Church of England churches have been celebrating this moment with couples for centuries.

It is both a privilege and a duty for your vicar to join a man and a woman in marriage. The good news is that you can marry in church regardless of your beliefs, whether or not you are christened and whether or not you have been a regular churchgoer.

Because getting married gives you a whole new legal status with many benefits, there are considerations for the vicar to make in both UK civil and church law. **There are some basic requirements** but there could be complications if:-

- One or both of you is a national from a country that is outside the European Economic Area. **Special procedures apply** to the legal preparations for these marriages, to protect and celebrate those which are genuine and to help prevent those which are not.

- If one or both of you has been married before. There may well be a way forward for you to be re-married in church but the vicar has certain considerations in these circumstances. [Read more information about having been married before.](#)

Although same-sex marriage legislation has changed, it remains the case that it is not legally possible for same-sex couples to marry in the Church of England.

Churches are so much more than a wedding venue. They offer friendship, prayer and support before and after a wedding, whether it is a church wedding or not. [Find out more about how they can support you.](#)
Also in this section

Legal requirements

Finding a church
Why marry in church?

Mixed faith marriages
Your wedding and Covid-19

Your children are welcome
When can I marry in church?

Information for same sex couples
More than a wedding venue

Booking a church
Meeting the vicar

Seven steps to a heavenly wedding
Marriage after divorce

If you live abroad
Information for foreign nationals

Special licences
Common Licences

Do we need a marriage licence?
Superintendent Registrars Marriage Schedule

The cost of church weddings

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