



DIY - Partner Visa Package

How to prepare your Relationship Statements



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You will find below an outline and instructions on how you and your partner should prepare your **individual** relationship statements. Your Statement should be approximately 2-4 pages in length.

You and your partner are both **individually** required to supply a **signed and witnessed statement** of the history of your relationship in terms of the following:

- How, when and where you first met and the common interests you share, how your relationship developed, dating history and activities/hobbies you share (include dates, names, places and significant events)
- Include information that is evidence of a genuine and continuing relationship such as shared financial commitments, period/dates living together, when your de facto relationship began, travels together, future planned travels, outline the time spent with respective friends, family and children, details of contact between you and your partner during any time apart
- Detailed description of the nature of your relationship, including social activities in which you have participated, domestic arrangements (how you support each other financially, physically and emotionally and when this level of commitment began), sharing of housework, joint responsibility for children if relevant, sharing of payment for mortgage or rent, joint responsibility for bills such as utilities (gas, electricity, telephone etc) any periods of separation (when and why the separation occurred, for how long and how you maintained or plan to maintain your relationship during the period of separation)
- Any Joint membership of organisations or sports activities completed together
- Acquisition of children or children-in-law, children-in-law, such as step-children, etc

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Guideline 7 - Plans and aspirations within your relationship

What kind of plans do you have with your partner? Are you going to raise a family, if so how many children would you like? Do you want your own home, are you going to get married? What does the future look like for you and your partner?

Guideline 8 (optional) - Prospective Marriage Visa

If you are going to apply for a prospective marriage visa, you should talk about your plans around getting married. Do you have any wedding plans, are you going to have an engagement party, have you posted on social media about your engagement?

Guideline 9 - Conclusion

Reiterate some of your previous statements and try to keep it short and sweet. Think, a summary of all the main points from the previous paragraphs. Your statement should end with a heartfelt and genuine statement about how you feel about your partner and what they mean to you.

Guideline 10

Type your full name, sign and date the document.
Make sure you have your statement signed and witnessed

Things to watch out for:

Now that you have the guidelines for the structure of your statement, try to

Nature of your Household: Who does what, how do you share household chores/cleaning?



As it is likely you will not have documentation to prove this, this aspect of your relationship statement is quite important.

Sample: My Partner and I share the various chores in our household according to what we prefer to do or what either one of us are best at. My partner is usually the one to do the dishes while I usually do the vacuuming. I change the bedding while my partner does most of the laundry.

When it comes to grocery shopping, that's something we do together most of the time as we decide on what we will have to get for the upcoming week. We usually do the grocery shopping together or if one of us is working, and we need things, whoever is available will do the shopping. We enjoy trying to cook new meals so we buy various ingredients together for new meals that we plan to make.

We both share the rent for our apartment by transferring funds from our account to the real estate agent. Please see our lease agreement and rent ledger that names both my partner and I.

My partner had a cat before we started our relationship and we recently adopted a dog together named xxx. We share the responsibilities for feeding, walking and paying the various vet bills. We usually take turns in walking our beloved dog or we walk the dog together and find this a really great time to connect and debrief with each other after work.

Financial Aspects: Details of any shared financial and other responsibilities you both hold on



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Sample Relationship Statements



COMMONWEALTH STATUTORY DECLARATION

Statutory Declarations Act 1959

I, (full name): Ms Marie Ann Jane

of (address): 3/68 Stevens Road, Waterloo NSW 2017

occupation: Computer Programmer

make the following declaration under the Statutory Declarations Act 1959:

How We Met

My Partner, Mr John Mansfield, and I first met on the 15th of January 2022. I initially came to Australia from Canada to visit a family member, my cousin, Ms. Beverly Host. While Beverly and I had planned to spend the day together touring Sydney's Rocks District and Circular Quay we ran into a friend of Beverly's who she had worked with previously, Brian Hampsford.

