



Here are some tips we hope will make your special day even more special, even if you choose to use another DJ service –

- This is the most important choice you can make:

Designate someone *else* to be the “DJ coordinator” for the day of your wedding. Someone who is reliable and will show up and can make decisions is preferred.

This can be the hardest step in the whole process, since most brides and grooms (mostly brides, sorry...) want to have total control.

The fact is: You can’t do everything at your wedding. You have to delegate. What you need is someone that can handle the minor questions a DJ might have, insure they are setup on time and have the correct information for announcements and last minute changes.

Face the facts: You are going to be a little busy getting married. The fewer picky little details you have to deal with on the actual day of your wedding – the less stressful it will be!

Whoever you pick, make sure they can attend all the meetings you have with your DJ service.

- You should meet the actual DJ that will be performing at your event at least once. Don’t settle for meeting just with a sales or marketing representative. Meet the actual DJ! When you do:
  - Make it an “audition” – ask the DJ make a generic announcement. How does s/he sound? Is his/her diction adequate?
  - Ask about experience – is this the first event this DJ will host?
  - Ask about his/her background – how long have they been doing DJ work?
  - Do they seem overly “laid back?” If they are dry and boring, your reception will be dry and boring.
  - Are they super cheesy? If so, expect to do the chicken dance, whether you want to or not...

You don't want your once-in-a-lifetime event to turn into an on-the-job training classroom!

- Is the service you are negotiating with the actual DJ service, or are they an organization that will subcontract your event to someone you might have never met? Some of the mega DJ services do business this way. It’s your wedding – get all the details!
- Will the DJ be providing music for the ceremony itself? Some DJ services can do a fine job of providing music at a wedding, others – not so good. If you intend your DJ to provide music for the ceremony:
  - Do they have the music *you* want?
  - Have they ever provided music at a service before?

- Will there be enough time for them to move from the site where the wedding is held to the reception site (if the two are in different locations)?
- What is their charge for such services and is there a separate charge for each session?
- How interactive do you want your DJ to be? Some DJs are overbearing or mousy. YOU and YOUR GUESTS are the real stars of the “show,” not your DJ.

Be up-front about your expectations for the event. A professional DJ will honor your request to create the mood YOU have in mind. Any DJ that starts “moving” the discussion into an area you are uncomfortably with is one to avoid.

Your expectations should be that the DJ will:

- Show up on time
- Set up in a timely manner (e.g. ready to start on a moment’s notice)
- Can deal effectively with equipment failures
- Be a “people person” when interacting with you and your guests
- Dress appropriately for the event (e.g. a T-shirt and jeans will get them “the boot”)
- Get references, with phone numbers – and *call* at least 3 of them and talk with the references personally. Ask questions such as:
  - What did they like about the DJ service?
  - What did they *dislike* about the service, if anything?
  - Were they professional?
  - Were they up-front about their services and charges?
- Get any and all agreements in writing – always and without exceptions. Professional DJ services always work with a written contract. When both sides agree on a DJ “gig” and will put it into writing you can avoid the sleazy tactics used by ethically challenged DJ services.

Never settle for *Oh, we do that anyway...* pin down everything you want the service to do before you sign anything.

Again, congratulations on your upcoming wedding and we at *Affordable Mobile DJs* wish you only the very best!

Sincerely,

Chris King  
Owner