

# What do Hindus celebrate?

Today we will be...

Finding out about Hindu weddings.

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Have you ever been to a wedding before?



What was it like? What did you do?

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Weddings are always a time for celebration and Hindu weddings can last for 3 days. The families of the bride and groom take some time to get to know each other better. When the bride and groom get married, their families are joined together.

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Their wedding day is a very special day for Hindu brides and they make lots of preparations to make sure they look beautiful! The day before, her hands and feet are decorated with henna tattoos.



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Hindu brides wear beautiful saris and lots of jewellery. They also wear special eye make-up.



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A Hindu wedding ceremony lasts for about an hour. A sacred fire is lit and the priest recites words from holy books. The bride and groom are both given flower garlands to wear around their necks.



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A special pot called a Purna-Kalasha is passed around. Water is put in the pot. Mango leaves are placed on the mouth of the pot, then a coconut is placed on top. This ritual has lots of symbols. For example, the mango leaves represent love and the water represents life.



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The mother of the bride gives her daughter a special necklace. This is a symbol that she is now a married woman.

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The bride and groom then take 7 steps together. After each step, they make a promise to each other. They are joined by a piece of cloth to show that they are married.



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Once the ceremony is over, everyone celebrates by giving the bride and groom presents and by having a meal together. There is also music and dancing.



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How is a Hindu wedding different or similar to the weddings you have been to?



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