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**TRADITIONAL WEDDING FORMAT**

I. **COCKTAIL HOUR MUSIC**:

***How many songs should I choose for my cocktail hour?***

While it depends on the length of the songs chosen, 13 to 14 songs should amount to a full hour. But, it never hurts to add a couple more to your playlist just to be extra prepared.

***What kind of songs should I play during my cocktail hour?***

The songs played at your cocktail hour can be determined by who you are as a couple and the guests you invite. Keep your audience in mind by selecting songs that can be enjoyed by all age ranges as well as by the types of family and friends in attendance.

Crooners:

(--place X here--) *Frank Sinatra*

(--place X here--) *Tony Bennett*

(--place X here--) *Dean Martin*

(--place X here--) *Michael Buble*

(--place X here--) *Harry Connick Jr.*

Country:

(--place X here--) *Brooks & Dunn*

(--place X here--) *Keith Urban*

(--place X here--) *Travis Tritt*

(--place X here--) *Garth Brooks*

(--place X here--) *Kenny Chesney*

Traditional Jazz:

(--place X here--) *Ella Fitzgerald*

(--place X here--) *Louis Armstrong*

(--place X here--) *Sarah Vaughan*

(--place X here--) *Billie Holiday*

R&B / Motown:

(--place X here--) *Stevie Wonder*

(--place X here--) *The Temptations*

(--place X here--) *Smokey Robinson*

(--place X here--) *Diana Ross*

(--place X here--) *Aretha Franklin*

Other:

(--insert Song #1 & Artist here--)

(--insert Song #2 & Artist here--)

(--insert Song #3 & Artist here--)

(--insert Song #4 & Artist here--)

(--insert Song #5 & Artist here--)

(--insert Song #6 & Artist here--)

(--insert Song #7 & Artist here--)

(--insert Song #8 & Artist here--)

(--insert Song #9 & Artist here--)

(--insert Song #10 & Artist here--)

**II. RECEPTION HALL OPENS:**

DJ says: “At this time we ask that everyone enter the hall and please be seated. Thank you.”

**III. BRIDAL PARTY LINE-UP:** *(Males on Left & Females on Right)*

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| **MALES ON LEFT** | **ORDER IN LINE** | **FEMALES ON RIGHT** |
| (--INSERT BRIDE FATHER NAME HERE--)Bride’s Father | #1 | (--INSERT BRIDE MOTHER NAME HERE--)Bride’s Mother |
| (--INSERT GROOM FATHER NAME HERE--)Groom’s Father | #2 | (--INSERT GROOM MOTHER NAME HERE--)Groom’s Mother |
| (--INSERT RING BEARER NAME HERE--)Ring Bearer | #3 | (--INSERT FLOWER GIRL NAME HERE--)Flower Girl |
| (--INSERT GROOMSMAN1 NAME HERE--)Groomsman1 | #4 | (--INSERT BRIDESMAID1 NAME HERE--)Bridesmaid1 |
| (--INSERT GROOMSMAN2 NAME HERE--)Groomsman2 | #5 | (--INSERT BRIDESMAID2 NAME HERE--)Bridesmaid2 |
| (--INSERT GROOMSMAN3 NAME HERE--)Groomsman3 | #6 | (--INSERT BRIDESMAID3 NAME HERE--)Bridesmaid3 |
| (--INSERT GROOMSMAN4 NAME HERE--)Groomsman4 | #7 | (--INSERT BRIDESMAID4 NAME HERE--)Bridesmaid4 |
| (--INSERT BEST MAN NAME HERE--)Best Man | #8 | (--INSERT MAID/MATRON HONOR HERE--)Maid / Matron of Honor  |
| (--INSERT GROOM NAME HERE--)Husband | #9 | (--INSERT BRIDE NAME HERE--)Wife |

**IV. INTRODUCTIONS:** Bridal party entrances are a great way to lighten the mood and show some personality.

1. **DJ Says**: “Ladies and gentlemen, may I have your attention please! Good evening, my name is DJ Ahmed Khan and on behalf of: (--INSERT BRIDE NAME HERE--) and (--INSERT GROOM NAME HERE--). I would like to welcome each and every one of you to the: (--Insert Reception Hall Here--).
2. **DJ Starts Introduction Music**: (--Insert Introduction Song Title & Artist Here--)
3. **DJ Says**: “Would everyone please rise. May I present to you this evening all of the members of the bridal party:”

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| **MALES ON LEFT** | **ORDER IN LINE** | **FEMALES ON RIGHT** |
| (--INSERT BRIDE FATHER NAME HERE--)Bride’s Father | #1 | (--INSERT BRIDE MOTHER NAME HERE--)Bride’s Mother |
| (--INSERT GROOM FATHER NAME HERE--)Groom’s Father | #2 | (--INSERT GROOM MOTHER NAME HERE--)Groom’s Mother |
| (--INSERT RING BEARER NAME HERE--)Ring Bearer | #3 | (--INSERT FLOWER GIRL NAME HERE--)Flower Girl |
| (--INSERT GROOMSMAN1 NAME HERE--)Groomsman1 | #4 | (--INSERT BRIDESMAID1 NAME HERE--)Bridesmaid1 |
| (--INSERT GROOMSMAN2 NAME HERE--)Groomsman2 | #5 | (--INSERT BRIDESMAID2 NAME HERE--)Bridesmaid2 |
| (--INSERT GROOMSMAN3 NAME HERE--)Groomsman3 | #6 | (--INSERT BRIDESMAID3 NAME HERE--)Bridesmaid3 |
| (--INSERT GROOMSMAN4 NAME HERE--)Groomsman4 | #7 | (--INSERT BRIDESMAID4 NAME HERE--)Bridesmaid4 |
| (--INSERT BEST MAN NAME HERE--)Best Man | #8 | (--INSERT MAID/MATRON HONOR HERE--)Maid / Matron of Honor  |

