

10 interesting rituals to include in your wedding ceremony

1. The Truce Bell

purchase a special bell to bring to your ceremony – at the end of the ceremony, you both take turns ringing it – the bell then remains in your home and if you are having an argument and want time out and want to remind your partner of your love and the happiness of your wedding day, you ring the bell!

2. The Wine Ceremony

very appropriate for ceremonies at wineries – you share the same cup of wine during the ceremony, indicating your willingness to share your life together, the bitter and the sweet and all it has to offer you or you can mix two wines together to symbolise the joining of your two families

3. The Pebble Toss

all of your guests take up a pebble at the end of the ceremony and toss it into a vat or large bowl with a wish for your happiness – you then take the pebbles home to use in an indoor or outdoor feature that you will look upon and remember your wedding day

4. The Treasure Box

guests bring a small item with them to symbolise their wishes for you – it may be a cowry shell to symbolise wealth, a tiny scroll with some words of wisdom, a small teddy bear to symbolise the family you'll create together, a tiny item someone purchased overseas to symbolise their wishes for you that you will travel together etc – you bring a special box for them to place these items in and then keep it in your bedroom or another visible spot where you can look at it often and be reminded of the love and support of your family and friends – mention this on your invitations so that they come prepared

5. Blessing Tree

a family member or friend can bring along a small tree in a pot with lots of branches – guests write their wishes on tags threaded with ribbon and hang them in the tree

6. The Broom and the Sword

these are laid down for you to step over at the end of your ceremony – the symbolism of the sword is defending and protecting your relationship and all that you together hold dear – the symbolism of the broom can be sweeping away anything from the past that no longer serves (letting go of a previous relationship, for example) or joint responsibility for household tasks (perhaps a more popular interpretation ☺)

7. Noise making

get all your guests involved by placing small percussion instruments on their seats – at the end of the ceremony, they make a lot of noise in celebration of your wedding day

8. Twin flames

light two candles representing your joining as soul mates – together but still two separate individuals who shine out, making even more light together

9. Spiral

at the end of the ceremony, join hands and lead your guests out of the venue to where you will go for congratulations, each person joining hands with two others (except for the leader which can be the bride or the groom), and once all have joined hands and been led out, turn in a circle until there is one big group hug – this works well for a ceremony where everyone is standing and not a seated venue such as a chapel

10. Water ceremony

pour water together, you (and your children if any), over a large chunk of rose quartz, indicating all the ways you love each other and flow together. Have smaller chunks of rose quartz for each guest to take with them to remind them of your ceremony and share the love.

Have fun!!!