



Minnesota Wedding Ceremony Planning Checklist

A simple step-by-step guide to planning a ceremony that feels like you.

COMPLIMENTARY PLANNING RESOURCE

Your ceremony is the heart of your wedding day.

Use this checklist to think through the moments, people, words, and traditions that will make yours meaningful.





Before You Start

Before choosing readings, vows, or traditions, decide how you want the ceremony to *feel*. There build a wedding ceremony.

The overall feel

- ☐ We want the ceremony to feel romantic and heartfelt.
- ☐ We want it warm, relaxed, and conversational.
- ☐ We want it traditional and formal.
- ☐ We want it short and simple.
- ☐ We want humor included naturally.
- ☐ We want another feeling: _____

Ceremony foundations

- ☐ Approximate ceremony length: _____ minutes
- ☐ Religious, spiritual, non-religious, or a blend: _____
- ☐ Personal story or relationship details included
- ☐ Guests acknowledged or welcomed in a special way
- ☐ Children, parents, grandparents, or other loved ones participating
- ☐ Loved ones who have passed honored or remembered
- ☐ Cultural or family traditions included
- ☐ Accessibility, mobility, hearing, or seating needs considered

Couple's notes

What do you want your guests to remember most about your ceremony?





Build Your Ceremony

Check the elements you want to explore. Your ceremony does not need every item on this page

Arrival & processional

- ☐ Processional order decided
- ☐ Wedding party entrance
- ☐ Couple's entrance
- ☐ Music cues coordinated

Opening

- ☐ Welcome to guests
- ☐ Opening words
- ☐ Acknowledgment of loved ones
- ☐ Brief reflection on marriage

Your story

- ☐ How you met
- ☐ What you love about one another
- ☐ Important moments in your relationship
- ☐ What marriage means to you

Readings & participation

- ☐ Reading, poem, or meaningful passage
- ☐ Family member or friend participating
- ☐ Children included

Vows & rings

- ☐ Personal vows
- ☐ Repeat-after-me vows
- ☐ Traditional vows
- ☐ Ring exchange

Traditions

- ☐ Unity ceremony or symbolic ritual
- ☐ Cultural or family tradition

Closing

- ☐ Final words or blessing
- ☐ Pronouncement
- ☐ The kiss
- ☐ Recessional

Questions to Ask Your Officiant

☐ How personalized will our ceremony be?	☐ Can we write our own vows?
☐ Will you attend or lead the rehearsal?	☐ How is the marriage license handled?
☐ What happens if ceremony plans change?	☐ When will we review the ceremony draft?





Final Ceremony-Week Checklist

A few final confirmations can make ceremony day feel much calmer.

Legal & essential details

- ☐ Marriage license obtained and instructions reviewed
- ☐ Required names and legal information double-checked
- ☐ Witness requirements confirmed
- ☐ Plan confirmed for returning or filing the marriage license

People & ceremony details

- ☐ Names and pronunciations confirmed with officiant
- ☐ Personal vows written, printed, or otherwise ready
- ☐ Rings assigned to a responsible person
- ☐ Readers and participants confirmed
- ☐ Final ceremony order reviewed
- ☐ Processional and recessional order confirmed
- ☐ Music selections and cues confirmed
- ☐ Rehearsal time/location confirmed, if applicable

Day-of readiness

- ☐ Officiant has ceremony location and arrival details
- ☐ Venue or coordinator knows where the officiant should check in
- ☐ Backup plan reviewed for outdoor ceremonies
- ☐ Microphone/audio plan confirmed if needed
- ☐ Any last-minute changes communicated to the officiant

Your ceremony should sound like the two of you - not like everyone else's.

Need help creating your ceremony?

Timeless Tributes LLC creates personalized wedding ceremonies for couples throughout Central and Northern Minnesota.

www.timeless-tributes.net

