



Wed Me Dee Frequently Asked Questions

Planning your ceremony should feel straightforward. These answers explain how to get started, personalize your celebration, prepare for your wedding day, and handle your marriage paperwork.

WED ME DEE | CEREMONY PLANNING

1. How do we book and secure our date?

Contact Wed Me Dee with your preferred date, ceremony time, location, and the service you are interested in. We can discuss availability and the next steps. Your agreement will set out the booking payment, payment schedule, and requirements for securing your date. An inquiry alone does not confirm a reservation.

2. Which ceremony package is right for us?

Start with how much personalization and planning support you would like. Ask us for our current ceremony package comparison so you can review the inclusions and choose the option that fits your celebration and budget.

3. Do you offer Sign & Go and intimate wedding options?

Yes. Ask about our Sign & Go service and Mini-Mony & Pop-Up Ceremony offerings. We can explain the current options, availability, and what is included. A legal marriage still requires the applicable license and ceremony formalities, even when the celebration is brief.

4. Who will perform our ceremony? Can we request Daneen or John?

Tell us if you have a preference for Daneen or John when you inquire. We will discuss availability and confirm the officiant arrangements for your booking.

5. Where do you perform ceremonies?

Our primary service area is Westchester County, New York, and Connecticut. Ask us about New York City and other locations. Availability, travel arrangements, and the officiant requirements for your ceremony location must be confirmed before booking.

6. What additional charges might apply?

Depending on your booking, additional charges may apply for travel, a rehearsal, providing a witness, or a delayed start. Ask us to identify any parking costs and other applicable charges in your quote and agreement before you book.

7. What if we change our date or time, or cancel?

Contact us as soon as possible. A new date or time depends on availability and must be confirmed. Our booking deposit is non-refundable because it reserves your date. Your signed agreement explains the cancellation terms and any other payment obligations.

Personalizing Your Ceremony

8. What is an officiant, and what are Daneen's credentials?

An officiant leads your ceremony and, for a legal marriage, must be authorized to perform it where it takes place. Daneen is a nondenominational minister ordained through the Universal Life Church and is registered as a New York City marriage officiant, registration number 3205924.

9. What types of ceremonies do you perform?

We offer secular, spiritual, nondenominational, interfaith, traditional, and nontraditional ceremonies, as well as vow renewals and symbolic commitment celebrations. We welcome LGBTQ+ couples. Tell us about the traditions, beliefs, and people you would like to include. A symbolic commitment ceremony or vow renewal does not itself create a legal marriage or domestic partnership. Some of the various types of ceremonies are:

- **Civil/Traditional:** A Civil ceremony is a marriage performed, recorded, and recognized by a government official such as an Officiant and is recognized by the state. A civil ceremony is the most common and allows a couple to include special readings, vows, symbols and wedding themes that may not be included in a religious ceremony. A civil ceremony often does not contain religious elements; however, it is completely up to the couple. A civil ceremony can take place in the venue of your choice. A traditional ceremony includes the wedding ceremony and a wedding reception that usually features speeches, dancing, a meal and time to spend with guests. They can be held in churches, at beaches, museums, gardens, resorts or any number of places.
- **Interfaith:** Interfaith ceremony, sometimes called interreligious marriage or "mixed marriage", is marriage between spouses professing different religions. An interfaith ceremony is an ideal solution for couples that have different spiritual, religious or cultural backgrounds.
- **Non-traditional:** A non-traditional ceremony is one where the couple doesn't follow the traditional order of things. For example, they may have their wedding party walk down the aisle in a different order than usual, have your dog or cat carry the wedding rings, or they may not exchange vows during the ceremony. You may or may not have religious overtones and you will most likely add your own flavor to this type of ceremony.
- **Non-denominational:** A non-denominational ceremony has no association with a religious denomination. It can contain elements of traditional, non-traditional, spiritual, interfaith and/or civil ceremonies.
- **Same-Sex:** Ceremony between partners of the same sex and/or gender identity.
- **Domestic Partner or Commitment Blessings:** A domestic partnership is an arrangement in which two people live together and are in a committed relationship without being legally married. It shares many of the same benefits as being married. Domestic partnerships are composed of two people of any gender, which includes male, female, or non-binary people.
- **Vow Renewal:** A vow renewal is a celebratory ceremony during which a married couple reaffirms their commitment to one another. They are especially popular on milestone anniversaries (10, 25, or 50 years), but there's no rule that says you have to wait to have one.

10. Can we write our own vows and choose our wording?

Yes. Your personal vows can reflect your relationship and the promises you want to make. We can discuss readings, meaningful traditions, and the names and terms you prefer. Personalization depends on your package, and any legally required declarations must remain part of a legal marriage ceremony. We do not include a request for objections.

11. What is the difference between personal vows and a ring exchange?

Personal vows are the promises you write or select. A ring exchange is the giving of rings, usually accompanied by a short statement. You may combine them, keep them separate, or omit personal vows or rings. For a New York legal marriage, you must still declare that you take each other as spouses in the presence of the officiant and at least one witness. [1]

12. Can we review the ceremony before the wedding?

Ask about the ceremony selection, draft review, and revision options included in your chosen package. Discuss any wording you want included or avoided during planning so the agreed ceremony reflects your preferences.

13. Can we have our ceremony outside a house of worship?

Yes. Ceremonies can take place at suitable venues, private homes, and outdoor locations. Confirm the property owner's permission, any permits, and the venue's rules. Outdoor celebrations should have a weather backup location.

