

MADERA COUNTY CLERK
Madera County Government Center Building
200 W. 4TH STREET
Madera CA 93637
(559) 675-7721

REQUIREMENTS FOR MARRIAGE LICENSES

\$50.00 Fee- Cash Only Valid Photo ID is required 18 years of age or older
(NO \$100 Bills) \$55.00 Fee Cash Only - Confidential License

Marriage licenses are issued
Monday through Friday
8:00 am to 4:30 pm

BOTH parties must be present to obtain Marriage License

Marriage License is valid for 90 (ninety) days of issuance, couples must be married within that time.

NOTE: CIVIL CEREMONIES WILL NOT BE CONDUCTED ON SITE DURING THE MONTH OF MAY, OR AT LEAST UNTIL SHELTER IN PLACE IS LIFTED. PLEASE CALL TO CONFIRM WHEN CIVIL CEREMONIES WILL RESUME.

IMPORTANT - PLEASE COMPLETE THE FOLLOWING INFORMATION:

PHONE NUMBER:

FIRST PERSON: () _____ - _____

SECOND PERSON: () _____ - _____

EMAIL: _____

DATE OF MARRIAGE: _____

AREA BELOW RESERVED FOR OFFICE USE ONLY – NOTES

**COMPLETE FORM, PRINT AND SIGN. RETURN TO MADERA COUNTY CLERK
DROP BOX AT 200 W. 4TH ST, MADERA CA 93637 OR BY EMAIL TO
COUNTYCLERKINFO@MADERACOUNTY.COM
A CLERK WILL CONTACT YOU TO SCHEDULE YOUR APPOINTMENT.**

Application for Marriage License

Please read before completing application

- When you sign the marriage application form, you are stating under penalty of perjury that the information you have provided is true and correct, that you are currently an unmarried couple, and that there is no legal objection to the marriage.
- The marriage license must be used within the State of California. Check the license to see what the requirements are for witnesses and solemnization.
- Marriage licenses are valid for 90 days from the date of issuance. You must be married on or after the issuance date, and on or before the expiration date of the license. Licenses not used within this timeframe are void.
- The appropriate fee may be paid in cash or by debit/credit card (additional service fee applies). **\$100.00 bills will not be accepted.**
- No refunds are given for marriage licenses purchased in error.
- A license may **not** be issued if either party lacks the capacity to enter into a valid marriage, or if either party appears to be under the influence of an intoxicating liquor or narcotic drug at the time of application (FC Section 352).
- Please check the type of marriage license you would like to apply for:
 - Public License and Certificate of Marriage (VS 117)** — This is the standard type of marriage license. This type of marriage license requires the signature of at least one witness and one person solemnizing the marriage.
 - Confidential License and Certificate of Marriage (VS 123)** — Confidential marriage licenses may only be issued to unmarried parties who are at least 18 years old and have been living together as spouses. Since the confidential marriage license requires the signature of a marriage officiant, they are not available to members of religious denominations not having clergy. Certified copies of the marriage license and certificate may only be issued to the couple. Confidential marriage licenses may not be available in all counties. The signatures of the parties in fields 23 and 24 affirm that they meet the requirements to receive a confidential marriage license.
 - License and Certificate of Marriage for Denominations Not Having Clergy (VS 115)** — This type of license is used for the recording of marriages for members of religious societies or denominations that do not have clergy for the purpose of solemnizing a marriage.
 - License and Certificate of Declaration of Marriage (VS 116)** — This type of license is used for the recording of a marriage that was licensed and occurred over one year ago; however, no official record exists.

INFORMATION REGARDING THE NAME EQUALITY ACT OF 2007

The Name Equality Act of 2007 (Assembly Bill 102, Chapter 567, Statutes of 2007) allows one or both applicants to a California marriage to elect to change the middle or last names by which each party wishes to be known after they are married by entering the new name in fields 29A thru 30C, as applicable, on the marriage license application. This must be done **at the time the applicants are applying for the marriage license.**

Each party to the marriage may adopt any of the following **last names** (Family Code Section 306.5(b)(2)):

- Current last name of the other spouse
- Last name of either spouse given at birth
- A name combining into a **single last name** all or a segment of the current last name or the last name of either spouse given at birth
- A combination of last names

Each party to the marriage may adopt any of the following **middle names** (Family Code Section 306.5(b)(3)):

- Current last name of either spouse
- Last name of either spouse given at birth
- A combination of the current middle name and the current last name of the person or spouse
- A combination of the current middle name and the last name given at birth of the person or spouse

NOTE: Parties to the marriage may **not** change their **first name** on the marriage license.

