

Getting married is one of the most serious decisions we make in life. As well as being a big commitment, it has an impact on family, friends and the whole of society. Read more about why marriage matters, and ways to help you grow and stay together.

A hanging decoration made of hearts

## Thinking about marriage

The story of your relationship as a couple may have begun fairly recently or years ago. Either way, getting married is a whole new beginning for you, your family and others in your life.

A couple walking along a path carrying luggage

## The good times

The Church of England is a big supporter of marriage! A good marriage has a positive effect on couples and all those whose lives they touch as a result of that marriage. Here's why.

A heart drawn on a pebble

## The tough times

The vows you make in the marriage service acknowledge that life has its ups and downs. It's important to recognise that difficult times will come along, but that it's also possible to be prepared in order to cope.

A row of champagne flutes in a marquee

## The special times

There's so much to celebrate throughout a marriage and how you mark special occasions after your wedding, whether your own or those of your wider family, might change.

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## Renewing your vows

There may be a time when you want to come to church and renew your vows. You can have this kind of service even if you weren't originally married in church.

A couple at a wedding rehearsal

## Preparing for marriage

The promises you make on your wedding day seal your love and commitment to each other for the rest of your lives, so it makes sense to spend some time thinking about the words and all that they mean.

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