



A POWERFUL FAMILY SYMBOL

Often we think of marriage as the joining of two people. In reality, marriage is much broader. It is also the coming together and merging of family and friends. This is even more apparent when the bride and/or groom have children. With children present, the wedding ceremony also becomes the proclaiming of a new family.

How does the Family Medallion® Ceremony meet the special needs of couples with children?

Today, more than one in four marriages involves children. Many brides and grooms come together with one or more children from previous relationships. Other couples may already have children of their own. Family Medallion® resources were created to assist with “family weddings” and to provide resources for recognizing and supporting family commitments.

Until recently, few wedding ceremonies acknowledged the family nature of many relationships or the mixed emotions children may feel about sharing their lives with a new parent and perhaps new brothers and sisters.

Studies show that children accept a parent’s remarriage more readily when they feel included in the wedding plans and are given a tangible symbol of being embraced by a new family. Presentation of Family Medallion® jewelry, as a gift or during the wedding service, provides this message of love and affirmation.

What is the Family Medallion® symbol?

The Family Medallion® symbol includes three equally merged circles. Two circles represent the marriage union while the third symbolizes the importance of children within the family.

How is the Family Medallion® used?

Couples may choose to present Family Medallion® pendants, bracelets, rings or lapel pins during the wedding service or as a special gift. It is appropriate for children of all ages, even adult children. Experience has shown, boys and girls will attach the same emotional importance to their Family Medallion® as the bride and groom place on their wedding rings.

Each medallion is crafted from the finest metals, including sterling silver and 14-K gold, using the “lost wax” method of casting. This technique guarantees that every Family Medallion will always be of heirloom quality.

The Family Medallion pendant is a 5/8" x 3/4" oval medallion available in solid or filigree styles. Each pendant comes with an 18" matching chain and a special display case for safekeeping.

The Family Medallion lapel pin provides an alternative to the pendant and can also be worn as a tie tack. Like the pendant, the lapel pin comes in a display case that holds a wedding or family photograph.

The Family Medallion ring is the latest addition to The Family Medallion collection. Rings are crafted in sterling silver or 14-K gold over sterling silver. They are available in children, youth and adult sizes.

When used during the wedding, Family Medallion® jewelry is given to each child during a special presentation ceremony. "Celebrating the New Family," comes with each product order. This resource is easily adapted to any religious or civil wedding tradition.

Brides and grooms may also choose to exchange Family Medallion® jewelry with each other during the wedding ceremony, or present Family Medallion® pendants to parents or grandparents.

Other Family Medallion® Uses...

Family Medallion® resources were created to support and celebrate significant family relationships. They have been used most often to recognize children and families created by marriage of a parent. Increasingly, these resources are used on other occasions including birth, baptism or blessing of a child, birthdays, anniversaries, religious holidays, Mother's Day, Father's Day and leaving home for college or military service.

The Family Medallion® symbol of expanding circles, signify love's willingness to include others. As you wear your Family Medallion® jewelry or share it with another person, may your love continue to grow. The Family Medallion® is a symbol of family unity and love. Blessed be the ties that bind.

Other special ways to include children in your wedding ceremony is by participation in a family unity candle, sand or water ceremony and/or a ribbon ceremony. Please see our Ceremonial Enhancements for complete descriptions of each and to determine which ceremony would be best for your children to participate in.

There are many beautiful and memorable ways to include your children!

Don't forget to check our "Including Children" section.