



# Marriage (Scotland) Act 1977

## CHAPTER 15

### MARRIAGE (SCOTLAND) ACT 1977

#### MINIMUM AGE FOR MARRIAGE

- 1 Minimum age for marriage.

#### FORBIDDEN DEGREES

- 2 Marriage of related persons.

#### PRELIMINARIES TO REGULAR MARRIAGE

- 3 Notice of intention to marry.
- 3A Additional information if party not relevant national
- 3B Additional evidence if party not relevant national
- 3C Declaration to accompany information and evidence
- 3D Rejection of false information or evidence
- 3E Marriage notice: treated as not given
- 3F Referral of proposed marriage to Secretary of State
- 4 Marriage notice book and list of intended marriages.
- 5 Objections to marriage.
- 6 The Marriage Schedule.
- 6A Marriage notice: false information or evidence
- 7 Marriage outside Scotland where a party resides in Scotland.

*Changes to legislation: Marriage (Scotland) Act 1977 is up to date with all changes known to be in force on or before 04 April 2024. There are changes that may be brought into force at a future date. Changes that have been made appear in the content and are referenced with annotations. (See end of Document for details) View outstanding changes*

---

## PERSONS WHO MAY SOLEMNISE MARRIAGE

- 8 Persons who may solemnise marriage.

## RELIGIOUS OR BELIEF MARRIAGES

- 9 Registration of nominated persons as celebrants.  
 10 Removal of celebrant's name from register.  
 11 Alterations to register maintained under s. 9.  
 12 Temporary authorisation of celebrants.  
 13 Preliminaries to solemnisation of marriages by approved celebrants .  
 14 Form of ceremony to be used by approved celebrant.  
 15 Registration of religious or belief marriages .  
 16 Registrar's power to require delivery of Marriage Schedule.

## CIVIL MARRIAGES

- 17 Appointment of authorised registrars.  
 18 Places at which civil marriages may be solemnised.  
 18A Approved places  
 19 Marriage ceremony and registration of marriage.  
 20 Second marriage ceremony.

## *Void marriages*

- 20A Grounds on which marriage void

## IRREGULAR MARRIAGES

- 21 Registration of irregular marriages.

## GENERAL

- 22 Interpreters at marriage ceremony.  
 23 Cancellation of entry in register of marriages.  
 23A Validity of registered marriage.  
 24 Offences.  
 24A Form, and manner of attestation, of documents  
 25 Regulations.  
 26 Interpretation.  
 27 Transitional and saving provisions.  
 28 Consequential amendments and repeals.  
 29 Short title, commencement and extent.

---

## SCHEDULES

SCHEDULE1A — Modifications if proposed marriage referred under section 3F

- 1 Introduction

**Changes to legislation:** Marriage (Scotland) Act 1977 is up to date with all changes known to be in force on or before 04 April 2024. There are changes that may be brought into force at a future date. Changes that have been made appear in the content and are referenced with annotations. (See end of Document for details) View outstanding changes

---

- 2 No Marriage Schedule to be completed until decision about investigation etc.
- 3 Marriage to be investigated: extension of 28 day period to 70 days
- 4 Effect of reducing statutory period

#### SCHEDULE 1 — DEGREES OF RELATIONSHIP

#### SCHEDULE 2 — Consequential Amendments of Other Enactments

##### *The Foreign Marriage Act 1892 (c. 23)*

- 1 . . . . .

##### *The Marriage with Foreigners Act 1906 (c. 40)*

- 2 In section 1(1) (British subject giving notice of intended foreign...
- 3 In section 2(1) (provision for regulations in relation to foreigners...

##### *The Marriage Act 1949 (c. 76)*

- 4 In section 37(1) (one party resident in Scotland)—

##### *The Marriage (Scotland) Act 1956 (c. 70)*

- 5 In section 1 (notice of marriage intended to be solemnised...

##### *The Registration of Births, Deaths and Marriages (Scotland) Act 1965 (c. 49)*

- 6 In section 11 (general provision as to fees)—
- 7 In section 12 (fees to be accounted for), at the...
- 8 In section 32(1) (provision of registers etc. by Registrar General),...
- 9 In section 52 (sending of documents by post), after the...

#### SCHEDULE 3 — Repeals

**Changes to legislation:**

Marriage (Scotland) Act 1977 is up to date with all changes known to be in force on or before 04 April 2024. There are changes that may be brought into force at a future date. Changes that have been made appear in the content and are referenced with annotations.

[View outstanding changes](#)

**Changes and effects yet to be applied to the whole Act associated Parts and Chapters:**

Whole provisions yet to be inserted into this Act (including any effects on those provisions):

- s. 9(2)(e) inserted by [2014 asp 5 s. 13\(2\)\(d\)](#)