

“Father of the Bride Speech”

Your daughter is getting married, and she's just told you that you're doing a speech at her 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 father of the bride speeches, but it's a pretty great guideline. Remember there will be 3-6 speeches following yours, we recommend that everyone keep their speeches to 3-5 minutes, so there's time for dancing later!

- 1. Welcome guests. It's very likely you will be the first to speak at the reception, other than the MC.**
- 2. Story time! While embarrassing stories are great fun, consider your audience, and keep stories to things you're proud of, and if the embarrassing stories must come out, try to make it something your daughter will laugh at rather than go red at.**
- 3. Welcome your new Son-in-law to the family. Slightly embarrassing stories may be welcome here :).**
- 4. Offer advice and well wishes. Advice is a great opportunity to add something humorous.**
- 5. Thank the helpers and organisers. Even small weddings require a lot of hard work, from a variety of people.**
- 6. Finally, ask everyone to raise their glasses in a toast to 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 Arial 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!