

How soon do we need to book our celebrant?

You must give your celebrant at least one month's notice of your intention to marry. This is done by lodging a Notice of Intended Marriage, a document which your celebrant can provide. The NOIM can be lodged as early as 18 months before your wedding date.

A civil marriage ceremony allows you lots of choice and lots of control over the style and feel for your ceremony. Before you choose your celebrant think about what you want for your ceremony. If you have confidence that your celebrant understands what you want, they will help set the "tone", getting your special day started with the words you choose and the feel that is all you.

For some couples there are no choices to make. They know exactly what they want and just need a celebrant they can trust to make sure everything goes as planned. But, if you don't know exactly what to include, maybe you would like your celebrant to offer suggestions and help you find the right words.

For some couples, the ceremony is simply a legal requirement to be completed so you can all move on to the celebration. Perhaps you will be content with any celebrant who is available to ensure the legal bits are complied with. There may be little difference in the fee, it's just a matter of finding the celebrant who is right for you.

Also consider the day and time you have chosen for your ceremony. If you want to book a celebrant for a peak time of year such as May, September or October and you want them available on a Saturday afternoon (or even a Friday afternoon) then book early, even 12 months in advance. Your Notice of Intended Marriage will remain valid for 18 months, so you can plan ahead!

To secure your chosen date and time you will need to lodge a completed booking form and pay the \$150 booking fee. The booking fee will be deducted from your balance which will be due 7 days before your ceremony takes place. NB: the booking fee is not refundable but may be transferable by arrangement (ie. If plans change, you may be able to change the date of your booking or gift the booking fee to another person)

Questions? Give me a call anytime on 0419 394844