

Questions for Wedding Officiants

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There are so many choices of wedding officiants in Indianapolis. You may have a lot of questions which is natural, especially if you have never been married before. 8 months before your wedding is when to book a wedding officiant. Right now we will cover what questions to ask a wedding officiant before you book them. This is where you can ask questions to determine if they are the best fit for the type of wedding you are having. Because of the personalized nature of weddings, some questions may not apply to your ceremony. Just skip over them.

1: Tell me about your services?

This is an opener. This gives them a chance to tell you a bit about themselves, how long they have been officiating weddings, and hopefully answer some of the questions below.

2: Are you supportive of secular / interfaith / same sex marriages?

If any of these apply to you, this is an important question for obvious reasons. If they are not supportive of your marriage you will not need to ask any further questions.

3: Do you have any restrictions for the type of ceremony we would like to have?

Some officiants only perform specific types of ceremonies. If you two have talked about what you like your ceremony to look like this is an important question to ensure your officiant can make that idea come to life and not box you into something else.

4: Do you allow others to speak / participate / have a reading during the ceremony?

You may have a friend who wants to do a reading or sing a specific song to make the ceremony special. Ask how they can help others participate in your wedding ceremony

5: Can we write down our own vows or have a ceremony themed to fit our wedding?

You may want a star wars themed wedding with an officiant dressed in galactic attire, or you may want something toned down a bit. If you have a strong theme for your wedding ask if the officiant will participate to make the event more special.

6: What will you say during the ceremony, can we read it before hand?

The officiant should be able to tell you what they try to cover during the ceremony. You may want to read what the officiant will say as well to avoid surprises.

7: Will we have any meetings in person before the wedding?

The officiant will need to ask you both questions to properly plan your ceremony to your wishes. Find out if this needs to be done in person of if it can be done over FaceTime.

8: Do you require premarital counseling?

A lot of Celebrants will require you to do some premarital counseling to ensure you are a good fit and ready for married life before they will consider officiating your wedding.

9: Are there any additional fees we should be aware of?

Mileage and the Rehearsal would be the most common extras but be sure to ask so you are clear on what you will be paying.

As always ask to see a sample contract and the cancelation policy

The contract should cover payment, their scope of work, as well as their cancelation policy. Weddings can be called off or pushed back for several reasons including natural disasters and family deaths. Be sure if the unthinkable happens you are covered.

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