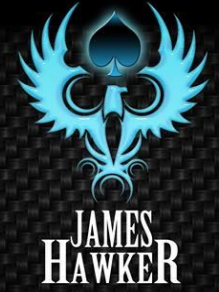


Alternative Options

Your guide to booking a magician & wedding entertainment





TOP 10 WEDDING ENTERTAINMENT TIPS

Booking wedding entertainment can be fraught with difficulties when you're inundated with a million other thoughts like; what wedding invitations to send out, what dress to choose for the bridesmaids, what food you'll be serving, how many in-laws you'll have to invite and so on.

With so much to think about, use this guide to help you choose the best possible entertainment for your wedding, you want to get it right, it's your big day!

So to help out just that little bit more, here is a list of the top 10 tips in hiring your wedding entertainment that will help you and your guests stay entertained even when the free bar runs out.

1. Set out a budget

Bit of an obvious one to start but an important tip nonetheless. Set out a chunk of your wedding budget aside for your entertainment options and you'll have a much better shot at getting the performance that's perfect for your wedding. So many people I have spoken to over the year's budget for everything other than entertainment, but quality entertainment makes a huge difference to your guests. So ensure you have budgeted for your entertainment!

2. Book early

Bands, acts and performers all become very busy during peak wedding season and it's no surprises that with increased demand and reduced supply, the price will go up too. To stand a better chance at getting the best value from your entertainment, look to book entertainment as early as possible when planning your wedding.



3. Scrutinise timings

Make sure you ask whoever you book about flexibility! If you book some entertainers for an hour and your wedding is running behind schedule, you will not have the entertainment and will still have to pay.

4. Consider a variety of entertainment

There are tonnes of entertainment options out there for your wedding – more than you'd think in fact – and it helps to consider alternative ideas so that you have a wider pool of options to choose from when planning your wedding.

5. Do your research

Get prices from numerous people in the field of entertainment you are booking. By doing so, you can guarantee that you get what you pay for, and sometimes more!

6. Book off peak

Of course there are only a set amount of Saturdays in the summer to have a wedding on which makes the prices just that little bit steeper. Consider planning your wedding around a day that will be a lot less busy (and hence lower priced) to get the most value out of your wedding entertainment.

7. Explore versatility but beware

Sometimes you will find entertainers offering a variety of entertainment all done by one person. This can seem a cheap option but always consider that people who specialise in one field will usually be better than those that do many. As the saying goes "Jack of all trades, master of none"

8. Think about your themes

Why? Because it makes the most impact and is essential to making sure the event is one that is truly memorable. Consider the theme of your wedding and how the entertainment you're thinking of hiring will complement it to the best of its ability.



9. Be flexible

It's normal to get your heart set on certain aspects of a wedding when in the planning stages but like many say: 'Don't be afraid to kill your babies'. Essentially, don't be afraid to veto an entertainment choice – even if you love the idea to death – if it doesn't fit in with your budget or theme but also be **open to new ones** as they may come about as you don't know until you've looked hard enough.

10. Check out the venue

This one's important – do make sure your venue can handle what you want to throw at it on your big day because once you've signed the deal it can be pretty hard to renege on it. This means sound level limiters, how big the stage is, what time loud music can go on until and so much more.

Recommended by me



This guide is about enabling you to make informed choices regarding entertainment for your big day! Having little or no knowledge of the entertainment field you are looking to book can be a big disadvantage for you; this is certainly true of magic and magicians. Check out the magician specific tips below;

1. Professional

You will definitely want to hire a professional! Some magicians will state that they are full time and therefore imply that they are more professional than others that are not, this is not true in the slightest. They should however have a website, video reel and photos which demonstrate what they do. They should also have a booking contract which protects both you and them in the event of something changing. Over the past 10 years of performing, there have been occasions where other entertainers have not turned up on the day, without a contract you have much less chance of getting your money back.

Don't get hung up on YouTube video's, sometimes editing distorts what actually happens, which leads me on to my next point

2. Ask for a free demonstration

Good, professional magicians will be happy to give you a free demonstration at your own convenience because they have confidence in their ability to perform. Some magicians are better business/marketing people than they are magicians, but having an amazing website does not mean they can perform quality, memorable magic, which is definitely what you're after!

3. Ask the types of things they perform

Obviously, if you have followed point two you will have seen them perform in person and will have a good idea of what they will be performing on your special day. There will definitely be sleight of hand magic in the magician's performance to a variety of standards, usually with everyday objects like cards, coins & elastic bands but what else can they do? What makes them different from other magicians? Me personally, I like to perform things your guests won't see or experience with other magicians but we will come on to that shortly