Best man speech template

A best man speech template has eight parts: an opening line, who you are, any thank-yous, a first story, a second story, the turn to sincere, the couple, and the toast. At about 130 words a minute, a typical three to five minute speech is roughly 400 to 650 words. The part ranges below suit a main UK speaker at five to seven minutes, about 650 to 900 words, so most parts get between 30 and 200 words. Trim a story if you are aiming shorter. Fill each part with your own stories, then rewrite every line until it sounds like you talking.

Checklist

- [ ] How to use a template without sounding like one
- [ ] The template at a glance
- [ ] The template, part by part
- [ ] A filled-in example
- [ ] Adapting the template
- [ ] Turning the template into cue cards
- [ ] Common mistakes with speech templates
- [ ] Related guides
- [ ] If he's your brother, swap the "who you are" part for a line about growing up together, and choose childhood stories the whole family will enjoy. See best man speech for a brother.
- [ ] If there are two of you, split the parts between you and agree the handovers. See how to write a joint best man speech.
- [ ] If you met as adults, lean on the stories you do have, and say honestly what kind of friend he's been since you met.
- [ ] If you've been asked to keep it short, keep parts 1, 4, 7 and 8 and cut the rest down to a line each.
- [ ] If you don't know the partner well, ask the groom and a close friend of the couple for one detail about them together, and build part 7 around it.
- [ ] Leaving the template showing. If every part starts with the suggested line, it'll sound generic. Rewrite the lines.

Want the full kit? Best Man Speech Kit · £6.98
Speech-writing guide, editable workbook and six large cue cards. See bestmanbackup.com/kits/