

## Step-By-Step Marriage Process for an Iowa Marriage!

1. Apply for a marriage license within 2 weeks of the actual wedding BUT not before 6 months before the wedding.
2. To apply, the couple intending to marry and ONE adult witness must go to the county courthouse or judicial center and fill out the application.
3. Make sure ALL parties, including the witness, bring a government I.D. and know their social security number.
4. The fee for the application is \$35.00. Credit cards are often not accepted.
  - \*The witness does not have to be present, but their paperwork must be notarized by a notary public if they can't personally be there.
  - If the couple is applying by mail, the entire application must be notarized and include payment.
5. Before the wedding, you must pick up your marriage license in person since it cannot be mailed.
6. Get married by an officially ordained officiant or pastor.
  - \*Both parties must be present during the ceremony to make the marriage legal.
7. You must have two adult witnesses present at your ceremony to sign the paperwork. Paperwork must be signed in black ink.
8. You must complete and return your marriage certificate within 15 days of the ceremony.
9. Once the marriage has been performed and the Certificate of Marriage has been returned to the Recorder's office and placed on record, a certified copy will be mailed to either Party A or B who got married. Either Party may use this certified copy for a name change on social security and driver's license, etc.