

Jewish Wedding Facts

A Jewish wedding is a joyful celebration filled with special customs, family traditions, and fun symbolic moments.

The Special Canopy (Chuppah)

- The wedding ceremony takes place standing under a special canopy called a **chuppah**.
- The chuppah has an open design with no walls.
- It represents the new home the couple will build together.

The Marriage Contract (Ketubah)

- Before the ceremony begins, a special art document is signed.
- This paper is called a **ketubah**.
- It is a promise of love, care, and responsibilities between the couple.

Breaking the Glass

- At the very end of the wedding service, a glass is placed on the floor.
- The groom stomps on it and smashes it with his foot.
- This reminds everyone that the world is still broken in some ways, and even in happy times, people remember history.
- Everyone shouts "**Mazel Tov!**" which means "good luck and congratulations" in Hebrew.

The Fun Party and Dancing (Hora)

- After the ceremony, a big party with food and music begins.
- Everyone joins hands to dance the **Hora** in a big circle.
- The bride and groom are sometimes lifted up high sitting on chairs while people dance around them.