

Hand Fasting Ceremony

The act of handfasting is an age-old symbol of strength and love, of continued commitment and steady devotion. It is the joining of hands with knotted cord or cloth and is the origin of the colloquial phrase “tie the knot”.

Ginger and Fred, please take each other’s hands, so that you may see the gift that they are to you.

(Cloth is draped over hands)

These are the hands of your best friend, strong and full of love for you,

that are holding yours on your wedding day as you promise to love each other today, tomorrow and forever.

These are the hands that will work alongside yours as together you build your future.

These are the hands that will passionately love you and cherish you through the years, and with the slightest touch will comfort you like no other.

These are the hands that hold you when fear or grief temporarily comes your way.

These are the hands that will countless times wipe the tears from your eyes, tears of sorrow and tears of joy.

These are the hands that tenderly hold your children.

These are the hands that hold you tight as you struggle through difficult times.

These are the hands that give you strength when you need it.

These are the hands that give you support and encourage you to chase your dreams. Together, everything you wish for can be realized.

(Cloth is tied into a knot.)

May your love find lasting permanence, bound together in the fabric of life.

May the protection of marriage surround you, sustain you and comfort you.

In the binding of this cloth, may you remember the binding of your words:

The vows of fidelity and trust you make today.

Though the cloth has two sides, it is of one piece; so now there are two lives, but bound together in one heart, one home.

May these lives be bound together, never to be torn asunder.