As we talked as a group, Brian asked Beverly if we were doing anything for lunch and he suggested as he was going to have lunch with a friend anyway (who turned out to be my now Partner John) we get a few cocktails and lunch at the Sydney Opera Bar which is right next to Circular Quay.

I was hoping that Beverly was interested, as it sounded fantastic and it was another opportunity for me to see the Sydney Opera House, and this time in the day time too. Beverly and I agreed that we wanted to go and organised to meet Brian again at the Opera Bar in an hour for lunch.

As we waited for our drinks and drinks were served Beverly introduced us to Brian and we started talking.



Traveling together

John and I love traveling and have been on two trips away together. The first trip we took was to Byron Bay for a week. We hired our own little villa that was literally a three-minute walk to the beach! It was just perfect, I will never forget that week with John, swimming at sunset, late mornings sleeping in and perfect romantic perfect dinners. John and I really connected and I felt so close to him.

We also got out and about and did some walking around the shops of Byron, listening to the buskers and taking long walks exploring the coastline. We also spent a magical afternoon when we went hot air ballooning together watching the sunset over Byron.

Our second trip together was for three days in the Hunter valley wine district. We rented a small house that was surrounded by farms and wineries. We would sleep in late and spent the days touring various wineries. John and I are not very big wine fans but we love the restaurants and food at the various wineries and especially the cheese platters.

John and I are planning to travel to Canada so that I can show him where I grow up and introduce him to people from my home town.

Moving in Together

John and I began staying at each other's place after about a month of dating. Mostly I would stay at John's place because my cousin Beverly's place was quite small and, in any event, we preferred to be alone and spending time together over those initial months. Eventually, John and I were able to find a place to live together and we moved in together.



How we support each other

John and I have a really close connection to one another. We see the world and people in much the same way and share the same outlook on life. John and I have been very open with one another about what a committed relationship is, because we have both had relationships in the past where we have been taken for granted and hurt. I love the way John will always support me in my decisions even if he cautions against some decisions, I know that he is looking out for my best interests and I, for his.

John and I are mature and understand that the initial romantic attraction in a relationship can fade over time and that true love comes from connection and sharing. I believe we have created an atmosphere of trust in our relationship that we may share our most heartfelt thoughts with each other without fear of judgement but rather with a genuine appreciation for each other and a recognition that we are all flawed.

John and I do not have any religious beliefs to share, as both of our families are non-religious, but we have been taking classes on Transcendental Meditation which we are now trying to practice in the evenings together, although we often are undisciplined about doing it as often as recommended.

Our plans and aspirations for the future

John and I have had many heartfelt conversations about our future together and we both agree that we want to grow our family one day and have a child together. John and I decided to register our relationship with the NSW government in June 2022 shortly after we moved in together. We are excited to start our new life in Australia and we are looking forward to the future.



A statutory declaration under the *Statutory Declarations Act 1959* may be made before—

(1) a person who is currently licensed or registered under a law to practise in one of the following occupations:

Chiropractor	Dentist	Legal practitioner
Medical practitioner	Nurse	Optometrist
Patent attorney	Pharmacist	Physiotherapist
Psychologist	Trade marks attorney	Veterinary surgeon

(2) a person who is enrolled on the roll of the Supreme Court of a State or Territory, or the High Court of Australia, as a legal practitioner (however described); or

(3) a person who is in the following list:

Agent of the Australian Postal Corporation who is in charge of an office supplying postal services to the public

Australian Consular Officer or Australian Diplomatic Officer (within the meaning of the *Consular Fees Act 1955*)

Bailiff

Bank officer with 5 or more continuous years of service

Building society officer with 5 or more years of continuous service

Chief executive officer of a Commonwealth court

Clerk of a court

Commissioner for Affidavits

Commissioner for Declarations

Credit union officer with 5 or more years of continuous service

Employee of the Australian Trade Commission who is:

(a) in a country or place outside Australia; and

(b) authorized under paragraph 3 (d) of the *Consular Fees Act 1955*; and

(c) exercising his or her function in that place

Magistrate of the Commonwealth or State