Parties to the marriage **are not** required to change their name, nor, are they required to have the same name.

If one or both parties do not wish to identify a new name on the marriage license, the fields on the marriage license will be completed using two single dashes. You may not change the information on the marriage license after it has been issued by the County Clerk, unless there is a clerical error.

The marriage certificate is used by multiple local, state, federal and private agencies, each of which have different requirements regarding what documents are acceptable to change your name on their records following marriage. It is recommended that you contact these agencies to verify their requirements **prior to applying for your marriage license.**

NOTE: County Clerk staff cannot provide you information on how to complete the marriage license application as it relates to the entry of a new name or retention of your former name on the marriage license application. For your protection, if you have **any** questions regarding whether you should or should not list your new name on the marriage license application, and/or how the Name Equality Act of 2007 may affect you, please consult with a private attorney **prior to applying for your marriage license.**

INFORMATION ON REVERSE SIDE

Office Use Only: _____ Lic. # _____
 Date: _____ Clerk Initials: _____

FIRST PERSON DATA		<input type="checkbox"/> GROOM		<input type="checkbox"/> BRIDE (OPTIONAL)		Phone number: _____	
1A. First Name			1B. Middle Name				
1C. Current Last Name			1D. Last Name at Birth (if different than box 1C.)				
2. Date of Birth		3. Birthplace (U.S. State or Foreign Country)		4. # of Previous Marriages or State Registered Domestic Partnerships		<input type="checkbox"/>	
5A. Last Marriage/State Registered Domestic Partnership ended by: (check one) <input type="checkbox"/> Death <input type="checkbox"/> Dissolution (Divorce) <input type="checkbox"/> Annulment <input type="checkbox"/> Terminated SRDP				5B. Date ended: (mm/dd/yyyy)			
6. Address			7. City		8. State/Country		9. Zip Code
10A. Full Birth Name of Father/Parent (First, Middle, Last)				10B. Birthplace (U.S. State or Foreign Country)			
11A. Full Birth Name of Mother/Parent (First, Middle, Last)				11B. Birthplace (U.S. State or Foreign Country)			

SECOND PERSON DATA		<input type="checkbox"/> GROOM		<input type="checkbox"/> BRIDE (OPTIONAL)		Phone number: _____	
12A. First Name			12B. Middle Name				
12C. Current Last Name			12D. Last Name at Birth (if different than box 12C.)				
13. Date of Birth		14. Birthplace (U.S. State or Foreign Country)		15. # of Previous Marriages or State Registered Domestic Partnerships		<input type="checkbox"/>	
16A. Last Marriage/State Registered Domestic Partnership ended by: (check one) <input type="checkbox"/> Death <input type="checkbox"/> Dissolution (Divorce) <input type="checkbox"/> Annulment <input type="checkbox"/> Terminated SRDP				16B. Date ended: (mm/dd/yyyy)			
17. Address			18. City		19. State/Country		20. Zip Code
21A. Full Birth Name of Father/Parent (First, Middle, Last)				21B. Birthplace (U.S. State or Foreign Country)			
22A. Full Birth Name of Mother/Parent (First, Middle, Last)				22B. Birthplace (U.S. State or Foreign Country)			

If you are going to use your marriage certificate for a legal name change write your new name below. A name change will only occur after you take the certified copy of your marriage certificate to a Social Security Administration office. If you do not write a new name below you will need to either buy a new license before a marriage ceremony is performed or get a court ordered name change after a marriage ceremony is performed.

See Information on Reverse Outlining Options for Changing your Name.

First – MUST BE SAME AS 1A. N/A	Middle Name	Last Name
First – MUST BE SAME AS 12A. N/A	Middle Name	Last Name

We, the undersigned, declare under penalty of perjury that all the information above is true and correct to the best of our knowledge. We also declare that we have read and understood the information on the reverse side of this form.

Signature (1A–1D): _____ Signature (12A–12D): _____

For Office Use Only (enter type only):

Person 1 ID: _____	Person 2 ID: _____
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