

wedding speeches

for the

*Maid of Honor
and Bridesmaid*



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Introduction

You might not realize it, but the maid of honor—or even a bridesmaid—can play an important role in a wedding ceremony. Next to the bride and the groom (and possibly their parents), everyone is looking at you and paying attention to what you do.

In fact, it has become common for the maid of honor and even bridesmaids to give speeches at weddings. And if you find yourself in this position, then you must make an effort to prepare, so that you can do an excellent job on your friend's special day.

Now, when it comes to the maid of honor 's speech or to a bridesmaid's speech, there are a couple of things to keep in mind. The first is that you will typically be giving a toast, rather than delivering a speech (in contrast to what the father of the bride and the best man will do).

The next thing to keep in mind is that your speech should be focused on your friend entirely. Just as the best man will focus the bulk of his speech on the groom, you will need to provide a toast that is fitting for the bride.

Not surprisingly, it can be a challenging endeavor to write a maid of honor or bridesmaid's speech. And that is exactly why I have written this guide for people like you. In the remaining sections, I will provide exact templates for maid of honor and bridesmaid's speeches. All you need to do is alter the templates to make them fit your particular situation.

Once you have done that, delivering a good speech is a simple matter of practicing what you have until you feel comfortable with it. You may even want to hold a champagne flute in your hand as you say it; and you may even want to practice saying it in front of others.

With all of this said, let's get into the templates.

Maid of Honor/Bridesmaid's Speech

When it comes to delivering the maid of honor or bridesmaid's speech, you have a number of options in terms of the mood and tone that you can adopt. For instance, you could craft a sentimental speech that is intended to elicit emotion. Or you could create a humorous tone that fosters light-heartedness and levity. We will consider a number of the possibilities that you have in the templates given below.

Maid of Honor - Sentimental Toast I

Let me first say that it's an honor to have the opportunity to give a toast for my friend of [number of years you have been friends with bride], [name of bride]. She is truly an amazing person and I couldn't be happier that she found such a great match; and that they're tying the knot today.

For those of you who don't know me well, you might wonder how [name of bride and I] became friends initially. Well, the answer to that question is actually quite funny. You see, [tell charming anecdote about how you and the bride became friends]. Yes, it's funny, but that's how we met. And ever since, we've been close friends.

Now, how about [name of groom]? Isn't he wonderful? Isn't he handsome, charming, and witty? Yes, he is all of these things; and that is exactly what made me so jealous when [name of bride] met him. Not only was I jealous that she had found a truly meaningful relationship, but I was worried that I would get pushed out!

That's always how these things seem to work: the girl falls in love with the guy and slowly falls out of touch with her friends. As [name of bride] told me more and more about this guy she met and was dating, I became more and more sure that this would eventually happen.

But to my surprise, it didn't. Instead, I made another great friend, [name of groom], who is truly an amazing match for my best friend. And that's when I stopped being jealous and started being happy for my old friend and my new friend.

You guys are truly meant for each other; and I love you both. Now, let's lift up our glasses and toast. To the happiness of the bride and groom. Cheers!

Maid of Honor – Sentimental Toast II

Let me first thank everyone for attending. I know both the bride and the groom are honored to have all of the most important people in their lives here with them today. And even if they don't get the chance to tell you all that individually, they mean it.

Most of you probably don't know this, but I first met [name of bride] in [year you two met]. It seems like a long time ago now, but I can still remember the day clearly. [Tell an anecdote about how you met the bride. Keep it brief, but make it charming and include some details]. It's truly amazing that after all of these years. After middle school, high school, college, and now our adult lives, we have remained close friends. I can remember [name of bride] still [give anecdote about something you remember about the bride when she was young].

When [name of bride] first told me about [name of groom], I wasn't sure how to react. He sounded great initially, but sometimes the worst guys do. They have a way of laying it on thick early and then leaving fast. But not [name of groom]. Over time, the things that [name of bride] said about [name of groom] just got better and better.

In fact, after only weeks from the day I first heard about him, I could tell that he was for real. I could tell that he wasn't an undercover bad guy, but was truly someone who could made [name of bride] happy for the rest of their lives. So I held my breath and waited. I hoped everything would work out.

And what I witnessed was breath-taking. Over the course of months and years, their relationship blossomed into mature, caring, and loving relationship. I knew that it would only be a matter of time before they finally tied the knot.

And here I am today giving the toast. I love you both. Now, let's all lift our glasses for the bride and groom. To their everlasting happiness and love for each other. Cheers!

