

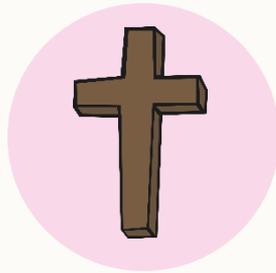


Weddings from Different Cultures



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Christianity



Islam



Hinduism



Judaism



Christian Weddings

Home



Christians believe that marriage is one of God's gifts. Weddings take place in a **church**.

The bride and groom exchange **rings** which show their eternal love (there is no beginning or end to a ring).



The bride usually wears a white wedding dress and the groom usually wears a suit. The bride also wears a **veil** to show her modesty.

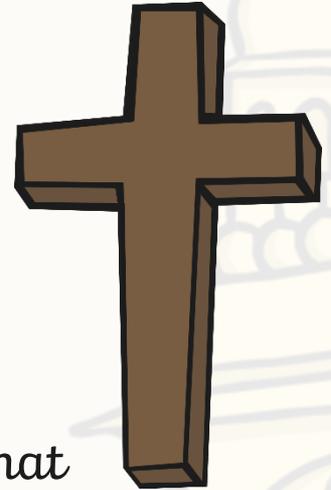


Christian Weddings

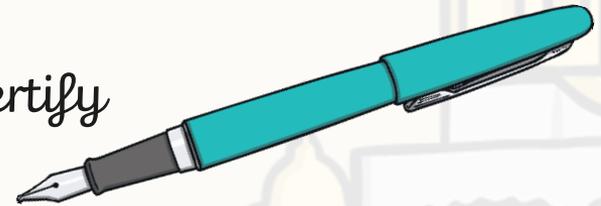
The bride and groom say **vows** and **declarations** in front of God and the guests. They promise to love and cherish each other.



The couple are pronounced **husband** and **wife** to show that they are now united as one in the eyes of God.



The **register** legally has to be signed to certify the marriage.





Islamic Weddings

Muslims are people who follow the Islam religion. The weddings are different depending on which country the people come from.

Muslim brides may wear a white **wedding dress** or a brightly coloured **shalwar-qameez** outfit in red and gold.



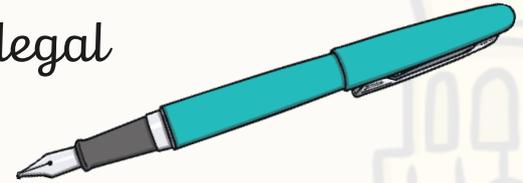
The couple don't have to be in the same room when they **marry**.



Some marriages are **arranged** with the help of the parents.

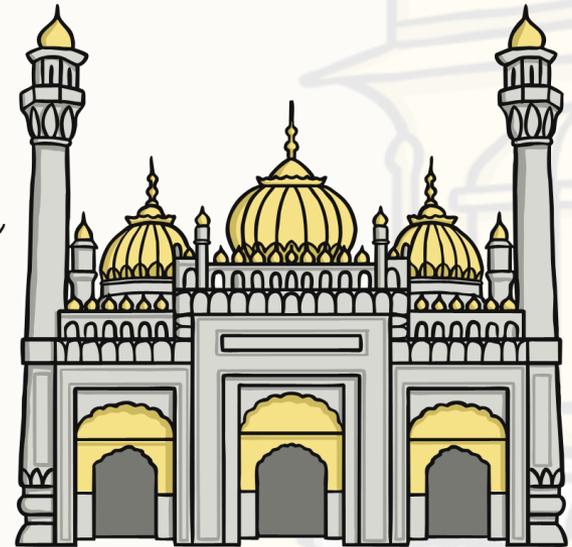
Islamic Weddings

The wedding is called a **Nikah**. **Nikkah** is the legal contract signed by the bride and groom.



The husband sometimes pays an agreed money gift to the bride called a **mahr**.

Many Muslims have an Islamic ceremony at a **mosque** and a confirmation at a registry office. **Walima** is the second part of the wedding where performances, speeches and the feasting happen.





Hindu Weddings

The most important part of the wedding tradition is **Saptapad**, when the bride and groom take seven steps around the holy fire (the divine witness to their marriage) as they say their vows in Sanskrit.

