

# 5 COMMON MISTAKES Wedding Officiants Make

HANDPICKED and LOVED

## #1 NO MICROPHONE MOXIE

- **More than 30 guests the issues are:** Have a microphone and do a sound check. Make sure you can be heard and so can the couple when they share their vows.
- **30 guests or less:** Be close enough to the guests that they can hear you speak. Don't be too far away!

## #2 GUESTS DON'T KNOW WHETHER THEY SHOULD BE STANDING OR SITTING

When should guests stand in honor of the Bride? What's the proper moment for friends and family to be seated? As the conductor of the ceremony, it's the Officiant's responsibility to direct people when to stand ("Please stand in honor of our bride") and when to be seated ("Please be seated")

## #3 WHERE ARE THE RINGS AND WHAT DO YOU DO WITH THEM?

Wedding rings are the symbol of a couple's lasting commitment to each other. As the Officiant, you have to 1) get them from whomever is their keeper, 2) decide with your couple whether to have a blessing for them, 3) When to have the couple put them on in relationship to their sharing their vows.

## #4 IT'S THEIR MOMENT, SO STEP OUT OF THE PICTURE

Your couple may love you but you don't need to be in the photo when they finally seal their vows with a kiss. Step aside and let them have the full frame, the joy of the moment for themselves.

## #5 THE MARRIAGE LICENSE IS LEGAL WHEN IT'S SIGNED, SEALED AND DELIVERED

In most areas of the country, the Officiant must make sure the marriage license is filed out completely according to the process set out by the license issuers such as the county clerk. Follow the guidelines provided, make sure names are SIGNED PROPERLY and in the RIGHT PLACE. Remember to sign yourself! Send the signed license back to the authorities or as otherwise required.

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To investigate a new program that helps train new and aspiring officiants, [check out this two-minute video](#) by the creative Director of I DO, Wedding Officiant Prep programs, Rev. Crystal Yarlott.