



Legal Drop In
Optional package

Legal Drop-In

(for couples with their own Ceremony MC)

Perfect for couples who have a brilliantly charismatic friend or family member they'd love to lead their ceremony — someone who knows them best and can add that personal touch, while I step in to ensure everything is **legally binding**.

What's included:

- **Initial phone meeting** with the couple.
- **Wedding agreement/contract** provided for couple's signature.
- **Meeting with the couple and their chosen Ceremony MC** to:
 - ☐ Complete the **Notice of Intended Marriage (NOIM)**, check IDs and obtain consents.
 - ☐ Collaborate on the ceremony outline with the MC and couple.
- **Collaboration follow-up & rehearsal** to ensure everyone feels confident.
- **Unlimited email support** for the couple and Ceremony MC.
- **On the wedding day:**
 - ☐ Provision of PA system and microphones *(if needed)*.
 - ☐ Vow booklets and readings booklet. *(if needed)*
 - ☐ Legal documentation for signing.
 - ☐ Marriage Certificate.
- **All legal paperwork prepared and lodged**, with marriage registered at Births, Deaths & Marriages.
- **Back-up support:** if the Ceremony MC becomes unavailable, I can step in to deliver their prepared script. Should I need to take on, write and present the full ceremony, an additional fee will apply.

Best suited for couples who:

- Want their ceremony delivered by a loved one, but need a celebrant for the legalities.
- Value a mix of personal connection and professional guidance.
- Are marrying within **60km of the Surf Coast**.

Important Legal Requirements for Marriage in Australia

To ensure your marriage is legally valid, a few key requirements must be met:

- A **Notice of Intended Marriage (NOIM)** must be completed and lodged with your celebrant at least **one month before the ceremony date**.
- Each party must provide **full consent** to marry, separately and in person.
- A **Declaration of No Legal Impediment to Marriage (DONLIM)** must be signed prior to the ceremony (*this is often completed at a rehearsal*).
- On the day of your ceremony, **two witnesses** over the age of 18 (*not under the influence of substances*) must be present to witness the marriage and sign the legal paperwork.
- During the ceremony, the **registered marriage celebrant** must:
 - ☐ Present the **Monitum** (the statement from the Marriage Act).
 - ☐ Provide and present the **legal vows**, which must include the **full legal names** of each party.
 - ☐ Clearly **witness the entire ceremony**.
- All **legal documentation** must be completed and signed by the registered celebrant and then lodged with **Births, Deaths & Marriages**.
- If a **Ceremony MC** (*family member/friend*) is leading the wedding, they must be **over 18 and not under the influence of substances**. The celebrant will step in for all legal aspects to ensure the marriage is valid.

A Note on Ceremony MC Responsibilities

While your Ceremony MC will bring personality and connection to the day, it's important to understand that they cannot simply "wing it." To ensure your wedding is professional and legally valid:

- A **full ceremony outline and written script** must be prepared in advance.
- All inclusions (such as rituals, readings, poems, or personal writings) must be researched and planned by your Ceremony MC.
- I will collaborate with you and your MC during the planning process to ensure the structure, flow, and content meet the required standards.

Although I may not be presenting the ceremony, I am still the **registered celebrant legally responsible** for it. My registration and name are placed on your marriage documents, so I must ensure the ceremony is conducted with professionalism and care.

This approach allows your Ceremony MC to shine, while giving you peace of mind that everything is seamless, heartfelt, and above all, legally correct.