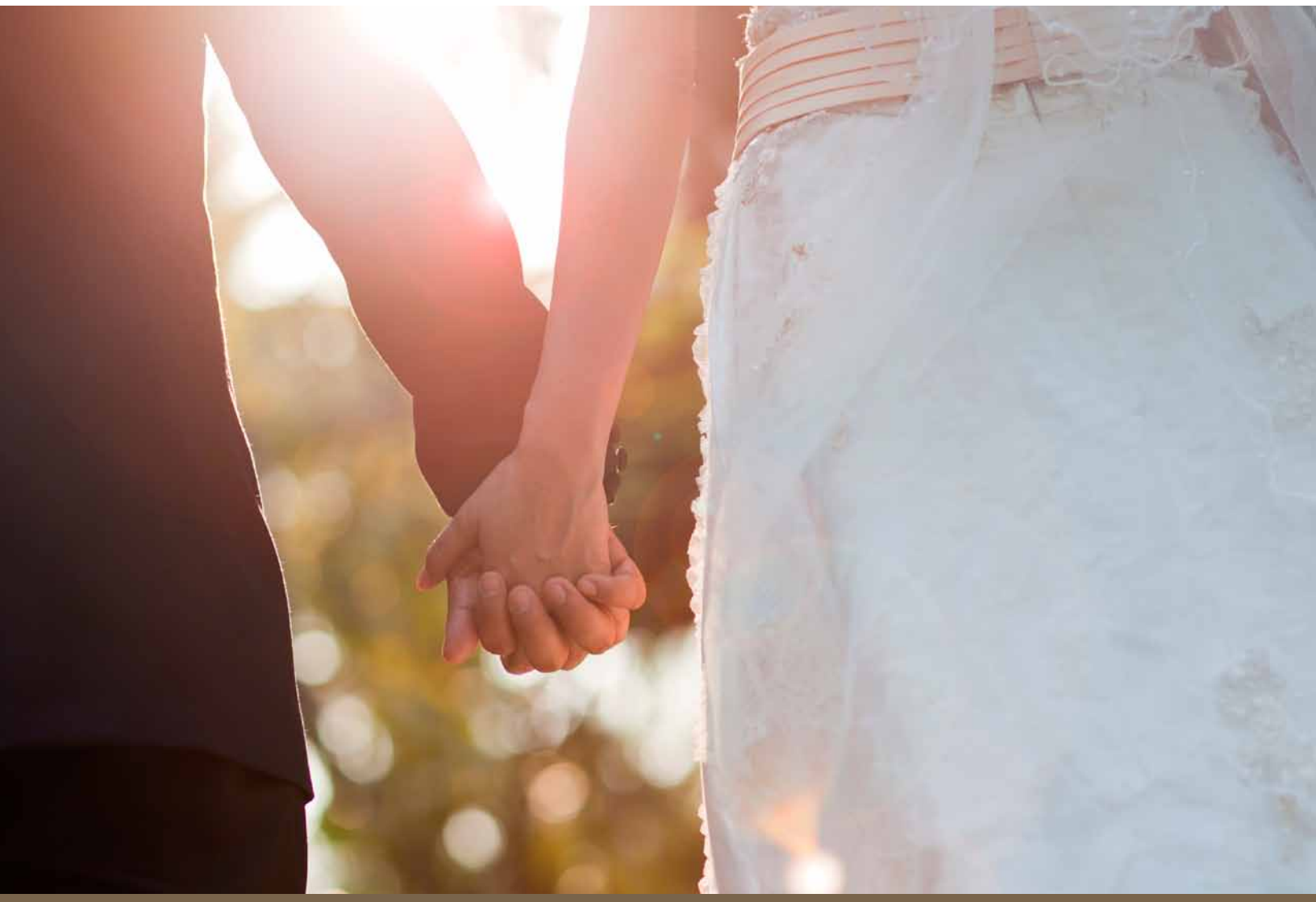


GUIDE

# *How to Choose the Perfect Music for Your Wedding*



**WILEY**  
ENTERTAINMENT

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Have you ever been to one of those weddings where everything seems too perfect? The venue is incredible, the wedding party looks like they stepped out of a magazine and the food has you tempted to go back for thirds. Everything is picture perfect, and then the band or DJ begins to play. Your ears start ringing and the guests faces cringe into awkward smiles. Suddenly, that beautiful wedding will only be remembered for the awful, cheesy band/DJ that crushed the elegant vibe of the night. Don't let this happen to you!



Will your wedding reception be a hit or a miss? It all comes down to your music. Taking the time to research, plan and find the best music for your wedding is well worth the effort. In making all the challenging decisions about your wedding music, always keep in mind your desired wedding theme or

vibe, the venue space, your budget and finally, what type of music you think your guests will also enjoy. In this guide we will give you our best tips on deciding on what type of wedding music you want, choosing between a band or DJ, and how to select the perfect songs for an amazing reception!

## DECIDING ON THE TYPE OF MUSIC

As you're planning your wedding, you should consider the things that both you and your fiancée like – and your tastes in music are no exception. If you play music at your wedding reception that both you and your fiancée agree on, the big day will be even more perfect for both of you. Here are some tips to help you and your fiancée get on the same page when it comes to choosing your wedding reception music.

### **MAKE A LIST**

To make sure neither of your wedding reception music wishes are ignored, you should each make a list of what you'd like to hear played during your reception. On your list, include songs that you want to hear on the big day and songs that you definitely want to be kept off the playlist. Once your lists are completed, go over them together. If there's a song you want played but your partner doesn't, come to a compromise. So, if your fiancée dislikes one of your songs, and you dislike one of theirs, either agree to play both songs or to cut both from your wedding reception playlist.

