

JEWISH WEDDING CUSTOMS & YOUR INTERFAITH WEDDING

AN INTRODUCTION

SERVING THE UNAFFILIATED & INTERFAITH COMMUNITIES



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WHERE CAN JEWISH INTERFAITH COUPLES BE MARRIED?

Unless both members of the wedding couple are Jewish, it is not usually possible to be married in a synagogue. However, with the vast variety of wonderful wedding venues—indoors and out—available and being chosen by today's couples for their ceremonies, this is never a concern.

You can be married on the beach, in your living room or garden, or choose a hotel, restaurant, resort, vineyard—anywhere at all.

WHAT ARE SOME OF THE TRADITIONAL ELEMENTS OF A JEWISH WEDDING THAT WE CAN INCLUDE?

These can be anything you choose from the traditional ceremony, since the elements we may think of as “Jewish” are optional. Choose which are most meaningful to you and your families, and ask the Rabbi how best to combine these elements successfully into your perfect wedding ceremony.

Ketubah This traditional Jewish marriage document is usually signed before the ceremony. The Ketubah may be read aloud as part of the ceremony and is often displayed for the guests afterwards (usually, it is a wonderful piece of art).



Bedeken The “veiling” of the bride can be a very moving ceremony and occurs before—both the Ketubah and the Bedeken may be in private with the Rabbi before the ceremony begins or with family and guests present.

Chuppah Marriage under the Chuppah is a requirement in a Jewish ceremony and the Rabbi, the couple, and most often the parents stand beneath it. It forms the spiritual nexus of heaven and earth.

Seven Blessings Also known as the “sheva berakhot,” the 7 blessings are recited over wine towards the end of the wedding ceremony by the Rabbi or by guests or members of the party whom the couple wish to honor. Guests may also want to sing or hum along.

Breaking the Glass This well-known tradition occurs at the end of the wedding ceremony when the groom stamps on the glass. It is meant to symbolize that, even during times of great happiness and joy, pain is still present in the world.

Please call or email for more information.