

Egalitarian Ketubah Text options

Please choose A, B, or C from Part 1 and A, B, or C from Part 2 to complete your text.

Part 1:

A) On the _____ day of the week, the _____ day of the month _____ in the year five thousand seven hundred and seventy _____, corresponding to the _____ day of _____ in the year two thousand and _____ [secular date], [the groom/bride/beloved] _____, [son/daughter/child of _____], and [the groom/bride/beloved], _____, [son/daughter/child of _____], stood under the chuppah in _____ [location of ceremony] and entered the covenant of marriage in accordance with Jewish tradition. With love and respect for their future together, the [groom/bride/beloved] and [groom/bride/beloved] declared:

B) This document witnesses before family and friends, that on _____ day of the week, the _____ day of the month _____ in the year five thousand seven hundred and seventy- _____, corresponding to the _____ day of _____ in the year two thousand and _____ [secular date], that [the groom/bride/beloved] _____, [son/daughter/child of _____], and [the groom/bride/beloved], _____, [son/daughter/child of] _____, stood in the presence of loved ones in _____ [location of ceremony] where they spoke the words and performed the rites which have united their lives through the bond of marriage, in accordance with the laws of [the children of/Moses] and Israel. With love and admiration in their hearts for one another, they said:

C) On the _____ day of the week, the _____ day of the month _____ in the year five thousand seven hundred and seventy _____, corresponding to the _____ day of _____ in the year two thousand and _____ [secular date], [the groom/bride/beloved] _____, [son/daughter/child of _____], and [the groom/bride/beloved], _____, [son/daughter/child of _____], entered into this mutual covenant as equal partners, loving and supportive companions in life.

Part 2:

A) We choose to weave our lives together. In doing so we pledge to be balanced and equal partners, loving friends, and supportive companions. We promise to treasure, respect, and protect the love we share. We commit to the days and nights ahead that will bring laughter and tears, pleasure and sorrow.

We shall establish a home together that strives to honor our shared heritage, family traditions, and values. We will nurture this loving environment that celebrates difference, feeds intellectual curiosity, and works toward goodness and generosity, honesty and forgiveness. We vow to continue to live by the ethics of Tikkun Olam, with shared intentions to heal the world within our family and the global community.

May our shared bond be a place where we take refuge; together we will make the space for each of us to express our innermost thoughts, feelings, and desires. May our love provide us with the determination to be ourselves and the courage to pursue our chosen paths. May we celebrate each other's successes as our own and may we live each day as the first, the last, the only day we share together.

B) We exchange these gold rings so that each of us might carry a symbol of this pledge of commitment to one another as beloved and friends before G-d and these witnesses. We shall treasure and respect each other with honor and integrity as we create a loving future together. May our love provide us with the determination to be ourselves and the courage to pursue our chosen paths. We pledge to support one another with the full measure of our property, real and personal, even the shirts off our backs. May our lives be intertwined forever and may we be as one in tenderness and devotion.

As we share life's everyday experiences, we promise to strive for an intimacy that will enable us to express our innermost thoughts and feelings; to be sensitive at all times to each others' needs; to share life's joys and to comfort each other through life's sorrows; to challenge each other to achieve intellectual and physical fulfillment as well as spiritual and emotional tranquility.

We also promise to establish a Jewish home amid the community of Israel, committed to the creation of an all-inclusive society; a loving environment dedicated to peace, hope, and respect for all people; a family filled with love and learning, goodness and generosity, comfort and compassion.

This is to be regarded as a covenant, both spiritual and personal, and is not a formulaic document or a simple obligation. We joyfully enter into this covenant and solemnly accept its obligations. All of this is valid and binding.

C) “On this day we unite our lives in the sacred union of marriage, according to the laws of Moses and Israel. These rings symbolize our promise to support one another as devoted lovers, loyal friends, and passionate life partners. We pledge to honor and protect the unique bond we share as we also pursue our individual life goals and dreams. We will be present to meet life’s challenges with patience and grace, to comfort one another in times of sadness and to rejoice together in each of our accomplishments.

Together we will build a home that celebrates our shared values and respects our bond to one another and to the rich traditions of Judaism. We will invite friends and family to join us in filling our home with curiosity and play, understanding and trust, compassion and love. We devote our home to honoring the Jewish traditions and holidays. We live our lives in pursuit of continued learning, generosity, and acts of kindness. May we thrive together.”

_____ and _____ then told all those present that they signed this document of their own free will. They intend to be linked by this sacred and binding contract so long as they live.