

catching up with a...DJ

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"I'm innovative. Whether it's custom vinyl records for the bride and groom or creating unique mash-ups and mixes for my couples, I'm always looking for new ways to make my clients' events unique."

If a couple has no idea what they want when it comes to music, how can you help guide them through the process?

I tell them to relax and let me handle it. After all, this isn't my first rodeo! I've been doing this for awhile—I know exactly what to play to get their guests up and dancing. It's important to trust your DJ.

What advice can you give to a bride or groom who wants to be very involved in the music choice for the night?

Not every song that you like to listen to is what your guests want to dance to at your wedding. I ask my couples to give me 10 to 15 songs to play and let me take care of the rest. Generally, the more information I have about you and your taste, the better. I love couples that are really involved, but it's also important to be open to suggestions and try to think about what your guests like.

"I always advise against what I call the 'chicka-rena-slide'—the 'Chicken Dance,' 'The Macarena' and 'The Electric Slide.' They're all great for a birthday party, but not for a wedding reception."



What do you think makes a good wedding DJ?

A good wedding DJ listens to their clients' needs and plays well with a couple's other vendors. On the other hand, a bad wedding DJ doesn't know when to say certain things or when to pull back and let the party run itself. A good DJ can read the crowd, match the energy in the room and is never cheesy or stereotypical.

Are there any must-play songs that you think should be at the top of every couple's song list?

No. Every wedding is unique. Any "must-play" list would end up being stereotypical, which is something most couples try to avoid.

What advice do you often find yourself giving to couples?

Create a timeline that's going to work with your event, not against it. Maybe save the parent dances until after dinner to get the dance party moving. Also, putting everything close together makes it more likely that everyone will have fun. Having the bar on the opposite side of the dance floor or the photo booth in another room entirely can pull people away from the party; you want to pull people in.

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