



## Helpful tools for planning your wedding

### Pick Bridal party/Wedding Theme

Now that you are thinking of marriage one of the first things you will need to do is to decide who will be in your bridal party and what type of wedding you would like to have.

Keep in mind that this is your wedding and your special day - the day of which all little girls dream. So think carefully and try to envisage how you would like your wedding to be presented.

Today many weddings are held outdoors in beautiful parks, beside the harbour, in peaceful forests and glades, beside rivers or streams or in that special place that has special meaning for you both.

Many celebrants will cater to your needs and even supply for a fee the articles needed for a theme wedding, such as:

- The sand ceremony: This ceremony is used by many couples that are combining two families together. The children can safely take part in this procedure. Different coloured sands of your choice are added to a special jar (which can be sealed) in layers or design to represent the different people in the new family. This shows that each person in the new family has a special place and then the jar is displayed in the home as a reminder that you all are one.
- The Stone ceremony: Each guest is asked to collect a stone from a special place, marble or small trinket that has a special memory for them. Then during the ceremony each person places their piece into a bowl, that then can be covered with water or gel and placed in the home of the bride and groom reminding them of the friends and family that has helped them to get where they are today.
- The Handfasting: This ceremony has a long and interest history. The couple join hands and ribbons are tied around their hands by the mothers of the couple or by friends etc. There is a small saying or poem that is said then the bride and groom carefully slide their hands out of the ribbons which are then safely stored in a small special bag.

These are very short explanations of a few of the rituals available. Your celebrant will be able to help with further information about these procedures that can make your day very special.