

# The “10” Most Important Questions To Ask Before Hiring Musical Entertainment

## **Question #1 - Am I guaranteed the entertainer I choose for my event?**

After choosing your entertainer and reserving them with a contract & deposit, the guarantee from the company is... “This entertainer of choice will NOT be reserved with any other client except you!”

## **Question #2 – How long has your company been established?**

It is very easy for an entertainer to show they have their own “Entertainment Company”. You can be attracted to an Entertainment Company that only been in the industry for a couple years. I have found that having 5 years or more is sufficient, and is also shows the longevity of them wanting to entertain.

## **Question #3 – Can I see the Entertainer Perform?**

Pending on availability, some entertainment companies may or may not allow you to come to view a live event. However, they should be able to provide you with current video footage from recent events, and/or have you come see them perform at a live showcase.

## **Question #4 – How many events do you perform each year?**

Most entertainers that are experts in their industry should perform at least 70 to 100 events per year. Just like an athlete, even part-time performers must to stay warmed up and up-to-date with all the latest in music, dances, and equipment that will give your celebration the cutting edge.

## **Question #5 – Are you insured?**

You need to be protected against negligence from any vendor or venue. Entertainers should have at least a 1 Million Dollar policy to protect you against liability. Your venue should obtain a copy of the entertainer’s valid certificate of insurance no later than 1 month before your event.

## **Question #6 – What happens if the Entertainer needs to be replaced?**

Providing you with Emergency Talent should never be a challenge if the company you hire has a well-established & excellently trained cast. Do your homework...be aware of other Entertainers out on the circuit if you feel dissatisfied with the replacement and wish to cancel one Entertainment Company and go with another.

## **Question #7 – Do you have office support?**

Your future entertainer should offer weekly support so you have assistance in answering all your questions and offer personal consultations at the office or on-location. An Entertainment company should have someone to answer all in-coming phone calls and also be able to return emails immediately with in 24 hours.

## **Questions #8 – Do you use quality equipment & what do you bring to the event?**

Technology of today allows for the very best in digital sound, and is made smaller for the convenience of it being mobile. However, technology of today is not perfect. Your entertainer should have back-up systems for all equipment.

## **Question #9 – What services do you offer besides Entertainment?**

Advanced Production companies have departments that can not only play the music at an event, but offer you a wide variety of additional services that you may require. Be careful, it is only reasonable they provide you with either pictures/video of their company using such services or reliable testimonials from clients who have hired these other services through you.

## **Question #10 – What are the terms of deposit & is the deposit refundable?**

Rule of thumb for most Entertainment Companies is...”The Deposit is Non-Refundable”. A well established contract from an entertainer should have “Additional Legal Terms” that are listed in addition to the event information. This should contain information regarding deposit & payment, insurance, electric, rescheduling, and most importantly tragedy to protect you and/or your immediate family if something needs to be cancelled for reasons that are beyond your control.