



## How do I choose my Ceremony music?

When to have music – How many songs to choose – Tips & ideas - Song suggestions

Hello!

Firstly, **congratulations!** It is such an exciting time! Planning a wedding is a lot of fun but can also be *quite overwhelming*, especially these days with so many wonderful ideas out there! I wanted to create this *little guide*, to help make *choosing your music* a little easier for you. Below you'll find **guidance**, some **top tips** that I've learnt from **real weddings**, **entrance song suggestions** and some **optional ideas** you may want to include in your Ceremony.

One of my favourite things about my job is working with our couples so if you have any questions or would just like a chat, feel free to reach out. I hope this helps even just a little bit!

Right, let's get to it!

Choosing your music can feel a bit overwhelming! Where do you start and how do you decide. Music has a wonderful way of stirring up feelings in us and taking us back to memories instantly... so start here.

What kind of atmosphere do you want to surround yourself with in these moments.

✓ First, let's look at how many songs you need and for what moments you need these songs for.

- ✓ Arrival of guests  
5-6 songs for 15 minutes
- ✓ (Optional) Bridal party – 1 song
- ✓ Your entrance – 1 song
- ✓ Signing of the register – 2 songs  
(1 extra if needed)
- ✓ Exit of the married couple – 1 song
- ✓ Exit of guests – 1 song

- ✓ **The arrival of guests** – this is typically 15-30 minutes before your Ceremony begins, as your guests are arriving at your venue and mingling with each other. 5-6 songs cover around 15 minutes and 10-12 songs would cover 30 minutes. Think about the scene you want to set for your Ceremony.

*Tip – If you wanted to give your partner a special moment...this is a lovely time to let them choose the music. You'll be busy getting ready with your Bridesmaids and this isn't a time that you will really hear the music, so allowing your partner to choose their favourite songs is a nice touch. They can choose songs that make them feel how they want to in this moment or choose songs that remind them of you in advance of your arrival.*

- ✓ **Bridesmaids song** – This is optional but a lovely touch. By choosing a separate song for your entrance, it creates a natural pause and short silence, allowing you to be 'in' the moment and take a breath before you take your first steps towards your partner.
- ✓ **Your Entrance song** – The big moment! The first thing I recommend to my Brides is to ask yourself this one thing - **How do I want to feel in this moment?** Do you want to feel relaxed & calm, happy & uplifted, romantic, traditional. And **what kind of atmosphere do you want to surround yourself with** in this moment. When you can pinpoint how you want to feel, it narrows down the style of music to choose.

*Tip – Remember that when these songs are played instrumentally, they can sound very different to how you are used to hearing them. Your musicians will be able to adapt the songs to suit the moment, make them more classical sounding, so don't be worried if you like a song but think it might not 'fit'. Reach out to your musicians and ask for their opinion and ask for soundclips from them.*

*Tip 2 – Because it is such an important moment, you get 2 top tips! Remember too that when working with live musicians, it makes your music very adaptable. If there is a specific moment in a song that you want to walk down to, tell them and ask them to start from that moment. If you want a song played slower, no problem, everything can be tailored to suit how you imagine it.*

- ✓ **Signing of the Register** – This is the moment just after you are announced as a married couple and have your first kiss. We usually only have time to play 2 songs but choose a 3<sup>rd</sup> just in case the moment takes a little longer.

*Tip – If you want an extra special, extra romantic moment, why not start the music as you are invited to have your first kiss? Then as your guests claps fade away, you are left with beautiful music accompanying you as you are ushered to the Signing table. It beautifully ‘marries’ these two moments together and creates a soft atmosphere as you finish up your first kiss as a married couple...and gives you a chance to have a cheeky 2<sup>nd</sup> one if you feel it!*

*An idea for you* - Ask yourself whether you want to include family members or special friends in your music. Do your parents have a special song that they share, that might make a good choice for the signing of the register? Consider asking what their favourites are too, that way you can make them feel included in a special way.

- ✓ **Exit of the married couple** – For this moment, 1 song is needed as you exit your Ceremony room.

*Tip – Some couples include their confetti shot in this moment so bear this in mind if you want your song to start from a specific moment or want a longer song here.*

- ✓ **Exit of Guests** – It is always a good idea to include an extra song here as it takes a little time for your guests to filter out to the reception and it's nice to have the music continue for them and tie these two moments of your day together. It also bookends your Ceremony beautifully with music.

