

## “Mother of the Groom Speech”

Whether you're standing in for an absent father or your son just wants to hear from you on the day, giving a speech is an honour and not one to be shied away from. 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 mother of the groom speeches, but it's a pretty great guideline. Remember there will be 3-6 speeches including yours, we recommend that everyone keep their speeches to 3-5 minutes, so there's time for dancing later!

**1. 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 son will laugh at rather than go red at. If your son's dad is also making a speech check with him to make sure you're not doubling up on content.**

**2. Welcome your new daughter-in-law to the family. Keep this genuine, although a few laughs at your son's expense may be okay, eg. your son is a much tidier/better/happier/less sulky person since meeting his bride, etc.**

**4. Offer advice and well wishes. Advice is a great opportunity to add something humorous and lighthearted.**

**4. Finally, ask everyone to raise their glasses in a toast to the couple.**

**5. 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.**

**6. Try not to rush the speech, talk slower than feels natural and you'll come across as more confident. Make sure you leave pauses where you expect laughter and it will come (sometimes people need a moment to get the joke).**

**7. 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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