



How to find Washington State MARRIAGE & DIVORCE RECORDS

Washington State Library
www.sos.wa.gov/library/Genealogy.aspx

Who has the records?

Marriage & divorce certificates from January 1, 1968 to two months before the present day are held by the [Washington Department of Health](http://www.doh.wa.gov/LicensesPermitsandCertificates/BirthDeathMarriageandDivorce/CertificateOrderingInformation.aspx). The [Washington State Archives](http://www.waarchives.com) might also have copies www.doh.wa.gov/LicensesPermitsandCertificates/BirthDeathMarriageandDivorce/CertificateOrderingInformation.aspx

For recent marriage certificates from the last 2 months, contact the county auditor where the license was filed. For divorce certificates, contact the county clerk.
www.wacounties.org/waco/county/map.html [Links to all county officials for Washington State]

For **marriage** certificates before January 1, 1968, the [Washington State Archives](http://www.waarchives.com) has copies of many of them.(see next section) Otherwise, contact the county auditor where the license was obtained.

For **divorce** certificates before January 1, 1968, the [Washington State Archives](http://www.waarchives.com) might have copies. (see next section) The county clerk in each county will have copies for certificates issued in their county.

Washington State Archives

Many county auditors have given the marriage records held in their offices to the Washington State Archives. They will be held at one of the 5 Archives branches around the state. Check out the [map](http://www.sos.wa.gov/archives/search.aspx) to locate the correct branch for your county. www.sos.wa.gov/archives/search.aspx

Washington State Archives has digitized many of the marriage records in their collections, and the records that have been digitized can be viewed for free on the [Washington State Digital Archives](http://www.digitalarchives.wa.gov/Collections#RSID:1) web site. www.digitalarchives.wa.gov/Collections#RSID:1

WA Digital Archives has some early divorce records listed in their [Frontier Justice Index](http://www.digitalarchives.wa.gov/Collections#RSID:13).
www.digitalarchives.wa.gov/Collections#RSID:13

Many county clerks have given copies of the divorce records they hold to the Washington State Archives. To see if records for a particular county are at the State Archives, go to the [Search Page](http://www.sos.wa.gov/archives/search.aspx) , and do a search on the county name and the keyword divorce. www.sos.wa.gov/archives/search.aspx

How can I find a marriage or divorce date?

The State Library has a Washington Marriage Index and a Washington Divorce Index for 1968-2004. You can submit a lookup request on our [Ask-A-Librarian](http://www.sos.wa.gov/library/ask_form.aspx) page. www.sos.wa.gov/library/ask_form.aspx

For marriage dates before 1968, it is more difficult to locate dates. If the record you are looking for has been scanned into the [Washington Digital Archives](http://www.digitalarchives.wa.gov), you can locate the date there. www.digitalarchives.wa.gov Otherwise, you will need to try various organizations, print and online resources, such as a county auditor's office, state and county archives, libraries and genealogical societies.

The [genealogy collection at the Washington State Library](#) includes over 50 titles indexing early marriages in the Pacific Northwest. You can browse our online catalog to see what areas, and what years are covered. www.sos.wa.gov/library/catalog.aspx

We are not aware of any pre-1968 divorce indexes for Washington State.

Additional Resources:

Clark County

1924 Clark County Marriages – [A-D](#) / [E-J](#) / [K-Q](#) / [R-Z](#) - www.rootsweb.ancestry.com/~waclark/clark.htm

Island County

[Island County Marriage Index 1855 – 1891](#) - <http://usgwarchives.net/wa/island/island.htm>

[Island County Marriage Index 1859-1915](#) - <http://usgwarchives.net/wa/island/island.htm>

King County

The [King County Archives](#) has marriage records, and several marriage indexes in its collection. The [1853-1900 index](#) is online. www.kingcounty.gov/operations/archives/vital/marriage/index.aspx
Their complete marriage index, from 1853-1983 is available to search in house only.

At the [King County Recorder's Office](#) web site, you can search for a marriage record from 1979 to the present. www.kingcounty.gov/business/Recorders/RecordsSearch.aspx

Pierce County

[Pierce County Recorder's Office](#) has marriage dates from 1980's to the present.
<http://armsweb.co.pierce.wa.us/>

Stevens County

[Stevens County Marriage Index 1859-1864](#) - <http://usgwarchives.net/wa/stevens/stevens.htm>

[Stevens Co. Marriage Index 1886-1890](#) - <http://usgwarchives.net/wa/stevens/stevens.htm>

[Stevens Co. Marriage Index 1901-1902](#) - <http://usgwarchives.net/wa/stevens/stevens.htm>

Pacific Northwest

[British Columbia Marriages 1859-1936](#) - <http://search.bcarchives.gov.bc.ca/sn-41E0088/gbsearch/Marriages>

[California Marriage Records 1949-1985](#) - (access by subscription only, state library has a subscription)

www.vitalsearch-ca.com/gen/ca/_vitals/camarrin.htm

[Kootenai, ID Marriage Index 1885-1910](#) - www.usgwarchives.net/id/kootenai/kootenai.htm

[Multnomah County \(Portland, OR\) Marriages 1855-1910](#) - www.gfo.org/multcomar.htm

[Old Western States Marriage Record Index](#) - <http://abish.byui.edu/specialCollections/westernStates/search.cfm>

[Oregon Divorce Index 1946-60, 2001-2004](#) - (access by subscription only, state library has a subscription)

www.vitalsearch-ca.com/gen/or/_vitals/ordivorm-go.htm

[Oregon Historical Records Index](#) (includes marriages) - <http://genealogy.state.or.us/>

[Oregon Marriage Records 1921-24, 1946-2004](#) (access by subscription only, state library has a subscription)

www.vitalsearch-ca.com/gen/or/_vitals/ormarrim-go.htm