### **TALK ABOUT BANDS VS DJS**

You and your fiancée might have different opinions on whether you should have a live wedding band, or a DJ play at your wedding reception. Make sure you talk about this early so that you're able to plan ahead. If your fiancée doesn't agree with the one you want, there are a few things you can do. You might hire a band to play, then hire a DJ between band sets and have the DJ finish off the reception or perform at an afterglow. If you or your fiancée have strong feelings about not wanting one or the other, try to be open minded when exploring your options. You can scope out bands and DJs together so that you both have a better idea

of what to expect. Seeing them perform might change or open your mind about having one of them at your reception.

## **PLAN THE MUSIC TOGETHER**

One of the easiest ways to make sure both you and your fiancée are happy with your wedding reception music is to plan it together. Ultimately, this is a day for both of you. It's not about any one person. If you have trouble planning your music together, look at it as your first opportunity to compromise! Marriage is all about compromising, so working together to find a music solution you'll both be happy with will be a great practice exercise.

## **THE LIVE BAND VS. DJ DEBATE**

When you choose a live band, it often dramatically enhances the ambiance of your reception. There's just something about having live music at a wedding that gives it a timeless, romantic feeling. That doesn't mean that the band should only be skilled in one type of genre. The more variety the band can provide, the more your guests



will enjoy them. A good bandleader will play to the crowd at your reception. This is the biggest pro for choosing a band because the band can interact with guests, pay attention to the "feel" of the room, and select the best music for each spontaneous moment of the night.

## **OUR LIVE WEDDING BAND OPTIONS:**

- 6 to 15 piece band
- Up to six vocalists
- Pre-planning Consultation
- Option to rotate a DJ between band sets
- Lighting equipment included
- Sound system included
- Variety of music choices
- Professional Attire For Occasion
- Other options available upon request

If you don't think a live band is right for you, DJ's are also a great option. Choosing a DJ has several pro's – they take up less space in your venue, cost less than a live band and give you thousands of songs to choose from. Having a DJ ensures that you can hear all your favorite songs from any genre, and they will sound exactly as you remember them. If this sounds like what you are looking for, then a DJ is the right choice for you!

## **OUR DJ OPTIONS:**

- Over 20,000 Songs
- Top Notch Equipment & Sound System
- Advanced Laser System
- Modern Dance Floor Lighting Package
- Wireless Microphone
- Pre-planning Consultation
- Professional Attire For Occasion
- Other options available upon request

No matter which option you choose, remember to ask for videos of the band or DJ playing live with the audience and ask for reviews from past brides. These things will give you a much better feel for how the band/DJ will fit into your wedding and give you confidence in your choice.

# SELECTING THE BEST SONGS FOR YOUR RECEPTION

The right wedding reception music can bring energy and life to your event, but the wrong music could bore your guests to tears – and the last thing you want is for your guests to be dozing off in their chairs. To make sure all of your guests to have an amazing time, you'll need to be careful how you select the songs and genres you play. This is where the right DJ or live wedding band can really make a difference.

## **FOR A FUN AND MEMORABLE RECEPTION YOU SHOULD CHOOSE SONGS...**

### **...WITH BOTH FAST AND SLOW TEMPOS.**

Having song after song play with no variety in pace eventually gets dull. This is especially true if you decide to play many slow songs. Remember that teacher you had in high school who went on and on in that same, flat, monotone voice? You don't want your song set to sound like that. To prevent this, make sure you hire a professional, experienced DJ or live wedding band that will know how and when to spice things up with a little variety.

### **...THAT ALL YOUR GUESTS ARE FAMILIAR WITH.**

People are often more comfortable dancing and singing along when they're surrounded by familiar music. If you have an eclectic taste in music that you don't think your guests will necessarily share, just make sure the majority of songs are popular favorites so your guests feel



included and can have a blast.

### **...THAT ARE FROM VARYING GENRES AND DECADES.**

Usually at weddings, you have multiple generations in a room. That means that there will likely be certain genres and decade music that some of your guests will expect, and others will be a little thrown off by. You can make all of your guests happy and get them out of their chairs by adding some variety to the genres you select so that there will be something for everyone.

### **...THAT FIT WITH THE PACE AND TIMELINE OF YOUR RECEPTION.**

At wedding receptions, timing is everything. If your DJ plays slow music right at the highest energy point of the evening, it could ruin the mood. Likewise, if you play all upbeat dance songs, the crowd could become tired. Generally, you want to start with slow music during dinner and eventually build up to the upbeat songs when the party really gets going. Much of the timing of your music will be determined by your DJ or live wedding band, so make sure you choose one with tons of experience playing at wedding receptions.

The music that's played at your wedding reception could really make or break your special day. You want all of your guests to have the time of their lives, so please take all their personal preferences into account.

You can take the stress out of selecting the perfect music for your wedding by finding an experienced DJ or live wedding band. These professionals will be able to select and play wedding music that will make both you and your guests happy. If you still need help selecting your wedding reception music or deciding between a DJ or live wedding band, contact Wiley Entertainment today. We have years of experience helping couples plan their special day, and we're ready to make this a day you'll remember forever!



## *About the Author*

### **CLINT WILEY FOUNDER OF WILEY ENTERTAINMENT**

Clint Wiley has been in the entertainment business for over ten years, and knows what it takes to put on a great show. Unlike many other entertainment companies, he makes sure that Wiley Entertainment provides the complete entertainment package. In less than a decade, Clint Wiley has put together an entertainment experience that's touching lives every single week of the year. With over 2,000 events and counting, he looks forward to raising the bar continually.