



romemu
JEWISH LIFE, ELEVATED

Symbols of a Jewish Wedding

There are a number of beautiful parts of our tradition that help a couple begin their lives together in holiness and spirituality.

Chuppah: The Canopy - The Power of Love

It means “cover” to us. The bride and groom are “covered” symbolizing protection. When love is present, we don’t need walls. It also represents a house that is always open to friends and family. Its simplicity is due to the importance of being flexible in any kind of situation. The wedding ceremony takes place under the Chuppah to remind us of our nomadic ancestors and to maintain the Jewish tradition.



The Veil: Covering the Bride’s Face - The Power of Searching



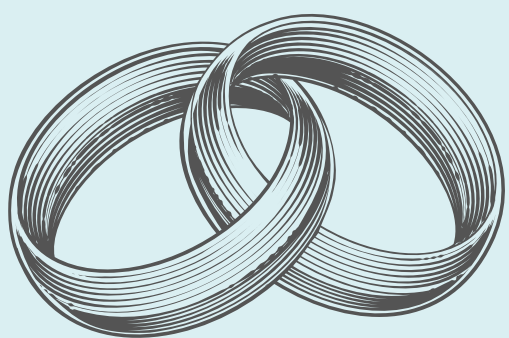
Traditionally, the custom of covering the bride’s face with the veil reminds us of Rivka, one of the matriarchs of the Jewish people, who covered her face in her first encounter with Isaac. For us, it also represents the mystery inside each one of us, and the power of the unknown. This power of searching is preservational to our relationship and will keep us always ready to learn new things about the other.

The Betrothal Cup - The Power of Choice

There are two cups of blessing in every Jewish wedding ceremony. The first cup lifts up the power of choice and the inexplicable mystery of how two souls find one another. Every choice has led to this moment of miraculous meeting.



The Wedding Bands - The Power of Words



These portray the human capacity of expressing joy, radical amazement, and the wonders of the world. We view the goal of these blessings to empower us to better see the good in each other, in marriage, and in others. It should remind us to always give each other brachot, compliments, and actively notice what is positive about our lives.

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The Seven Rounds - The Power of Mirroring

Traditionally, the bride circles the groom seven times, representing perfection and creation in Judaism. We have found meaning in the bride and groom each circling each other three times, and together doing one final round, adding up to seven. We understand the rounds as representing our deep vulnerability since we cannot see each other for half of the circle. Growth requires learning about things that we have never seen in ourselves. We trust the other to go behind our back to see what we cannot, both our blind spots and our own unseeable beauty.



The Seven Blessings - The Power of Blessing

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The Breaking of the Glass - The Power of Rebirth

This is a tradition full of symbolism and interpretation. Through this tradition, we remember the pain from the destruction of the temple of Jerusalem, but we also realize what was created from it. Our communities have been able to thrive and grow in exile (for one, we would never be speaking Portuguese or Yiddish), and it shows us how something that is broken can also create something beautiful and new. Every birth begins with breaking what limits. We promise to continue growing in love and to break all that stands in love's way.

