

## **Marriage Vows (and alternate considerations)**

***Marriage Act 1961*** - It is a requirement of Australian Law that marriage vows **MUST** be preceded by the following specific wording

***“I call upon the persons here present to witness that I, (state full name) take thee, (state full name) to be my lawful wedded wife (or husband)”***

**1.**

**I pledge to share my life openly with you, to always speak the truth to you, and I promise to honour and tenderly care for you, to cherish and encourage your own fulfillment as an individual for the rest of my life**

**2.**

**I promise to appreciate you and to treat you always as my best friend, and my equal. Let us make the years we spend together, the best years of our lives**

**3.**

**I promise to love, honour, respect, and comfort you, encourage you to achieve your goals, to be open and honest with you, and stay with you for as long as we both live**

**4.**

**From this moment on I promise to be your life-long companion and best friend. I promise to be faithful and considerate, to listen carefully, laugh often, and above all else to love and respect you**

**5.**

**(Name), I love you. You are my best friend. Today I give myself to you in marriage. I promise to encourage you, inspire you, to laugh with you, and to comfort you in times of Sorrow and struggle. I promise to love you in good times and bad, when life seems easy and when it is also hard. I promise to cherish you, and to always hold you in highest regard. These things I promise you today, and all the days of our life**

**6.**

**(Name) today I affirm my love to you and invite you to share my life. You are the most beautiful, smart, and generous person I have ever known, and I promise to respect you. With kindness, unselfishness and trust, I will work by your side to create a wonderful life together. I take you as my (wife/husband) from this day forward and for as long as we both shall live**

**7.**

**(Name) with my body I honour you, with my heart I love you, all that I am I give to you, and all that I have I share with you**

**8.**

**I promise you my love without any limits, to be near whenever you need me, to trust in your love for me, to watch our love grow together through the years, to plan with you, and to dream with you, to do my best to show you how much I love you; for you have become my world, my heart, my life. My future is yours, and the future is ours always**

**9.**

**(Name) I will support you in all that you do, grow with you in all that you achieve, console you in all that you find troublesome, and plan with you in all that you experience. I will be behind you in all you attempt, and be your friend in all that is in life. I will love you in all that you are.**

**10.**

**I want to be with you always, just as you are. I choose you above all others to share my life with me in marriage. I love you for yourself and I want you to become all that you can be. I promise to honour this pledge as long as I live**

**11.**

**I promise to give you the best of myself and to ask of you no more than you can give. I promise to respect you as your own person and to realize that your interests, desires and needs are no less important than my own. I promise to share with you my time and my attention and to bring joy, strength and imagination to our relationship. I promise to keep myself open to you, to let you see through the windows of my world into my innermost fears and feelings, secrets and dreams. I promise to grow along with you, to be willing to face changes in order to keep our relationship alive and exciting. I promise to love you in good times and bad, and with all I have to give and all I feel inside in the only way I know how, completely and forever.**

**12.**

**I pledge to share my life openly with you, to speak the truth to you in love. I promise to stand by you as we share both the adventure and challenge and the laughter and tears ahead. I promise to support you and love you through our journey of life together**

**PLEASE NOTE: It is normal for each partner to repeat the same vow separately, however they can be repeated in unison, OR different vows can be made by each, OR feel free to write your own vows provided the introduction meets the requirements of Australian Law**