Wedding Day Details**14. How long will our ceremony last, and when will you arrive?**

Length depends on your service, readings, personal vows, and other elements. During planning, ask us to confirm the expected ceremony length and officiant arrival time so your venue and other vendors can build an accurate schedule.

15. Will our officiant have another wedding that day?

It is possible during wedding season. Your contracted start time is important when planning travel and other commitments. Tell us promptly if your schedule changes so we can review what can be accommodated.

16. What happens if our officiant has an emergency?

Ask us to explain the backup coverage available for your booking, including how you would be notified and how an available replacement would receive your ceremony details. Your agreement should confirm the arrangements and any limits on replacement availability.

17. What if we are running late?

Contact your officiant as soon as you know there is a delay. A start more than 15 minutes after the contracted time is subject to an additional charge of \$25 per half hour under our late-start policy. We will discuss the available time and any necessary adjustments. Marriage paperwork is filed within the applicable legal deadline, separately from collection of outstanding fees.

18. Will you attend our rehearsal?

Rehearsal attendance is booked separately and is subject to availability. Request it when you book your wedding. An additional rehearsal fee applies unless it is included in your package. Our Love Story includes attendance without an additional rehearsal fee; travel fees may apply. Confirm the rehearsal date, time, location, and scope of assistance in your agreement.

19. What happens if it rains or our venue changes?

Arrange a weather backup with your venue and share both locations with us. Contact us before changing the ceremony location so we can review travel, availability, and license requirements. In Connecticut, your license must be issued by the town where the marriage will take place, so a move to a different town requires checking with the clerk before proceeding. [4]

20. May our photographer and videographer record the ceremony?

Yes. Please coordinate with your venue and officiant so they can capture the ceremony while preserving guests' views and following venue rules. You are welcome to share a favorite photograph afterward, but it is optional. Permission for any promotional use should be handled separately.

21. Should we tip our officiant?

Gratuities are never expected but are always appreciated.

Marriage Paperwork

22. Who obtains the marriage license?

You are responsible for applying for and obtaining your marriage license. Check the issuing clerk's identification, document, appointment, and timing requirements well before your wedding. Bring the valid license to your officiant before the legal ceremony. A license authorizes the marriage; it is not proof that the ceremony has already taken place. [2, 4]

23. How soon can we marry, and how long is the license valid?

New York: Generally, you must wait a full 24 hours after issuance, and the license is valid for 60 days. Court-authorized exceptions and military provisions may apply; ask the issuing clerk about your circumstances and follow the dates on your license. [3]

Connecticut: The town cannot issue the license until at least 48 hours after the second applicant signs the application. This rule took effect October 1, 2026. The license is valid for 65 days from issuance. Plan for appointments and office hours when scheduling pickup. [4, 5]

24. Do we need witnesses?

New York, including NYC: At least one witness other than the officiant must attend. New York State guidance does not set a minimum witness age; choose someone who can understand and testify to what took place. Check any additional requirements for a City Clerk office ceremony directly with that office. [1, 6]

Connecticut: Ceremony witnesses are not required. For a ceremony requiring a witness, you normally provide one; ask whether Wed Me Dee can arrange a witness for an additional fee. [7]

25. What if we forget our license or it is not ready?

Tell us immediately. If someone can retrieve your valid license before the legal ceremony, that may resolve the issue. Otherwise, we can discuss a symbolic celebration and separately arrange the legal ceremony once all requirements are met, subject to availability and any agreed additional cost. A symbolic celebration does not establish your legal marriage date. [2]

26. When is the license signed and filed, and how do we get our certificate?

We complete the marriage paperwork after the legal ceremony, including any required witness signatures, and return it to the appropriate clerk. New York requires return within five days of the marriage. Connecticut paperwork goes to the registrar in the town where the marriage occurred. Contact the office holding your record for certified-copy instructions, fees, and processing times. [4, 8, 9]

To check availability or discuss your ceremony, contact Wed Me Dee at www.wedmedee.com or call 1-203-644-4815.

Marriage License Resources

Reference information reviewed October 8, 2026. Confirm requirements with the issuing clerk for your ceremony location. This section can be published as a separate resource page and linked from the FAQ.

Special circumstances

For a New York waiting-period waiver, contact the issuing clerk and appropriate court about the current application process and eligibility. Obtain the order before the ceremony and provide it to your officiant. Do not assume that a waiver is available automatically. [3]

If marrying abroad, ask the destination country's consulate or marriage authority which documents it requires. NYC's Certificate of Non-Impediment is one possible document; check eligibility directly with the City Clerk. [10]

If using a marriage certificate abroad, first ask the receiving authority which certificate format and authentication it requires. Request the appropriate certified record from the issuing office; for an NYC record, this may be an extended certificate. Follow the New York Department of State's instructions for any required county-clerk certification and apostille or authentication. Requirements depend on the record and destination country. [11, 12]

Official sources and application links

- [1. New York ceremony and witness requirements](#)
- [2. New York marriage license requirement](#)

- [3. New York waiting period and license validity](#)
- [4. Connecticut marriage license requirements](#)
- [5. Connecticut marriage certificates and October 2026 waiting-period change](#)
- [6. New York State marriage guidance](#)
- [7. Connecticut witness guidance from the City of Bridgeport](#)
- [8. New York license return deadline](#)
- [9. NYC marriage records and certified copies](#)
- [10. NYC Certificate of Non-Impediment](#)
- [11. New York apostille and authentication instructions](#)
- [12. Federal guidance on documents for foreign use](#)
- [NYC Marriage Bureau and appointment information](#)
- [NYC Project Cupid appointments](#)