



MY BIG DAY GUIDE TO: TIPPING VENDORS AT WEDDINGS AND EVENTS

FROM MBD MARKETING & EVENTS

Tips are never expected, but always appreciated. Tips are meant solely as an expression of appreciation for especially good service. Unless the service provided was less than satisfactory, it is customary to show your gratitude by tipping many of the people involved in making your event a success.

Check Your Contracts & Agreements: Many gratuities are built into quotes for major items, such as, catering. This will appear as a 'Service Fee,' a 'Service Charge,' or any amount that is approximately 15-20% of the total contract. Read your contract carefully to avoid unnecessarily double tipping.

Reward Extraordinary Service: Beyond the customary tips, when someone goes out of their way for you the DJ digs up that old recording that will make your Grammy misty eyed... the florist finds you that rare flower not in season... the event planner goes above and beyond adding little touches not contracted, etc... consider thanking them with a gift certificate, a bottle of wine, or another thoughtful token.

SIMPLE TIP CHART

- Bartenders: 10% of the total liquor bill (to be split among them). If they have a tip jar out, no need to tip!
- Band or DJ: \$20 --\$25 per musician; \$50 --\$150 for DJs
- Photographer/videographer: If you're paying a flat fee with no overtime, \$100
- Catering manager: manager: \$200+ or a personal gift
- Makeup artist: 15% to 20%
- Event/Wedding planner: 15% to 20% of planning fee
- Hairstylist: 15% to 20%
- Waiters: \$20 and up each (distributed by the catering manager, event planner, or maitre d')
- Musicians: 15% of fee for ceremony musicians; \$22 to \$25 per musician for event reception
- Delivery Staff: Cake, Flowers, Rentals, etc. \$5 to \$10 per person
- Bathroom attendants: \$1 to \$2 per guest
- Coat check attendants: \$1 to \$2 per guest
- Limo or bus drivers: 15%
- Parking attendants: \$1 to \$2 per car, 15% for valet parking
- Officiant: If a friend or family member is officiating as a favor, a flat fee of \$200 is customary



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