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NATALIE PLUNK PHOTOGRAPHY



JESSICA RAPHAEL PHOTOGRAPHY



CHELLISE MICHAEL PHOTOGRAPHY

QUESTIONS TO ASK

Officiants:

1. Will you give a speech/sermon?
2. Will we be able to read it before the ceremony?
3. Can we choose the readings?
4. Will you perform the marriage at our venue?
5. Do you have sample vow wordings?
6. Do you require pre-marital counselling?
7. Will you attend the rehearsal?

Ceremony Site:

1. May we bring in our own officiant?
2. Do you have a bridal suite?
3. Are there any restrictions for decorations, vendors, or music?
4. Is there a dress code?
(Know the guidelines before buying your dress.)

Ceremony Musicians:

1. Can I choose my songs?
2. What instruments do you offer?
3. Will you be the performer the day-of?
4. How far in advance should I book?

Don't forget to ask the general questions on page 4

Finding an officiant

The ceremony is the most meaningful part of the wedding. Make sure it's sentimental — and more importantly, legal! — by finding the perfect officiant.

Legality

The most important step in choosing an officiant is making sure they are legally allowed to marry you. In Ohio, ministers ordained online must register with the Secretary of State's office for a marriage to be legal. It's important to ask to see both proof of ordainment and registration. Some religious leaders are willing to conduct weddings outside of the church. Ask him or her what their regulations are and if they're willing and available.

A personal touch

You should choose an officiant who you feel comfortable around and who is a good public speaker. Someone who knows you well is always best, as they can add personal touches. You should also consider asking someone you admire.

Gather opinions

Magazines, wedding shows, and family and friends are all reputable sources for referrals when finding your officiant. Ask to see videos of previous weddings and talk to anyone you know who has been to a wedding where this person officiated. Experience speaks more than anything else.

Points to discuss

Ask for sample wordings. Go over the order of the ceremony, such as unity ceremonies, readings, and musical interludes. Ask if they have suggestions for readings or any sample vows you can refer to when writing your own. They are the expert!

Getting you to

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This list makes finding the "who" and "where" of your wedding ceremony easy! Need a place of worship, ceremony site, or officiant? We've got a few in mind.



UNITY GOOD SHEPHERD MINISTRIES
 KRS Wedding Connection
 440-227-8701
 unitygoodshepherdministries.org



MINISTER SHARNISE SEARS
 Serving Northeast Ohio & Domestic, International
 www.ministersharnisesears.com



WITH THIS RING WEDDING CEREMONIES, LLC
 Serving Northeast Ohio
 216-870-3917
 www.withthisring.online

Photo Credit: Bethany Zada Photography



PERFECT LOVE WEDDINGS
 Serving Northeast Ohio
 440-290-9650
 www.perfectloveweddingsoh.com



TRACY RHINEHART WEDDING OFFICIANT
 Serving Northeast Ohio
 216-551-0707
 www.tracyrhinehart.com

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Celebrate your dream wedding at a perfect Cleveland Metroparks venue, like a romantic spot within the park, a wild time in Stillwater Place at the Zoo or a step back in time at Squire's Castle. Enjoy Cleveland Metroparks unique and memorable venues, professional event planning services, modern, upscale catering and beautiful locations for photos.

CLEVELAND METROPARKS
 Multiple Locations
 clevelandmetroparks.com

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You're not planning a wedding, you're planning a marriage — that's why Cuffed4Life offers our couples the tools they need to get married and remain married for many, many years. Signing your marriage license is an honor that we take seriously.

WILL OFFICIATE:
 Traditional and non-traditional ceremonies, elopements, and now even virtual ceremonies.

MINISTER STEPHANIE N. TRENT
 Serving Northeast Ohio
 www.cuffed4life.org