Panigrahana is a ritual taken place near fire, where the groom takes the bride's hands to represent their union.



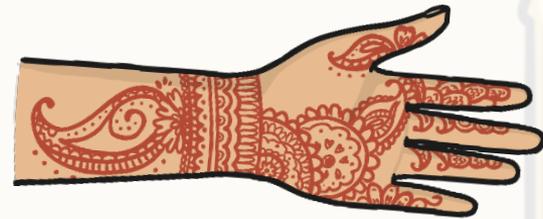
The **celebrations** are extremely colourful and can last for a few days. They include dancing, blessings and prayers.

Hindu Weddings

A Hindu wedding is called **Vivaha**, in which two families are joined together. **Kanyadaan** is the very emotional part of the ceremony where the father gives his daughter away to the groom.



The bride and lots of the bride's family have their hands and feet painted with **henna** designs.

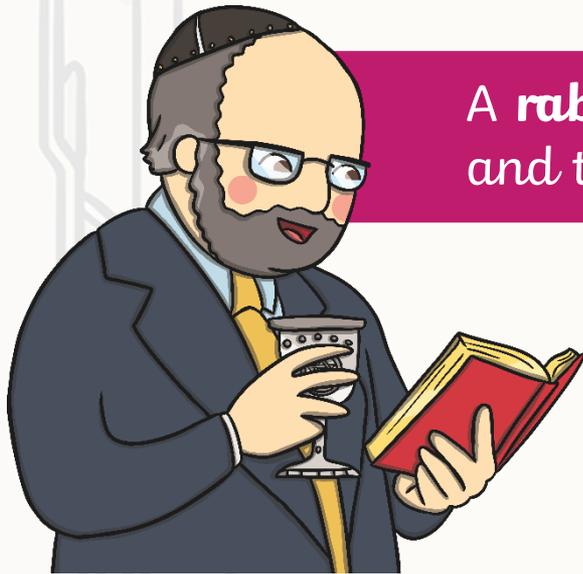
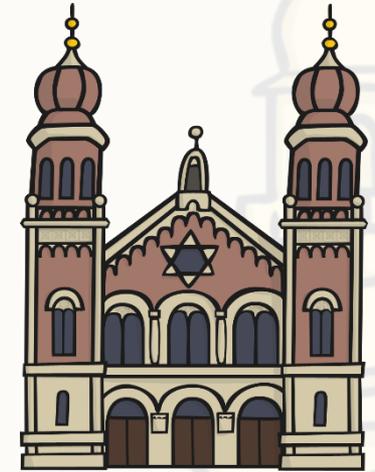


Hasta Melaap is when the bride's and groom's right hands are joined together with a white cloth.



Jewish Weddings

The bride and groom can marry anywhere, some choose a **synagogue**. They must stand under a wedding canopy called a **chuppah**, during the ceremony. This symbolises their future home together.

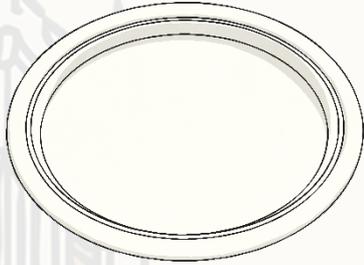


A **rabbi** must be at the wedding and the food must be **Kosher**.

The couple exchange **rings** which symbolises the unbroken circle and union of the married couple.



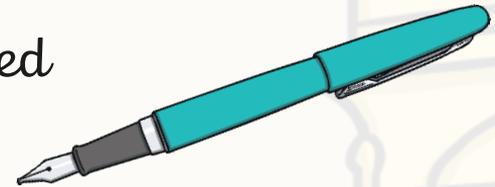
Jewish Weddings



The bride and groom do not eat on the day, which is called **fasting**.

The groom breaks some **glass** at the end of the ceremony and people usually shout "Mazel Tov!"

The Jewish marriage contract, **Ketubah**, is signed and sometimes the man still pays a dowry.



Traditional **Jewish music** is often played. There is also usually some lively circle dancing called **hora** .

Find it out... Wat do you think Kosher food means?