

Civil Wedding Ceremony Options in England And Wales

| | Registrar at Register Office | Registrar at Approved Premises (e.g. Hotel) | Humanist Celebrant | Independent Celebrant |
|--|--|---|---------------------------------------|--|
| Legal marriage status | ✓ | ✓ | Only in Scotland and Northern Ireland | ✗ |
| Able to choose who conducts the ceremony | ✗ | ✗ | ✓ | ✓ |
| Personalised ceremony | ✗ | ✗ | ✓ | ✓ |
| Venue | Register office | Must be licensed for marriage | Any location | Any location |
| Music and readings | Limited list, no religious or spiritual content. (A wider choice of music and readings is available, subject to an additional fee.) | | Must be non-religious | Any music and readings, can include religious or spiritual content |
| Typical cost* | £325-600 | Around £900 | £450 - £1500** | |

*Costs based on figures from Birmingham City Council, including notice fee of around £105

** Cost quoted on Humanists UK website; fees for Independent Celebrants fall within the same range.

The current cost for a statutory ceremony in Birmingham is around £180, including the notice fee of £105.
Fees for other register offices will vary.

For couples choosing a celebrant-led wedding, a statutory ceremony is the most cost-effective option to complete the legalities of marriage.