

100+ Things A Pro Officiant Knows!!

How to guide you through the marriage application, licence and certificate process? ♥ How to prepare a wedding ceremony? ♥ Have over 40 tutorial videos to fully prepare you for an excellent wedding day experience? ♥ How to personalize your ceremony so that it is a reflection of your love story, your personalities and style? ♥ How to write a ceremony that is unique to you, and not a copy/ paste cookie cutter script? ♥ How to make sure the ceremony is the appropriate length? ♥ Can they add humor without it being inappropriate or "jarring"? ♥ Can they keep the humor sweet, centered on you and seamlessly return to tenderness? ♥ What about their public speaking skills? ♥ Are they completely relaxed and confident in front of a crowd, large or small? ♥ Is their confidence & skill level going to be calming and soothing for you as you stand in front of your guests? ♥ Or will their "nerves" be contagious? ♥ Does their speaking style hold the attention of your guests without being a "hyper/ loud" energy that detracts from the romance and tenderness of the moment? ♥ Do they know how to be professional without being an entertainer and stealing the spotlight from you and your story? ♥ Do they have multiple options of ceremony wording for you to choose from? ♥ What about a simple, user-friendly system for you to participate in customizing your ceremony script? ♥ Do they know the Number One MUST for having a fabulous wedding day experience?? Spoiler. The answer is: "Keep the Bride stress free"! How is this accomplished? ♥ What are the 5 things to put in place to make sure she is relaxed and focused only on looking fabulous!? ♥ What announcements need to be made to the guests pre and post ceremony? ♥ When should they have the guests stand and sit? ♥ How to advise on the proper way to escort the bride? ♥ What if the bride wishes for two people to escort her? How is that done? ♥ What is the proper and most attractive way for the bride (and bridesmaids) to hold her (their) bridal bouquet(s)? ♥ What should the groom have in his pocket for the ceremony? ♥ What should the groomsmen have in their pockets during the ceremony? ♥ Do they know how to conduct a rehearsal? (Making it informational, beautiful and FUN?) ♥ On which side the groom and bride are to stand during the ceremony? ♥ And the fun fact of WHY this is tradition? ♥ Do they know how to advise you on the Maid of Honor taking the bride's bouquet and "fluffing" the bride's gown during the ceremony -- when/ how this should be done. (This is something that should be choreographed for seamless execution.) ♥ On which side is best for the parents to sit? (yes, there are options and reasons for the options) ♥ What THREE things does Florida law require in the ceremony itself for the marriage to be legal? ♥ What in the ceremony is purely there for added romance and is optional? ♥ What legal course should be taken if, heaven forbid, you forget to bring the license to the wedding? (Spoiler: It is illegal to perform a ceremony if the license is not present and verified pre-ceremony, or the dates on the license are not valid. BUT, there is a way to "save the day"! ♥ What is the proper and legal way to fill out the license? ♥ Are witnesses required to sign at the wedding? ♥ What are the legal steps after the ceremony for returning the license? ♥ And in how many days? ♥ What is the safest way to mail in the license to the courthouse so that you are protected? ♥ What happens after the license is mailed in? ♥ How do you receive the marriage certificate -- the legal document/proof of marriage? ♥ What is the exact moment that you are legally married? ♥ How do you go about changing your name after the wedding? ♥ What steps and in what order? ♥ What creative and personal touches can be added to the ceremony? ♥ Is your officiant skilled in creative writing should you choose to add the telling of your love story? Or will it sound like the reading of a book report (all facts & dates)? ♥ What about symbolic unity ceremonies? (unity candle/ unity sand/ wine box etc . . .) What is needed for them, and where to find the materials needed? (best quality and best prices) ♥ Do they have an attractive table they could provide for you to hold the symbolic unity items? (It will forever be in your photos.) ♥ Will they take the time to get to know you and your story, your vision for the day, walk you through options, ideas . . . explore your family dynamics, questions about your wedding party, vendors and questions to ask them . . . ? ♥ How does the bride's escort "present her" to the groom? ♥ On which side of the bride do they stand? ♥ What is the escort asked when presenting the bride? ♥ What options are there for their response to the question? ♥ What do they do after the response? ♥ Where do they go to sit after the presentation? ♥ What are the four options for your vows? ♥ What is the proper and lovely way to put rings on one another? ♥ Who will hold and present the rings? ♥ What are the helpful tips for the Best Man & groomsmen? What is a big mistake with regards to their suit jackets? ♥ How do they hold their hands during the ceremony? ♥ What are some sweet and fun things they can do when they enter, during the ceremony and as they exit? ♥ What do they do with their phones during the ceremony? ♥ What are some helpful tips for the Maid of Honor and bridesmaids: How do they hold their escort's arms? ♥ How do they hold their flowers? ♥ Who will receive the bride's bouquet? ♥ How will she hold it? ♥ WHEN does she take it from the bride and how? ♥ When does she return it to the bride? ♥ Who will fluff and arrange the bride's dress/ train? ♥ At what point in the ceremony? ♥ How many times does this happen? ♥ How does she do this with TWO bouquets in her hands (hers and bride's)? ♥ What are some tips for your first kiss as a married couple? ♥ What is the BIG thing the photographers appreciate, that your officiant should do at the end of the ceremony?? (Because your officiant is in your photos . . . forever! LOL) ♥ What is some advice when there are children in the ceremony for keeping them safe and helping things run smoothly? ♥ Are pets allowed at the ceremony? ♥ Can children or pets sign your marriage license? ♥ What is advice on keeping them safe and taken care of? ♥ Do they know how to tenderly and appropriately memorialize a loved one dear to you who has passed, if that is something you wish to include? ♥ Do they know the latest trends with regard to the following: First look? ♥ First touch? ♥ First look or touch with a blessing? ♥ Turning the groom as the bride enters for a more impactful reveal? ♥ Escorting grandmothers? ♥ Escorting mothers? ♥ Bridal "Diva" Entrance? ♥ Flower Girls? -- it's not just for little girls any more! LOL ♥ What the appropriate officiant attire should be so that it looks neat, professional and not distracting in your photos? ♥ Are they comfortable blessing you if you choose to add that into your ceremony? ♥ How to guide you through changing your last name, should you choose? ♥ Does your officiant know how to take fun behind the scenes photos and video for you? ♥ And turn them into a reel . . . and share with you? ♥ Will they "surprise you" by adding things into the script that you prefer they not? (Yes. It's happened!) ♥ Will they get cold feet at the last minute and leave you hanging and scrambling for a pro? (And now all the good ones are booked.) ♥ Do they have a list of other highly qualified professional officiants they can share with you in case of emergency? ♥ Does your officiant have 5 star reviews? ♥ Is your officiant on multiple "preferred" lists?