

The Good Times Are Guaranteed By The Wedding Singer

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**The Good Times Are Guaranteed By The Wedding Singer**

**By Kirsten Hawkins**

There are three things that all wedding receptions must include to turn out as memorable and

successful events. The three "G's" of good food, good times, and good entertainment will make your wedding reception into an event enjoyed by all who attend. Generally taking care of the first and third of these concepts will guarantee the second. Good food is generally attained by hiring a competent caterer and not serving okra. Good entertainment brings with it a number of options and, unfortunately, none are ever ensured to be as good as they purport. One entertainment option for wedding receptions is the wedding singer. For far less than you'd pay a band and a bit more than you can expect to pay a DJ, you can get an entertainer that is a master of ceremonies, singer, and comedian all rolled into one.

Popularized by Adam Sandler's 1998 film *The Wedding Singer*, the person fulfilling this role at your reception will entertain you and your guests from start to finish. The wedding singer keeps the "show" aspect of the reception rolling along smoothly by providing music for dancing, and introducing various aspects of the reception such as the throwing of the bouquet/garter, and the unwrapping of wedding gifts. A good wedding singer will be the life of the party, keeping everyone in a good mood and having a good time by filling the lulls with witty comments and by singing his heart out. Some wedding singers will also have the guests sing, making parts of the reception a kind of karaoke party. Everyone loves karaoke. Even those who claim to despise it actually have a tiny Mel Torme, David Lee Roth, or Richard Cheese deep inside them just aching to get out. The wedding singer will bring this out in people.

Finding a wedding singer to hire for your reception is often as easy as looking through the telephone directory or searching the Internet. You'll find that there are all types of wedding singers available to perform at your reception. Wedding singers will generally have a variety of musical styles to offer in their repertoire. Some offer general services which include a number of popular songs that they can perform at your wedding. Others are more specialized and offer "tribute" performances to famous singers like Frank Sinatra, Dean Martin, Tony Bennett or even the likes of Barry Manilow or Burt Bacarach. Most will be more than happy to discuss your musical tastes with you and gear their performances accordingly. Whatever musical style suits your particular tastes, you're sure to be able to locate a wedding singer willing to perform it for you.

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Wedding singers can do it all for you and the good ones can make for a truly entertaining experience. When you're planning the entertainment for your wedding reception, consider hiring a wedding singer to help make sure your event fulfils the requirement of the three "G's" and is a memorable occasion for you and your guests.

Kirsten Hawkins is an event planner from Nashville, TN. Visit

<http://www.wedding411.net/>

for more

event planning tips, strategies, and resources.

### **Wedding Plans: How Do You Choose The Entertainment?**

**By Luca Salamone**

As with anything else, wedding entertainment is a minefield. There are thousands of Wedding DJ's, Bands, magicians and Singer's alike out there, waiting, eagerly to take your money for a service that could be either fantastic, or not so good. The key is this: **THOROUGH RESEARCH!**

With this particular product, you can't always see what you are buying until you have actually bought it. You can't easily see the full product range as there are so many types out there. And when you've finally found something you like, can you have it? And will it be reliable enough to show for the biggest day of your life?

Here are a few simple measures you must take when researching and booking your wedding entertainment:

**Use the Internet:** You will find some of the largest directories for entertainers this way. Browse various websites for Bands and Singers. Use various search methods and phrases such as "London Wedding Singer" or "Wedding entertainment in Liverpool", paying attention to sponsored ads that highlight your chosen phrases.

**Take your pick!** Once you've found something you like the look of you'll want to find as much information on this service as you can, even before the contact stage. For example if it's a band, do they have online demos? Images? Testimonials? You want to be at least semi-sure before you hand over an email address. Narrow it down to say, your favourite 5 bands, before you start any contact.

**Obtain a quote and Availability:** Money is always an option for most of us! I wouldn't want to spend half of my wedding budget on a band or singer, no matter how good they are, so I'd be on the look out for realistic pricing. You don't want to book someone who is overly expensive, but you also don't want to pay £200 for a singer who will tell you "yeah, I'll sing for you and I'm also a DJ!" When you first contact the entertainer(s), you would first enquire about availability for the date in question, then a price. Also how long will your entertainer perform for? Performance times can vary, though most singers and

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bands perform for 1 or 2 x 45 minute sets, depending on their pricing structure.

More information: If you can, get more information about their service. Can you visit them live? Do they have more demos? A repertoire? It is always good to meet up and discuss things in person, this way you'll get a feel for who they are and what they do.

Book and Secure This of course is the most crucial part. Most Bands/ Singers will take a deposit/ booking fee (anything up to 50% is normal), so you must be completely sure of your choice at this stage. It is always wise to obtain an invoice, receipt and most importantly a contract of agreement.

This way you can be 99% sure that they WILL be turning up on the day and if they don't, you have the necessary means to be compensated in full.

By this stage you are well on your way to having an unforgettable evening. You can then use the remaining time before your wedding day to liaise with the DJ/ singer(s)/ Band etc. giving them your first dance, requests, schedule and any other information they may require.

Organising wedding entertainment can be very stressful, even on the day, but if you make the right choices early and are prepared to research and book in advance, you will save yourself and your partner at least one set of Wedding worries.

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Biography: Author: Luca Salamone Website:

<http://www.vocalshow.co.uk>

Biography: Luca is a

professional trained vocalist performing for a variety of events including wedding receptions and corporate events. Manchester Wedding Singer.



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