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What humorous things have happened to you together (50-word minimum)?

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(Groom) What do you now like the most about the bride (25-word minimum)?

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(Bride) What do you now like the most about the groom (25-word minimum)?

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(Groom) What do you dislike the most about the bride (25-word minimum)?

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(Bride) What do you dislike the most about the groom (25-word minimum)?

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Is everyone in the Groom's family happy you are getting married?

Yes  No

If no, why not?

Is everyone in the Bride's family happy you are getting married?

Yes  No

If no, why not?

Additional Comments:

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