

**DID YOU KNOW?**  
The longest recorded marriage lasted 90 years and 291 days



## 8 interesting facts about marriage...

For some, marriage is what a particular date in the calendar means to them, receiving flowers and perhaps, going out for dinner. But here we look at what marriage actually means and the interesting facts surrounding it.

### Choosing your partner

**1** The Matching Hypothesis suggests that people are more likely to form and succeed in a relationship with someone who is equally desirable. This doesn't have to be physical, other socially desirable qualities such as intelligence and personality also count.

**2** That said, research also suggests that couples who are too similar to each other are less likely to last. While a foundation of similarities can help, there should also be things you can learn from each other.

### Divorce

**3** People who commute for more than 45-minutes are 40% more likely to divorce.

**4** Couples who spend more money on their wedding are more likely to divorce, a study found.

**5** Researchers found a huge decline in happiness after the first four years of marriage, followed by another decline in years seven to eight. Half of all divorces occur in the first seven years of marriage - hence the term 'seven-year-itch'.

### Happy marriages

**6** Spouses name 'trust', over friendship, laughter, forgiveness and sex, as the most essential element for a happy marriage.

### Bizarre tradition

**7** In some parts of 18th Century Europe, a biscuit or small loaf of bread was broken over the head of the bride as she came out from the church. Unmarried guests would collect the pieces and place them under their pillows to increase their own chances of marriage.

It's thought this is where our wedding cake tradition comes from.

### Love actually

**8** An impressive 75-year-long study revealed that love is all that really matters. The participants' lifelong experiences revealed that happiness and life fulfilment revolved around love or simply searching for love.

*Love is really all that matters!*

### How we can help

Osborne Morris & Morgan are family law specialists, who offer clear, dependable advice on all family law issues. Call us on **01525 450250** or visit [www.ommlaw.co.uk](http://www.ommlaw.co.uk)

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Our team are on hand to offer clear, dependable advice on all family law issues, including prenuptial agreements.

*"All my family law matters were dealt with in an efficient and friendly manner. All members of staff were extremely helpful."*

**MR RW FROM HERTFORDSHIRE**

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Every last Thursday  
of the month