

Officiant Pricing for Rabbi Steven R. Hara

Mazel Tov & Congratulations on your upcoming wedding!

Fee: \$500 for the Rabbi to officiate the ceremony.

- For your convenience, the fee is a flat rate.
- There are no "packages" to choose from.
- The approach for putting a ceremony together is the same for all couples.
- The fee does not change if there is a co-officiant as the amount of work is the same (or greater).
- Additional services incur additional costs as described below.
- A deposit of half the fee (\$250) and a signed contract are required to book the wedding date.

Services provided:

- Officiating the wedding ceremony (including the ketubah signing, if applicable).
- Filing the marriage license.
- Two meetings (one initial meeting to get to know each other and ask questions, and one before the wedding to finalize the ceremony).
- All other email and phone communication with the couple as needed.
- Communicating with an event planner, venue coordinator, or day of assistant as needed.
- Assistance preparing for or running the rehearsal (attendance optional based on availability).
- Assistance purchasing the ketubah (if applicable) and procuring other materials necessary for the ceremony.

Additional services (fees vary):

- Extra meetings
- Providing an accompanist
- Travel outside of the Chicagoland area
- A day-of technical assistant for Zoom weddings

*Please note, due to the pandemic all meetings and ceremonies may currently be held **online only** until it is safe to be together in person, especially due to the heightened risk from aerosolization of the Coronavirus or Delta variant. When scheduling in advance for in-person ceremonies, keep in mind that adjustments or alternatives to plans may need to be made for everyone's health and safety. We will adhere to CDC recommendations regarding vaccinations and*

I look forward to helping you with your simcha and being a part of your special day!

Getting Started: Ceremony Options and Pricing

For many couples, planning a ceremony can seem overwhelming. Typically, couples know whether they want to exchange personal vows or whether they want to say as little as possible; sometimes, they have already made music and reading selections but beyond that, the ceremony is a blank slate. This is where I educate you about my wedding officiating options:

A ONE-OF A-KIND CEREMONY

\$650/ \$800 for a completely personalized Wedding Ceremony that can be religious or secular but always fun! The ceremony can be as long or as short as you wish! This option is for couples who want to be involved in the planning process so that the ceremony truly reflects your shared vision and dreams, as well as your history together.

Great Ceremonies for Savvy Couples, I will create your ceremony using a Personal Questionnaire, a Ceremony Worksheet, an optional Couple's Compatibility Quiz and your input from our planning meeting; you get to make suggestions, proof the draft and request any changes. The possibilities are as open as you are! The higher price applies if you want your unique Love Story included! For an example of a humorous Love Story created for two stand-up comedians! Love Stories can also be romantic, inspirational, traditional and interactive or a mixture of all of the above!

A "One of a Kind" ceremony includes:

- * A 1-1.5 hour planning meeting at a mutually convenient location.
- * Phone conversations and email exchanges in response to drafts of the ceremony.
- * Your names will be used throughout the ceremony
- * Special mention of your children(if applicable) or absent friends and deceased relatives
- * Your choice of a secular, spiritual or religious ceremony
- * A Theme that can be seamlessly woven throughout the ceremony
- * The inclusion of Cultural or Religious Elements/Traditions
- * The inclusion of other languages
- * A "Welcome" tailor-made to your guests
- * A "Processional" that can be as creative or traditional as you wish

- * Options for "The Presentation" of Bride & Groom
- * Options for "The Consent"
- * Your choice of Readings (no limit) and Readers
- * A completely personalized "Address" (Storytelling) based on your input (ceremonies with this option are \$750)
- * Personal Vows (or love statements) or standard vows or both!
- * One or two rituals of your choice which we can create from scratch or adapt from a standard ritual
- * Your choice of the final "Blessing"
- * A "Recessional" that can be as creative or traditional as you wish
- * You get to see the first draft of the ceremony at least a month before your wedding

A SHORT & SWEET CEREMONY

\$550 for a standard Wedding Ceremony that can be religious or secular. This option is for those who want a short ceremony that is both fun and heartfelt but who want to be minimally involved in the planning process. My version of a "Standard Ceremony" is what many Wedding Officiants would describe as "Personalized"; your ceremony will not feel like a "cookie cutter". My style is warm and highly personal. You will also have choices that will make your ceremony feel unique to you and your partner.

A "Short & Sweet" ceremony includes:

- * Your names will be used throughout the ceremony
- * Special mention of your children (if applicable) or absent friends and deceased relatives
- * Your choice of a secular, spiritual or religious ceremony
- * You get to choose one reading from a list of suggested readings
- * You can include a traditional ritual such as The Rose Ceremony, The Sand Ceremony, The Unity Candle or Jumping the Broom....
- * Pre-set Welcome, Consent, Exchange of Rings, Final Blessing and Pronouncement
- * Standard Vows or Personal Vows-your choice!
- * You get to see a draft of the ceremony at least a month before your wedding
- * Contact by phone and email as necessary.