

QUESTIONS MOST OFTEN ASKED BY DISNEY BRIDES

1. **WHAT IS YOUR FEE?** My fee is \$200.00 without a rehearsal and \$300 with a rehearsal. I ask for a 100 deposit at the time of booking and the balance on the Day of the service.
2. **CAN I HAVE MICKEY OR MINNIE PARTICIPATE IN MY SERVICE?** In order to maintain the reverence and dignity of the marriage ceremony the only Character that can take part in a wedding service is Major Domo. (He was the one who in the story of Cinderella went around and measured the girl's feet for the glass slipper). Major Domo presents the rings to be used in the service at the appropriate time as a surprise to everyone.
3. **DO YOU CONDUCT A RELIGIOUS OR A CIVIL SERVICE?** This is your wedding. I want it to be as you wish it to be. We can meet the expectations of most religious backgrounds and heritages. We can do a completely nonreligious service for those who prefer that style or a combination service for those who wish a bit of both. No matter what you choose I try and make it the most beautiful service that your guests have ever seen. I want them saying to each other how much they enjoyed the wedding.
4. **CAN I WRITE MY OWN SERVICE?** Of course you can. You can write your own service, send me materials to include in your service, or let me write your service after consulting with you. While we try to make the service unique many couples in writing their own service lack the expertise to do so in a manner that is interesting and special. Some have done a great job but many have not.
5. **CAN I HAVE MY OWN MINISTER CONDUCT MY SERVICE?** Some couples bring their own officiate with varying degrees of success.
6. **CAN I HAVE MY FRIENDS AND FAMILY PARTICIPATE IN THE SERVICE?** We encourage you to do so as much as they are comfortable. When you involve others in the service it makes it their wedding as well which is a good thing.
7. **IS IT TRUE THAT A CATHOLIC PRIEST CANNOT DO A DISNEY WEDDING?** The Diocese of Central Florida prohibits Catholic priests from performing a wedding at any location outside of the church. The church has written and developed a book titled *TOGETHER FOR LIFE THE CATHOLIC WEDDING OUTSIDE OF MASS*. When I have a Catholic couple I send them a copy of the book. They make their selections of Scriptures and prayers. There is a section in the back of the book to tear out and return to me with their choices. We do not do Catholic communion in Disney weddings. The couple may select some of the book, all of the book, or none of the book. The couple needs to consult with their own parish about having the marriage blessed by the church.
8. **SHOULD I GET MY MARRIAGE LICENSE BY MAIL?** If you do not live in the state of Florida the answer in most cases is Yes if you have at least 30 days before your wedding. It costs more but it saves you a half day of vacation time that you will want to spend with friends and family or just seeing the sights. I suggest you use the attached form. (It is the same one found in the Disney material.

