

SYDNEY, AUSTRALIA

DANIEL FRANCIS ENTERTAINMENT.

MUSICAL ENTERTAINMENT



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Step-By-Step Guide For Choosing Music For Your Event:

So, you want to book music for your next event? Awesome idea! Music is a core part of so many events and with so many options out there, sometimes it can be difficult to choose and organise. Ultimately, music is another element we use to define the atmosphere of an event (just like florals, lighting and dress code). We believe the process can be broken down into some key factors that will help you plan and decide what suits you best.

Firstly,

For the most part, the musical element of an event is decided based on the type of event and the type of atmosphere you're looking to achieve. While we are experienced in playing at pretty much any gathering of human beings, we do commonly get employed to work at 2 styles of events -
Corporates and Weddings.





WEDDINGS.

CEREMONY | RECEPTION



Weddings

Let's keep the focus on you. Weddings are a time for friends and family to celebrate two people being united together in marriage. Music plays a huge part in most people's lives so it makes sense that we like having the 'soundtrack of our lives' on our Wedding days.

Ceremony: Pick music that suits you and your partner's vibe. Be specific but don't overthink your song choices. We suggest booking musicians that you like as early as possible, but leave organising the information/particulars until about 3 weeks out (this allows you more flexibility with changing music/timings etc) . If you've got a videographer, ask if they can record whoever is performing the music and if you have a celebrant make sure they have a loud enough speaker with a wireless mic (wired mics tend to not be as pretty in your photos!). Also remember many ceremony locations won't have access to power! A specific runsheet is very useful during the ceremony and having a friend/event manager who can cue the musician for you is a big bonus.

Ensemble Suggestions: Strings, Soloists, Duos, Jazz Groups.

Reception: There are 2 main parts here; canapes/dinner music and the dance sets. If you've run out of requests with the band just ask them to play the additional ones over the PA during their set breaks - we suggest making a Spotify playlist leading up to the big day so you can add to it as you remember songs (this is also great for DJs).

A cheeky suggestion we have to get the dance floor cranking is to always do the first dance right before the band starts the party sets. Towards the end of your first dance the band can invite the audience onto the dance floor to start grooving with you. When it comes to requests during the party sets we believe it's best to pick from the band's standard repertoire. Any good covers band knows what music will keep the dancefloor going and what music can transcend generations. We do, however, recommend suggesting to the band a broader vibe you and your loved ones are into (such as 90s RnB, Aussie Rock etc) and some songs you don't like.

Ensemble Suggestions: If you want the crowd up and dancing you'll need a minimum of Vocals, Drums, Bass and Guitar. (Some vocalists can double on guitar).





CORPORATE.

NETWORKING | PARTIES



Corporate

Corporate events for the most part can be broken down into two main event types - Networking events and Parties.

Networking: These are your Conferences, Presentations,

Breakfasts/Lunches/Dinners etc. At these events you're trying to accommodate a collection of people who's main focus is talking about business. Musically, you're usually looking to create a vibe that allows clients, suppliers and coworkers to chat in a relaxed space. We'd recommend nothing too loud for the bulk of the event. Sometimes we do get requested for ensembles to play a special song for distinguished guest arrivals (such as "Vivaldi's Four Seasons - Spring").

Ensemble Suggestions: String Groups, Jazz Bands and Acoustic Singer Duos/Soloists.

Party: These are your christmas parties, end of FY christmas parties etc. It isn't super hard to choose in this case - if you want the crowd dancing book a band with a singer and a great repertoire. Any decent covers band will have a repertoire to suit a range of ages, however if you know your crew tend to sit in a certain age group/vibe then definitely let your musical agent know! (i.e. we love 90s RnB etc).

For some longer events it is worthwhile noting that sometimes they can move from being more serious networking spaces into parties. You can opt to book two ensembles for each part of the event, but if the budget is restricted then we would recommend organising a covers band (i.e. Vocals, Drums, Guitar, Bass) and ask them to play more sophisticated background music for the start then move into 'dance bangers' as the night progresses. Potentially even request for the singer to come for the last sets

Ensemble Suggestions: Party Band - (Vocals, Drums, Bass, Guitar at a minimum!)





ADVICE.

FAQS | SOME TIPS



FAQ's and Some Advice

1. Ask Questions! Agents are there to get amongst your event needs.
2. Volume is never an issue for an ensemble - Singers can turn down, drummers can play with brushes and brass players can play with mutes.
3. Think of the music you'd like and then think of the ensemble you'd like - if you want some Vivaldi get a string group!
4. When onsite we'd recommend liaising with the band regarding set times but don't feel the need to micromanage them. If you're booking musicians through a trusted agent, then you need to trust the musicians too. If musicians are having fun then that energy is going to be transferred to the crowd - guaranteed.
5. Ask for the song list from the bands that you like - it's a great way to remember some bangers that you may have forgotten.
6. Most bands can provide a PA system (a sound system) with ensemble hire at a discounted rate (and sometimes for free).
7. If you're looking for other suppliers to checkout for other services such as photos and whatnot feel free to ask musicians that you like for their list of preferred suppliers.
8. Many venues in the city have tight volume restrictions so we'd recommend asking about that. Some venues are required to use a decibel meter that will cut power to the sound system once the volume reaches a certain level.





BOOKING PROCESS.

WHERE | WHEN | HOW | HOW MUCH



The Booking Process

The process for suppliers will vary slightly from event to event, however broadly it should follow this 3-step process.

Step 1

Chat to your booking agent to answer any of your questions and generate solutions for any ideas you may have. Many agents (including us!) have the ability to meet with you for an in person consultation.

Step 2

This information is then sorted into a contract which has all the details required for the event including contact details, conditions, event expectations, and an invoice. There are usually multiple payment options including credit card and direct deposit. As bookings tend to be quite bespoke it is best to get a ballpark quote by contacting a supplier.

Step 3

A deposit is taken to lock in the event (20-50%). Payment of the balance is made leading up to the event. Editing of details for the event can be made up to 1-2 week prior depending on the request. We recommend collating all of the run sheet timings, song requests and other finer details you would like until about 3 weeks out and then notify the agent to lock them in for the band. The less changes the more on-the-ball the musicians can be.





CONTACT US.

Get in touch!

At the end of the day, we understand that the most important thing in making an event great is **communication**. Here at "*Daniel Francis Entertainment*" we believe in a personalised relationship with our clients to gain a deep understanding of the music required at an event - no matter the size.

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