Maid of Honor – Sentimental Toast III

Before I get started, I want to say something on behalf of the bride, who asked me to say this earlier: all of the bridesmaids and groomsmen look stunning tonight. And the bride wants you to know that she has happy that you all were able to be here tonight to share this moment with her and her husband.

Now, let me tell you a little bit about my friends, [names of bride and groom]. Some of you may not know this, but they met when [Tell story about how the bride and groom met. Keep it detailed, but brief. Some people may not know this, so it will make a good anecdote]. After a matter of months, it was clear that they were in love; and I had no doubt in my mind that they'd end up married. And here they are today—doing just that.

But before we toast, let me tell you a little more about my friend, [name of bride]. She wasn't always in a loving, devoted relationship like the one you see now. In fact, I can remember when [Tell embarrassing story about the bride before she met the groom, but keep it appropriate]. Yes, I guess a lot of things have changed.

But one thing I'm confident will not change is the love that these two share for each other. I have had the privilege of witnessing them grow close for more than [amount of years you have known bride], and let me tell you: they're truly meant for each other.

To the bride and groom: may your love grow stronger over time. May you have many years together. And may you never forget why you fell in love. Cheers!

Maid of Honor – Sentimental/Funny Toast I

What's so great about marriage? That's what [name of the bride] always used to ask me. She didn't see why getting married was a good idea. After a while, relationships get old and boring and musty. And men stop caring. That's what she told me, anyway.

Deep down, though, I knew she didn't think that was true. I knew that she was hoping for the right guy; and that it would just be a matter of time before she found him.

And then that day came. It was the day she met [name of groom]. It all started out normally. She went about her gloomy business without ever realizing that that day was the day she would meet her husband. And then [Tell funny story about how the two met].

When she called me that night, I could tell that she didn't just initiate another relationship that was destined for the incinerator. For the first time in a long time, I could tell that she was hopeful. I could tell she had met someone who truly meant a lot to her.

So I gave it some time. I waited to see how things would pan out. Would she fall for him? Or would things fall apart?

To keep a long story short, here we are today. Over the years, their relationship grew, became robust, and matured. They fell in love; and she gave up her cynicism about relationships.

And I couldn't be happier for my best friend and her new hubby. Let's all raise a glass to them. May you be happy and maintain your steadfast love for each other for all the days of your lives. Cheers!

Maid of Honor – Funny Toast I

Let me start by thanking everyone for coming out here tonight. On behalf of the bride and groom—who have both encouraged me to say this—it is great to have you all here. It is amazing that you all drove such long distances and some even flew. I expect that many of you plan to recoup some of those travel expenses through the open bar, but even so, thank you for being here.

Now, to the bride, my best friend of [number of years you have known bride]. We first met when we were only in [grade you were in when you met bride], but since then, we've grown up together. We've been study buddies, partners in crime, listeners, talkers, and, yes, let's face it—gossipers. We've shared secrets, and even though we promised each other we wouldn't tell anyone else, we did. Wait. Maybe that was just me. Sorry.

Anyway, you know I love you. And you know that I wouldn't accept anything less for you than the best. And that's exactly why I tried to cry out at the ceremony when the [minister/priest] asked if anyone had any objections. By your bridesmaids gagged me. You truly choose them well.

In all seriousness, [groom's name], is a great guy. Before you two met, I was really starting to worry that you would grow into an old maid who never got the chance to experience true love, but when you met [groom's name], that all came to an end. I knew immediately that you two were in love; and it was something that would last.

Things don't always work out as we wish they would, so I held my tongue. I waited and I hoped that everything would work out. And it did. You and this wonderful guy are getting married today. And here I am, toasting you as the maid of honor.

Well, I won't say anything more. I love you two and I hope that your marriage grows stronger each year. May your love grow boundlessly and may you come to know and understand each other better with every passing day. Cheers!

Maid of Honor – Funny Toast II

When [name of bride] picked me to be her maid of honor, she probably thought about how we grew up together. How we attended grade school together, studied and played together in middle school, experienced and survived teenage drama together in high school, and maintained a strong and lasting friendship throughout college and throughout our adult lives.

Yes, [name of bride] must have thought that I would have more charming anecdotes about her than anyone else she knew. And she was right. What she didn't realize is that I have also presided over her most embarrassing moments, including the ones she probably doesn't want me to announce in front of all of her family members and friends.

Well, too bad. You should have done a better job with the maid of honor screening process.

So what should you know about [bride's name]? Let's start with one embarrassing tale [Tell embarrassing, but endearing and appropriate, story about the bride before she met her husband].

