

**Congratulations on your upcoming marriage!** We commend you for choosing to marry in a traditional Jewish wedding, continuing our people's long and rich heritage. By doing so, you are also laying the foundations for a happy, lasting relationship and warm Jewish home - Divinely blessed.

Within a traditional Jewish wedding, there are some practices that are highly encouraged, yet only customary, however, there are certain requirements that are essential and obligatory.

Should you have any queries, please feel free to ask. It is our aim to assist you throughout this important journey, hoping to help making the preparations to your marriage and the wedding itself, a most delightful and memorable experience.

1. For your marriage and the proposed date to be confirmed, we require you to complete the full Application and submit the supporting documentation. This includes completing the [Melbourne Beth Din's online Marriage Registry](#) (for the Jewish marriage) and the [Notice of Intended Marriage](#) (for the Civil Marriage – this must be received by us at least 30 days prior to the wedding). Please talk to us if you require any assistance. Once reviewed, you will receive formal confirmation and a personal meeting will be arranged with the Rabbi to discuss the details of your special day.
2. Approximately 4 months prior to the wedding, the bride and groom will participate in informal, personal marriage classes, discussing married life and wedding preparations from a Jewish perspective. Please contact Dina Liberow at [dina@lamdeni.org](mailto:dina@lamdeni.org) or 0417-054-171 to arrange an appointment. A fee applies.
3. Prior to the wedding, usually on the night before, the bride will attend the Mikvah – a modern ritual “spa”. This spiritual experience along with the practicalities will be discussed during the marriage classes.
4. The Chuppah can be held at the venue of your choice. You can choose to have both the Chuppah and Reception at the same or at alternate locations. However, shall you prefer to have them both at the same location, please ensure that the catering is Kosher. We are happy to further assist you if required.
5. Should you like your Chuppah and/or Reception to be held at Hamerkaz Centre, please contact our office for availability and cost.
6. A Chuppah canopy can be obtained from various suppliers. To book a Chuppah from Hamerkaz (complementary), please contact our office.
7. A Ketubah, the Jewish marriage contract, will be prepared (complementary). Should you prefer to obtain your custom-designed Ketubah, please speak to us to ensure the correct text is included.
8. For the Chuppah ceremony please prepare: (1) a plain round gold ring for the bride – bought by her groom; (2) a Kosher bottle of wine; (3) a rapped cup of (thin) glass. All other Chuppah details (i.e. music, chazan, *badeken* etc) can be discussed during your meeting with the Rabbi.
9. The Groom's *Ufruf* (Call-up to the Torah) or *Shabbat Chatan* is traditionally held in the Synagogue on a Shabbat prior to the wedding (or on the subsequent Shabbat). Please ask us for more information regarding this meaningful tradition and the *Kiddush* following the Service.