### **How do I choose though?**

Think about the style of songs and music that you and your partner enjoy – Classical, Indie, Modern, Romantic or what songs were out at the time you got together. Is there a favourite film that you love the soundtrack to? Or a TV series that you have watched over the years? A key thing to remember, is that when these songs are played instrumentally, they can sound very different to how you are used to hearing them. So if you have a song in mind but are worried it might not fit the moment..don't worry! We can adapt it to make it sound more classical for you and play it in a way that fits the atmosphere you want to create for yourself.



### Arrival of guests song suggestions

How Deep is Your Love – The Bee Gees  
Bittersweet Symphony – The Verve  
Make you Feel my Love - Adele  
Thinking Out Loud – Ed Sheeran  
One Day Like This - Elbow  
How Long Will I Love You – Ellie Goulding  
Watermelon Sugar – Harry Styles  
Lover – Taylor Swift  
Love Story = Taylor Swift  
Enchanted – Taylor Swift  
Birds of a Feather – Ariana Grande  
Your Song – Ellie Goulding [LISTEN](#)  
Stay With Me – Sam Smith [LISTEN](#)

### Bridesmaid song suggestions

Enchanted – Taylor Swift  
You are the Reason – Callum Scott [LISTEN](#)  
Perfect – Ed Sheeran [LISTEN](#)  
POV – Ariana Grande [LISTEN](#)  
Lover – Taylor Swift  
Wildest Dreams – Taylor Swift  
Birds of a Feather – Ariana Grande  
A Million Dreams – The Greatest Showman

### Entrance song suggestions

Pachelbel's Canon [LISTEN](#)  
Turning Page – Sleeping at Last [LISTEN](#)  
Eternal Flame – The Bangles  
You are the Reason – Callum Scott [LISTEN](#)  
Formula 1 Theme [LISTEN](#)  
Can't Help Falling in Love – Elvis Presley [LISTEN](#)  
Halo - Beyonce [LISTEN](#)  
1 Giorni - Einaudi  
A Million Dreams – The Greatest Showman [LISTEN](#)  
All of Me – John Legend [LISTEN](#)  
A Thousand Years – Christina Perri [LISTEN](#)  
Love me Like You Do – Ellie Goulding [LISTEN](#)  
Maestro from The Holiday [LISTEN](#)  
Slowed down version of Sweet Child O Mine  
Classical version of the Friends theme  
Jurassic Park theme [LISTEN](#)  
Concerning Hobbits [LISTEN](#)  
Truly Madly Deeply – Savage Garden  
You're still the one – Shania Twain  
There she goes – The La's

### Signing of the Register

One Day Like This - Elbow

All of Me – John Legend [LISTEN](#)

Up from Married Life Somewhere Over the

Rainbow – Kamakawiwo'ole

How Long will I Love You – Ellie Goulding [LISTEN](#)

Stand By Me – Ben E King [LISTEN](#)

Kiss from a Rose - Seal

With or Without You – U2 [LISTEN](#)

Hoppipolla – Sigur Ros

The Book of Love – Peter Gabriel

Titanium – David Guetta

### Exit of the married couple

Here Comes the Sun – The Beatles

Sky full of Stars - Coldplay [LISTEN](#)

Mr Blue Sky - ELO

Can't take my eyes off you – Frankie Valli

Marry You – Bruno Mars

Viva la Vida – Coldplay [LISTEN](#)

Give me Everything – Pitbull

You are the Sunshine of my Live – Stevie Wonder

All You Need is Love – The Beatles

Bittersweet Symphony – The Verve

Pink Pony Club - Chappell Roam

### Exit of guests

To Build a Home – The Cinematic Orchestra

Rather Be – Clean Bandit

Material Girl - Madonna

Secrets – One Republic

Pink Pony Club – Chappell Roam

Ordinary – Alex Warren

I Gotta Feeling – Black Eyed Peas [LISTEN](#)

Marry You – Bruno Mars

Sweet Child O Mine – Guns N Roses

Paradise - Coldplay [LISTEN](#)

You Belong With Me – Taylor Swift

Give me Everything – Pitbull

Clocks - Coldplay

Marry You – Bruno Mars

Blinding Lights – The Weeknd