

Unity Candle Ceremony



Lighting a Unity Candle during your wedding ceremony is a romantic way to symbolise your two lives joining together as one.

What is a Unity Candle Ceremony?

At some point in the wedding ceremony (typically closer to the end) the celebrant will explain the unity candle ceremony meaning, then the bride and groom will each light a taper candle and use them to light a larger pillar candle together. The flame that burns represents the unity of the two partners. The ceremony ends with each partner blowing out the other's taper candle (kissing their unmarried life goodbye and bonding them forever).

Who else can take part in the candle lighting ceremony?

Do you wish you could involve more people than just you and your partner? You totally can! Some couples have their mothers light the taper candles after guests are seated to give them a larger role in the wedding ceremony. Others ask their children to join them as they set their unity candle aglow. There aren't any strict rules about this, so we can make it what you want it to be. It is both romantic and poignant and a good photo opportunity for the photos on the day!

Unity candle ceremony tips

If you want to include this type of ceremony in your wedding, you'll most definitely need to consider your venue. First job is to check out your venue that they allow candles in this way. This may sound strange, but some places, especially older venues, prohibit any burning flames. Your celebrant will need to check out that there is a table, and a space to perform this, but this should not be a problem.

If you're hosting an outdoor wedding you may want to consider using a large lantern to house the candles, or a hurricane candle shade. This is just to make it safe to perform. If the weather starts playing up, you don't want the flame on your unity candle to be blown out. This would kind of put a damper on what could be a really memorable moment.

Unity candle ceremony set

You can buy a unity candle ceremony set in a style that suits your wedding theme. These can be quite elaborate and formal. Alternatively, you can DIY a unity candle set by simply purchasing a large pillar candle, 2 taper candles and 2 votive (for lighting the tapers) and accessorising with candle holders, decorations or flowers.

There some lovely selections on Etsy and Amazon

It is likely you'll probably want to hang on to your unity candle as a souvenir, so, after everyone has cleared out the venue, put out the flame and wrap it up for safekeeping. Ask a trusted member of your wedding party to hang onto it, and return to you after your wedding day