

## *Registrar versus Celebrant*

Some couples want to legalise their marriage others don't want that formality as they just know they are meant to be together. If you do want to legalise your marriage you can do this before or after your celebrant-led ceremony. See the note below the table on how to do this.

<i>Council Registrar Marriage (legal)</i>	<i>Celebrant-led (celebratory) ceremony</i>
<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Must be at a Register Office or a venue licensed by the Council for weddings, by legally appointed registrars</li> <li>2. Basic script (<i>only the names change for each wedding</i>)</li> <li>3. No choice of who conducts your ceremony. Couple only meet Registrars 15-30 minutes before the ceremony</li> <li>4. Enhanced ceremonies can include readings or poems (for extra fees) as long as they are not religious or spiritual</li> <li>5. Bespoke weddings (extra fees) not truly bespoke (limited choice of rituals) The script is not written by the person conducting the ceremony and the writer may only have spoken to you a couple of times on the phone The person conducting your ceremony only gets the script a few days in advance (or even on the day) so doesn't have time to rehearse it (it will always be a script rather than your love story)</li> <li>6. A Registrar will normally have more than just your wedding to officiate that day which means they may have to dash off to the next wedding. <b><i>If your wedding is delayed for any reason, Registrars can say you are too late and go to the next wedding WITHOUT marrying you</i></b></li> <li>7. The legal aspects of the ceremony (i.e. the declaratory words) still have to be INDOORS or UNDER A LICENSED PERMANENT STRUCTURE (not a tipi or marquee)</li> </ol>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Can be anywhere and does not need to be licensed for weddings. It can be indoors or outdoors</li> <li>2. Exclusively personalised to express your personalities, feelings, humour, love and more</li> <li>3. You choose your celebrant and get to know each other during the planning stages and in the run up to your wedding. You have access to them at all times and they will amend your ceremony as many times as needed to get it right for you</li> <li>4. Every ceremony can include anything you like, readings, poems, music of any kind, religious or not</li> <li>5. Your celebrant-led ceremony is truly bespoke so you can have traditional or unconventional the fee remains the same. It will be a tribute to your love. It can be romantic, light-hearted or even funny. By the time your ceremony comes around I will KNOW you and understand what it is you want from your ceremony and how you want it. It will be truly bespoke and unique. AND you will have the option of a <b>rehearsal</b> the day before if you want.</li> <li>6. Be assured, yours will be the <b>ONLY</b> wedding I officiate that day so if there's a delay, it can be accommodated.</li> <li>7. As there is no legal aspect to the ceremony it can be ANYWHERE (with permissions of course) fields, by a river, in a wood, your own back garden, pub and more. The CHOICE is yours.</li> </ol>

For your marriage to be recognised in law (England & Wales) you must complete the legalities (these can be done before or after your celebrant-led ceremony. These only take about 10-15 minutes at your local Register Office (28 days' notice required) You (the couple) plus two witnesses are all that's required (no need to get dressed up, no need for rings or bouquets or guests).