

Hi there, it's vow writing time!

Here's a few thoughts on how to write personal, specific vows that sound great.

I know it's daunting, but it doesn't need to be. I'm here to help.

Follow my tips to keep it simple and stress free.

- Do not google vows. It's a fast road to lame, generic vows!

**The best vows are simple. Real and authentic with specific details. They should sound like you.**

Vows are not a speech.

Speeches are longer, more about stories and explaining details, there is a flow, delivered to a group of people.

Vows are short, a simple list of random topics: compliments and promises, that you say to one person only.

Firstly, ask yourself 3 questions:

1. What do you love about your partner?
2. How have they changed you for the better?
3. What do you want to promise?

1/. Firstly, what is it about that person that really stands out?

What made you fall in love with them?

What do you love about them, about your relationship?

What are their best assets, quirks, traits?

2/. Secondly, think about how things have changed having that person in your life.

How is life better? How are you better?

Has your lifestyle changed, your personality, your outlook, your beliefs, your direction?

3/. Lastly and most importantly;

What do you actually want to promise to your partner? Real promises.

You are standing up in front of everyone dear to you to promise and commit to what?

What does this marriage mean to you personally? What is your version?

What are the promises that you will commit to, to make this marriage a success?

What are the things that you want to tell this person that you will strive to do or be?

Don't write together! It's guaranteed to reduce specifics and sound less 'you' and more 'Google'

Discuss they type/length of your vows so you're on the same page. (Short and simple is good).

It's a great idea to include something light-hearted or funny in the middle so it's not all too serious.

I suggest starting and ending with something sincere that you know your partner would love to hear.

What do you call each other? A nickname perhaps? Maybe include that too.

I suggest that you write your vows within a week of completing your 'Squeeze the Juice' questionnaire as there will be loads of good topics fresh in your brain.

Arrange some quiet time. Turn on 'Do not Disturb'. Turn off the telly/music.

Jot a whole bunch of random ideas as they come to you. Anything!

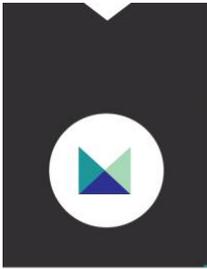
Once you have a full page, pick out the best points and voilà! You have vows!

\*Remember, it's not about grammar or being poetic, the point is to compliment your partner and tell them what you're committing to in your marriage.

It's a few nice words to the most important person in your world. That's all.

Starting with lines like these might help:





I love that you do....  
And that you are....  
I love .... about you.  
My favourite part of you is your.....  
I feel .... when you ....  
Everyone thinks that you are..... and I think that you are .....

You make me laugh when you.....  
I love when we .... together.  
I love you because ....

Since I met you I have become more....  
And I've learned to.....  
Plus you've made me feel so....  
You've prevented me from .....

You've helped me see that.....

I promise that I will always try to be....  
I commit to being.... for you  
I will always do my very best to support your .....

I promise to do 'a particular job' for you as I know that you hate it  
When you ..... I will be there.  
I will do my best to help you achieve your goal of.....  
I know that you love your 'hobby/job/project/passion' and I will commit to helping you with that by.....  
I promise never to.....  
I want us to always.....  
To me, marriage is ..... and I promise to be that for you.

Do you get the idea that I'm going with there?  
Use some of these lines or think up some similar ones.

Make it personal, use **specifics** about each other.  
**Make it so no one else can use your vows.**

Keep it simple.  
Keep it real.  
Make it sound like it's come from you.

Send your first draft as soon as you can - no later than a month before your wedding.  
Then harass your partner to send theirs immediately after you!  
(It doesn't need to be a final draft, just show me where you are at and I can help.)

And just so you know, be prepared that I will give you honest feedback!  
I want you to sound great.

All the best, talk soon, Matt.

