



SAMPLE WEDDING RECEPTION ITINERARY

The following is a condensed version of a contemporary wedding reception itinerary:

1. SET UP

Unless other arrangements have been made, I usually arrive to set up two hours before our contracted start time.

2. COCKTAIL HOUR

(COMPLIMENTARY MUSIC WITH ALL "COCKTAIL/DINNER MUSIC" PACKAGES)

While your guests arrive, I am playing background music (the style(s) are requested by you in my 'Wedding Planning Planner') Because most of your guests spend this time conversing with friends and relatives they have not seen in awhile, I keep the music low-key, and at low volume.

3. BRIDE AND GROOM ARRIVE

Usually the photographer will take the bridal party for pictures after the ceremony. When the bride and groom do arrive at the reception hall, either the Master of Ceremonies or myself introduces the bridal party, or a receiving line is set up.

4. BRIDAL PARTY INTRODUCTIONS

Just before the dinner is served and following the cocktail hour, a lively song (or series of songs) may be used to introduce the members of your bridal party. This can help to create anticipation and excitement among your wedding guests. Your Master of Ceremonies or Brock can introduce your bridal party in pairs with the bride and groom entering to great fanfare and often a standing ovation! This moment is often used for the bride and groom to also have their First Dance.

Instead of introducing the bridal party by the M.C. or the D.J., you might wish to revive the Receiving Line tradition. The bride, groom, parents and bridal party line up at the entrance to the reception hall and greet each guest formally.

Another way to meet your guests is to visit each table during the dinner. This can be done in conjunction with the introductions or done separately.

5. DINNER

(COMPLIMENTARY MUSIC WITH ALL 'COCKTAIL/DINNER MUSIC ADD-ON' PACKAGES)

During dinner, I continue to play a light, easy-to-talk-over selection of music, chosen by you if desired.

6. TOASTS / FORMAL PROGRAM / OTHER ENTERTAINMENT

This is usually initiated by the Master of Ceremonies after the meal, and is commonly accompanied by additional toasting by friends and family of the Bride and Groom. Slide shows, speeches, telegrams, and other humorous activities are also common after dinner.

Music By Brock - Brock Chisholm Disc Jockey Entertainment

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7. BREAK

You may wish to provide a minimum five to ten minute break after the formal program and speeches, and before the first dance. This allows for you and your guests to become refreshed. Your guests may enjoy the opportunity to 'top-up' their drinks or mingle for a few moments prior to the first dance.

8. CAKE CUTTING

A tradition becoming more popular is to have the cake-cutting ceremony shortly after dinner and before the first dance. Ideally, the cake-cutting can be done during the 'Break'. The M.C. should ensure that the photographer and the bride and groom are ready, and then the M.C. or Brock will make an announcement for your guests to gather around the cake. If desired however, the cake-cutting can take place later in the evening, and be done before or perhaps after the Bouquet Toss and Garter Removal if the bride and groom wish to participate in this event.

9. FIRST DANCE

The bride and groom select this song before the wedding day. Usually the bride and groom dance to this song alone. If desired, the parents and bridal party can be invited to join during the first dance.

Quite often, a second and sometimes a third song is chosen to allow for the parents and bridal party to dance along beside the bride and groom.

10. LET'S DANCE

After the first bridal songs, I invite everyone to join in. Popular, upbeat music often can set a celebratory tone to the evening. I will explain how my unique Request Centre works. The Request Centre is set up adjacent to my D.J. table allowing guests to make requests or dedications. Along with the suitable requests, I usually find that well-known party hits from a variety of genres will get everyone involved and keep the dance floor packed.

11. BOUQUET AND GARTER TOSS

This portion of the evening, though a long-standing tradition at weddings, is certainly not mandatory and depends strictly on the newly wedded couple's comfort level with it. I will announce for the single ladies to gather on the dance floor for the bouquet toss. After the bouquet, it's the guys turn with the garter toss. With your approval, I have some novel ways to "spice up" this segment of the evening and make it a fun event for all.

12. BACK TO DANCING

"Reading" the crowd, for a disc jockey, is an art. Finding that perfect song to play at just the right moment will create excitement and keep the dance floor packed.

13. LAST DANCE

Playing a specially selected last dance that features the Bride & Groom is a nice touch, if desired.

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