9. **WHAT IS THE MOST COMMON MISTAKE MADE BY NEWLY WEDS?** They order plane or cruise tickets under her new married name. It takes up to 30 days to get the certified copy of the marriage license needed to change either of their names. Get our honeymoon tickets under your premarital names.
10. **WHO SHOULD ATTEND THE REHEARSAL?** The bride, groom ushers, parents, bridesmaids, groomsmen, readers and others who will have a direct part in the service. The intimate weddings (**escape weddings**) do not have a rehearsal nor do they need one.
11. **MY FATHER IS DECEASED (OR CAN NOT ATTEND) AND I HAVE NO BROTHERS WHO CAN ESCORT ME IN OR PRESENT ME IN MARRIAGE.**
You have several excellent options. There is nothing wrong with your mother escorting you in. Often what I do is have the groom come and meet the bride half way. It really looks romantic in a video and in your pictures.
12. **WE ARE OF DIFFERENT RELIGIOUS BACKGROUNDS (Jewish- Christian) AND EVEN THOUGH WE ARE HAVING A NONSECTARIAN CIVIL SERVICE WE WOULD LIKE TO INCLUDE A TRADITIONAL SYMBOL OF BOTH HERITAGES.** I usually have the couple include the unity candle and the breaking of the wine glass.
13. **HOW MANY BRIDESMAIDS SHOULD I HAVE?** I have done weddings with none....and others with as many as 9 or more. There is not a right or wrong number.
14. **I HAVE MORE BRIDESMAIDS THAN GROOMSMEN, WHAT DO I DO?** This is not a problem. I would rather have an odd number than have someone just be there. This is a position of honor. We know how to handle this problem in a satisfactory manner.
15. **WHAT IS MEANT BY "SHOWCASING THE BRIDESMAIDS"?** This means that they enter alone giving the photographer an opportunity to shoot them as individuals and then as couples when they are escorted in the recessional.
16. **I AM WEARING WHITE GLOVES WITH MY WEDDING DRESS. DO I REMOVE THE GLOVES TO RECEIVE THE WEDDING RING?** Many brides find that it is much less of a problem just to take the seam from the finger at the proper time. The seam can later be replaced with no problem.
17. **AS MY OFFICIATE, WHAT DO YOU WEAR FOR THE SERVICE?** Normally I wear a black robe so as not to conflict with the bride's dress. On the other extreme I have worn a Hawaiian shirt for a Polynesian Wedding (sunset point) and a Monk's habit for a theme wedding.
18. **WHAT ARE PRESENTATION ROSES?** When a couple wishes to recognize and honor their mothers they will present long stem roses to each mother as they leave the altar area and begin their recessional. The maid of honor gives the bride her flowers and I give the groom the roses as they go to the bride's mother first and then to the mother of the groom. (often they recognize grandmothers, or stepmothers as well).
19. **MY MOTHER IS IN POOR HEALTH AND I WOULD LIKE FOR HER TO PARTICIPATE IN THE WEDDING. HER DOCTOR WILL NOT LET HER ATTEND. CAN YOU HELP ME?** On a number of occasions I have placed my cell phone in my book so that a parent or loved one could listen in on the service and be a part of it, even though circumstances keep them from being there in person.

20. SHOULD I GIVE MY WEDDING COORDINATOR OR WEDDING OFFICIATE A GRATUITY? None is required or expected. However, if officiate or Coordinator has done an exceptional job on your behalf the gratuity will be appreciated.

21 I HAVE A DAUGHTER BY A PREVIOUS MARRIAGE OR RELATIONSHIP THAT IS 9 YEARS OLD. HOW DO I MAKE HER FEEL THAT SHE IS A PART OF THE WEDDING AND JUST NOT A SPECTATOR? There are several ways but one way I encourage you to consider is to plan to give her A ring as well. After the ring ceremony between the two of you , I will say something like “ Today, not only do we join together husband and wife but we create a family. An important part of that family is _____” I then have the receiving parent place a ring on her finger and I ask the two of you if you will give her the guidance and counsel she will need and request in the years to come. I will then ask her if she will do her best to make this the best family it can possibly be. Following the rings, we will do the legal part, and I will have all of you hold hands in a circle and I will pronounce you husband, wife, and family. **Note:** It is important that we keep the focus on the bride and groom until the end of the service when we expand it to creating the family.

22 MY CHILD IS OLDER, (18) HOW DO YOU INCLUDE THEM? I usually have the receiving parent present them with a watch and say something to the effect “Even though the two of you have chosen one another, I want you to remember every time you look at the watch that they will always have time for you.

23. WHAT IS THE SAND CEREMONY? If the wedding is outdoors I urge you to the sand ceremony instead of the unity candle. The meaning is the same. It is almost impossible to light candles outside even if they have hurricane lamps around them.

24. My question is _____? Anytime you have a question send me an e-mail and I will answer your question by 9AM the next morning. mail to revtim6288@gmail.com That way you will have a hard copy answer. Remember your wedding is a celebration and your friends and family are there to celebrate with you. What you are really doing is stating publicly the commitment you have made to each other privately.