But in all seriousness, I'm thrilled to be here tonight and to have the chance to toast this woman, my best friend and the owner of a beautiful new husband. You're the best friend a person could ever hope for. I'm truly lucky to have you. But more importantly, you and [groom] are lucky to have each other.

As [bride's name]'s best friend, I watched this relationship grow from its early stages into a beautiful, fully-blossomed, and mature union between two individuals. I'm happy to finally be here today, watching them tie the knot and make a life-long commitment to each other.

May you to remain happy and healthy—and may your love for each other grow without bound. To the bride and the groom. Cheers!

Bridesmaid – (Short) Funny Toast I

I was told that anyone can deliver a toast tonight, so that's exactly what I'm going to do.

But before I do that, I want to voice my concern about the maid of honor selection process. I'm still not sure how I wasn't picked, since I am clearly [name of bride]'s best friend. The process must have been rigged; and I can only hope this matter will be investigated.

But in all seriousness, I'm just happy to be here today and to be in the wedding party. I love you both, [bride's name and groom's name]. And I hope the two of you have a long, loving, and health marriage for years to come.

To the bride and groom. Cheers!

Bridesmaid – (Short) Funny Toast II

Some say that love isn't everything, but without love, everything is nothing. I think that's a stupid cliché, but it sure makes for a nice ice-breaker when you need to deliver a toast.

[Bride's name], I love you and I'm glad you asked me to be a bridesmaid. Being the maid of honor would have been too much of a strain on my schedule, so I'm glad you were able to understand why I had to decline; and instead appointed your second best friend, [name of maid of honor].

I'm joking of course. But I'm not trying to be funny when I say this: you and [groom's name] were meant for each other. I knew this when you two first starting seeing each other; and it just became clearer and clearer over time. You are two of a kind; and there is simply no better match for you guys other than each other.

Congratulations again. I love you both. To your health and to a long, loving marriage. Cheers!

Bridesmaid – (Short) Sentimental Toast I

Has anyone ever seen such a lovely bride? I'm going to try not to get emotional, but it is hard not to when my best friend is finally tying the knot with such a wonderful man.

I still remember when you first told me about [groom's name]. My thought was this: men come and go. Who knows if this will last or not, but for now, he seems to be making her very happy.

After the weeks and months passed and the relationship held strong, I knew this wasn't just another boyfriend. I knew this wasn't just a fling. This was a solid, lasting relationship. A match between two people who truly loved each other; and who very well may spend the rest of their lives together.

And, now, here I am today, witnessing the final step. The biggest commitment two individuals could make to each other. My best friend and this man—who has transformed her life for the better in so many ways—are finally getting married.

I love you both and hope that you have a long and happy marriage. To the bride and groom. Cheers!

Bridesmaid – (Short) Sentimental Toast II

On behalf of the bride, I would like to thank you all for coming out here tonight. I know she didn't get to say it, but she asked me to tell you all when I toasted. So thank you.

I remember when I first learned about [groom's name]. [Bride] wouldn't stop babbling about him. She told me how handsome he was, how intelligent he was, how wonderful it was to talk to him and to hold hands with him.

If there's such a thing, it really was love at first sight. Not long after they met, they knew they were right for each other. And I knew they were right for each other, too.

I couldn't be happier to be here tonight to witness their marriage. They deserve it. They deserve to be together forever. They're the perfect matches for each other.

With that said, let's raise a glass to the bride and groom. To [names of bride and groom], may you always be healthy and happy, may your love for each other endure hardships over the years, and may you grow closer over time. Cheers!

Conclusion

In this guide, I've provided you with templates for all possible bridesmaid and maid of honor toasts. It doesn't matter whether you are planning something big, formal, and early; or whether you are planning to stand up near the end of the ceremony and informally say something. You now have something for all of these occasions.

Before you settle on a template and use it to construct your wedding toast, spend some time figuring out which one will be a best match for the bride-to-be. Will it be a funny toast? Will it be a sentimental toast? Will it be one that includes funny anecdotes? Or will it be serious, heart-felt, and tear-jerking? These are all things to consider when selecting your speech.

Also, I can never say this enough: once you select a template, customize it. Make it your own. Make it feel like you feel about the bride and about her husband-to-be. You should never leave it feeling generic.

Finally, practice makes perfect. Just because you were able to save some time by using a template doesn't mean that you should try to save more time by not rehearsing. The essence of giving a good speech or toast often boils down to rehearsal. So make sure you do this; and your speech should be a hit.