

# Marriage Certificate Help Sheet

## **Age:**

Please note that the age given by the bride and groom at the time of marriage, is only as accurate as they believe it to be.

## **Occupation:**

Bride and groom's occupation at the time of marriage.

## **Heading:**

This tells you where the marriage took place. The district name is usually repeated at the bottom of the certificate.

## **Name and profession of father:**

Please note that with the exception of an adoptive father, the name entered in this column, must be that of the birth father.

## **Date of Marriage**

Entry number in the marriage register.

## **Name and Surname:**

These are the names given by the bride and groom at the time of their marriage.

**Condition:** This refers to the marital status at the time of marriage, eg, bachelor/spinster, widow/widower or previous marriage dissolved.

## **Signatures of Witnesses:**

This could be marked with an 'X' if the person could not write.

Signature of Superintendent Registrar

Signature of Registrar

## **Residence at the time of marriage:**

Until 1995, for a marriage to take place in a register office, one of the couple had to live within that registration district. Please note that this rule did not always apply to couples marrying in a parish church.

These are the initials of the person who produced the certificate.

**CERTIFIED COPY OF AN ENTRY OF MARRIAGE**

GIVEN AT THE GENERAL REGISTER OFFICE

Application Number: SPECIMEN

19... Marriage solemnized at ... in the ... District of ... in the ...

Columns - No.	1 When married	2 Name and surname	3 Age	4 Condition	5 Rank or profession	6 Residence at the time of marriage	7 Father's name and surname	8 Rank or profession of father

Married in the ... by ... by me, ...

This marriage was solemnized between us, ... in the presence of us, ...

CERTIFIED to be a true copy of an entry in the certified copy of a register of Marriages in the Registration District of ...

Given at the GENERAL REGISTER OFFICE, under the Seal of the said Office, the 22nd day of September 2004

MXB 000000

CAUTION: This certificate is issued in pursuance of section 65 of the Marriage Act 1949. Sub-section 3 of that section provides that any certified copy of an entry purporting to be sealed or stamped with the seal of the General Register Office shall be received as evidence of the marriage to which it relates without any further or other proof of the entry, and no certified copy purporting to have been given in the said Office shall be of any force or effect unless it is sealed or stamped as aforesaid.

NOT EVIDENCE OF IDENTITY

FOR ALTERING A CERTIFICATE AND USING OR POSSESSING A CROWN COPYRIGHT

JPS

**Column 1: When married**

- date of marriage

**Column 2: Name and surname**

- names given by the bride and groom at the time of their marriage

**Column 3: Age**

- the age given by the bride and groom at the time of marriage, is only as accurate as they believe it to be
- the ages can be useful when calculating a year of birth. 'Full' may be recorded as the age and this indicates that the age was 21 or over

**Column 4: Condition**

- marital status at the time of marriage, e.g. bachelor/spinster, widow/widower or previous marriage dissolved

**Column 5: Rank or profession**

- bride and groom's occupation at the time of marriage, or last known occupation. Sometimes the bride has no occupation stated

**Column 6: Residence at the time of marriage**

- until 1995, for a marriage to take place in a register office, one of the couple had to live within that registration district. Couples marrying in a parish church needed to live in the parish in which they were marrying

**Column 7: Father's name and surname**

- this information assists when tracing birth entries of the bride/groom
- if a line is drawn through this column it indicates that this information was not given at the time of the marriage

**Column 8: Rank or profession of father**

- this information assists when tracing birth entries of the bride/groom
- if a line is drawn through this column it indicates that this information was not supplied at the time of the marriage