D. **DJ Says**: “Let’s give everyone a big round of applause!”

E. **DJ Starts Introduction Music**: (--Insert Introduction Song Title & Artist Here--)

F. DJ: “And now Ladies and Gentlemen, I would like to present to you for the first time in public and husband and wife…

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| (--INSERT GROOM NAME HERE--)Husband | #9 | (--INSERT BRIDE NAME HERE--)Wife |

**V. FIRST DANCES:**

A. Bride & Groom Dance:
**DJ Starts Bride & Groom Dance Music**: (--Insert Bride & Groom Song Here--)

B. Bride & Bride’s Father Dance:

**DJ Starts Bride & Bride’s Father Music**: (--Insert Bride & Bride's Father Song Here--)

C. Groom & Groom’s Mother Dance

**DJ Starts Groom & Groom’s Mother Introduction Music**: (--Insert Groom & Groom's Mother Song Here--)

**VI. INVOCATION:**

A. **DJ Says**: “Ladies & gentlemen, we invite you to please rise and remain standing as grace is offered by: (--INSERT OFFICIANT'S NAME HERE--).

**VII. TOASTS:**

A. **DJ Says**: “At this time we will hear a toast from the Best Man, (--INSERT BEST MAN'S NAME HERE--) followed by a toast from the Maid/Matron of Honor, (--INSERT MAID / MATRON OF HONOR'S NAME HERE--)

**VIII. DINNER SERVICE**

*(Music: Jazz & Slow Songs e.g. Kenny G)*

If buffet style:

1. **DJ Says**: Today’s meal is being served buffet style. We ask you to please listen for when your Table Number is called.

|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| 1stBride & Groom Table | 2ndWedding Party Table | Table #1 | Table #2 | Table #3 | Table #4 | Table #5 | Table #6 |
| Table #7 | Table #8 | Table #9 | Table #10 | Table #11 | Table #12 | Table #13 | Table #14 | Table #15 | Table #16 | Table #17 | Table #18 |
| Table #19 | Table #20 | Table #21 | Table #22 | Table #23 | Table #24 | Table #25 | Table #26 | Table #27 | Table #28 | Table #29 | Table #30 |

**IX. OPEN DANCE FLOOR**

A. DJ Says: “At this time we would like to open the dance floor.”

**X. BOUQUET & GARTER TOSS:**

A. **DJ Says**: “Let’s give everyone a big round of applause! It’s time for the bouquet & garter toss. First we will need all of the single ladies to the dance floor. Then in a few minutes when the ladies are finished, we will need all of the single men to the dance floor.”

Bouquet Toss:

1. **DJ Says**: We will start with the bouquet toss. The bouquet toss tradition is one that has existed for hundreds of years and evolved over time. In this tradition, brides toss their bouquet over their shoulders and into a group of single women. Whoever catches the bouquet is supposedly “next” to walk down the aisle. For brides, it’s a way to celebrate their single friends and wish them luck in love. For the lucky lady that catches the bouquet, if she doesn’t meet the partner of her dreams at the wedding tonight, at least she’ll go home with a gorgeous floral centerpiece.
2. **DJ Says**: All single ladies please line up on the dance floor. The Bride is going to stand with her back to you. On the count of 1-2-3, the bride will throw the bouquet behind her over her shoulder. Single ladies, it’s your job to catch it! **DJ Starts Bouquet Toss Music**: (--Insert Bouquet Toss Song Title & Artist Here--) . Then DJ counts: “1, 2, 3.”

Garter Removal: [NOTE: *Some brides may want to toss the garter but are uncomfortable with the idea of their groom fishing around for the garter beneath their dress as their parents and grandparents look on. If this is you, you can opt not to wear the garter and you can hand it to your groom just before the toss.*]

1. DJ Says: It’s time for the garter removal.
2. May we have the bride seated in the chair in the center of the dance floor. **DJ Starts Garter Removal Music**: (--Insert Garter Removal Song Title & Artist Here--) . The groom will have approximately 30 seconds to remove his bride’s garter. Groom removes her garter belt.

Garter Toss:

1. The garter toss is very similar to the bouquet toss. The bachelor that catches the garter is believed to be married next.
2. Now, would all of the single men please line up. On the count of 1-2-3, the groom will throw the bouquet behind him over his shoulder. Single men, it’s your job to catch it! **DJ Starts Garter Toss Music**: (--Insert Garter Toss Song Title & Artist Here--). Then DJ counts: “1, 2, 3.” Groom throws garter over his shoulder.

D. Male who caught garter places it on the leg of the female who caught bouquet.

**XI. CUTTING THE CAKE**

A. **DJ Says**: “Let’s give everyone a big round of applause! It’s time for dessert and the cake cutting.”

B. **DJ Starts Cake Cutting Music**: (--Insert Cake Cutting Song Title & Artist Here--)

**XII. MESSAGE FROM THE NEWLYWEDS:**

1. **DJ Says**: At this time, the newlyweds have some messages to share.

**XIII. THANK YOU**

DJ Says: “On behalf of the Bride and Groom, we would like to thank everyone for coming out this evening. You may make arrangements with the staff regarding the centerpieces. Thank you. Get home safely and Good Night!”.