

Ideas for the groom when making a toast

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At a wedding, a toast is a formal way to honor the bride and groom. Giving a toast, though, doesn't have to be a terrifying or traumatic event.

To counter these feelings, plan ahead. About a week or two prior to the wedding, carry a pad with you and write down thoughts that can be worked in to your speech.

A great idea will usually turn up when least expected and disappear just as quickly.

Generally, the order of toasts during a reception is that the best man toasts the bride and groom; the groom toasts the bride and her family; father(s) toast the bride and groom; and the bride and groom toast each other.

The toast should be kept to approximately three minutes, is to be delivered standing up, and in an area where all your guests will see you.

You also want your guests to hear you, so hold the microphone close to your mouth.

Practice, practice, practice. It will dissipate any nerves likely to crop up and give you a sense of confidence that comes with being prepared.

Practice giving your toast with a microphone-like prop and in front of trusted friends.

Remember to hold off on the shots until after the toast. A drink to help you relax is okay. But easy does it and consider how you'd be remembered. Make your bride proud!

As the groom, keep in mind that this is an opportunity to thank everyone who helped make the wedding a reality. It's also a chance for you to reflect on the event that brought everyone together.

You may want to talk about how you met your bride, some humorous and/or touching anecdotes describing how your romance developed and perhaps say something about the nature of love and marriage in general.

If your bride is not speaking, your words should be from both. Bear this in mind throughout your speech and



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A toast gives the groom a chance to offer thanks and to reflect on everyone being together for the occasion.

remember to begin your speech 'My wife and I...'

Include some notes about how successfully the wedding is going. Thank all who have helped, including the two sets of parents (especially the mothers) and the bridesmaids, etc.

You should also mention anyone else you want to thank — performers, caterers, etc. Thank everyone for attending. Send good wishes to any guests who were unable to attend because of illness or other reasons.

Address your bride to say how happy you are to be marrying her and how much you are looking forward to your shared future.

You can include a few words about the best man. This will help to introduce him to guests who haven't met him before. And add a toast to the bridesmaids from you and your new wife.