

- 1. It is very important to plan everything ahead of time so that your wedding goes smoothly. On the day of your wedding, you have to let the planning go and focus on enjoying your day. Things will fall into place because you have done your work ahead of time to make sure things are right. Do not sweat the small stuff that may not go as planned.
- 2. You need to arrive at your reception on time and stay there with your guests. We have seen the bride and groom arrive as late as 2 hours after their first guests have arrived. Your guests do not want to sit and stare at a wall for the next 2 hours. You need to show them how "excited" you are to be part of that function by arriving within a reasonable amount of time.
- **3. Hire great entertainment for your reception.** When everything is over, people will remember whether they had a good time or not. Your choice of entertainment is critical to serve this purpose. Make sure the entertainer is experienced and knows how to help you plan your events. A disc jockey entertainer is the most flexible for your wedding and reception.
- **4.** Work with your entertainer to help make sure you get the type of music you want. Do not try to plan all the music for your event. The disc jockey is familiar with these events and knows how to handle the situation. If you make too many requests, then you make it difficult to have a successful reception.
- **5. Make sure your venue is the right size**. The right venue for your event is critical you can expect to pay from \$1000 to \$2500 for a banquet room rental at a resort, hotel or banquet facility. If you use their in-house catering, the room price is often "comped" at a discount or is given to you completely for free.
- 6. Hiring a great photographer is important. Hire someone who is professional and experienced. A great photographer has a fabulous portfolio, an online photo gallery, dresses professionally and is able to work easily with your wedding party and guests to get the best shots. Pay them extra to hire them for the entire day. We have seen bouquet tosses happen in the middle of formal sit down dinners and "faked" cake cuttings just because the photographer is off contract at 7p.m. Some of the best shots come later at night as the reception develops.

- 7. It is essential to hire great entertainment, like Music Express DJ's! A typical wedding reception is running you anywhere from \$1000 to \$5000 an hour, so why have your guests leave early because of poor entertainment? If you hire a high quality DJ & Emcee, they will help you plan and coordinate a reception that moves at a good pace and so your guests are informed and involved in the formalities of the evening.
- 8. You need to bring a pair of shoes to change into at the reception. Your feet need to be comfortable. Wear incredible shoes during your ceremony, and your arrival at the reception. Once the photographs are done then it is time to have fun dancing. The awesome shoes will not be your friend on the dance floor. Make sure to bring something comfortable to give your feet a break.
- **9.** You should not go into a lot of debt for you wedding. You do not want to stress yourself out by spending too much money when you know you cannot afford it. It is important to plan carefully and spend wisely. You will then be able to enjoy your wedding and honeymoon in peace.
- 10. Your guests are watching you (the bride and groom) to make sure it is okay to have a good time! They want to see you eating, dancing and enjoying yourselves. This will make your guests want to have fun too. Typically when there is a packed dance floor the bride and groom are right in the center of the crowd.