

Best Man Speech

Your best friend, favourite brother, or brother from another mother has asked you to be his Best Man, and now you have to do a speech at the wedding reception. Whether it's your first public speech ever, or you're a complete pro, here are some tips and suggestions for what to include in your speech. This isn't the be all and end all of best man speeches, but it's a pretty great guideline. Remember there will be 3-6 speeches on the night, we recommend that everyone keep their speeches to 3-5 minutes, so there's time for dancing later!

1. Compliment the bride and groom. Wish them well, and thank the groom for choosing you to be his best man.

2. Story time! While embarrassing stories are great fun, consider your audience, and try not to use too many insider jokes that other people won't get. If the embarrassing stories must come out, try to make it something the bride and groom will laugh at rather than go red at.

3. Describe why you think the bride and groom should be together. This should be sincere, if possible ;).

4. Read messages from anyone who couldn't attend. This could be people overseas, or family that just can't travel. Check with the bride and groom (and possibly their parents) a few weeks before the wedding to see if any of these messages have come in.

5. Compliment the bridesmaids. Not only have they likely helped organise the wedding day, but also the bridal shower and hens night, they've also been up since 6am getting themselves and the bride ready for the big day.

6. Finally, ask everyone to raise their glasses in a toast to the bridesmaids (the parents have already asked everyone to toast the couple).

7. Be familiar with your speech, but don't feel you need to memorise it – cue cards or reading from your phone is fine. If you print your speech, make sure it's in a large, easy to read font - size 14 Ariel or Times New Roman are good - and every couple of lines alternate the text colour from black to blue so you can look up at the guests and not lose your spot. You're currently reading Size 16, Times New Roman, Bold.

8. Make eye contact with everyone, and remember to smile. You'll find it's infectious.

If you're struggling or need a hand, don't hesitate to contact me :). Good Luck!

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