



JAX PHOTOGRAPHY'S "WAIT...HOW DO WE?"

WEDDING PLANNING GUIDE...part two



Congratulations!

THE JAX PHOTOGRAPHY EXPERIENCE

Jax Photography started when two talented shooters came together in the early 2000s to reinvent the wedding photography experience, among other things. We offer some of the finest Italian wedding albums available, a pretty chill seaside showroom, transparent pricing, free design services, and the best hybrid type of wedding photography possible, what some have called the perfect balance of styled classic portraiture and observational photojournalism. We're glad you're here. We're on a mission to make your wedding the best it can possibly be.

THE JAX PHOTOGRAPHY PROMISE

Jax Photography provides peace of mind during one of life's most meaningful moments: YOUR wedding. We are visual artists, fashion lovers, inventive dreamers, and can-doers who love what we do.

Our combined experience can help bring ANY wedding vision to life, from a quick elopement to a traditional church wedding, to a backyard BBQ, to a 300 guest, super fancy big city hotel extravaganza.



SOME of what we'll cover here in PART TWO...

- How do we pick a wedding planner?
- How do we pick our entertainment?
- How do we tip everyone?



How do we pick a **W E D D I N G P L A N N E R ?**



Book a planner early to ensure they have the date available and (depending on service level) so they can help with big wedding planning tasks like finding a venue. A wedding planner or month-of coordinator can be a huge help for planning a wedding, especially if you're on a short timeline. Wedding planners specialize in helping your vision come to life, and they know all the right people to help you do it. Although it is an added cost, they're particularly good at finding great deals, as well as negotiating better fees with some more established vendors. This can ultimately help recover the price of hire. Coordinators also take a lot off your plate leading up to and on the big day. It's a big relief to know a professional is there to support you!

Depending on your specific need, a wedding planner, coordinator or designer can really provide some much-needed guidance. What's the difference? We'll break it down for you:

WEDDING PLANNER

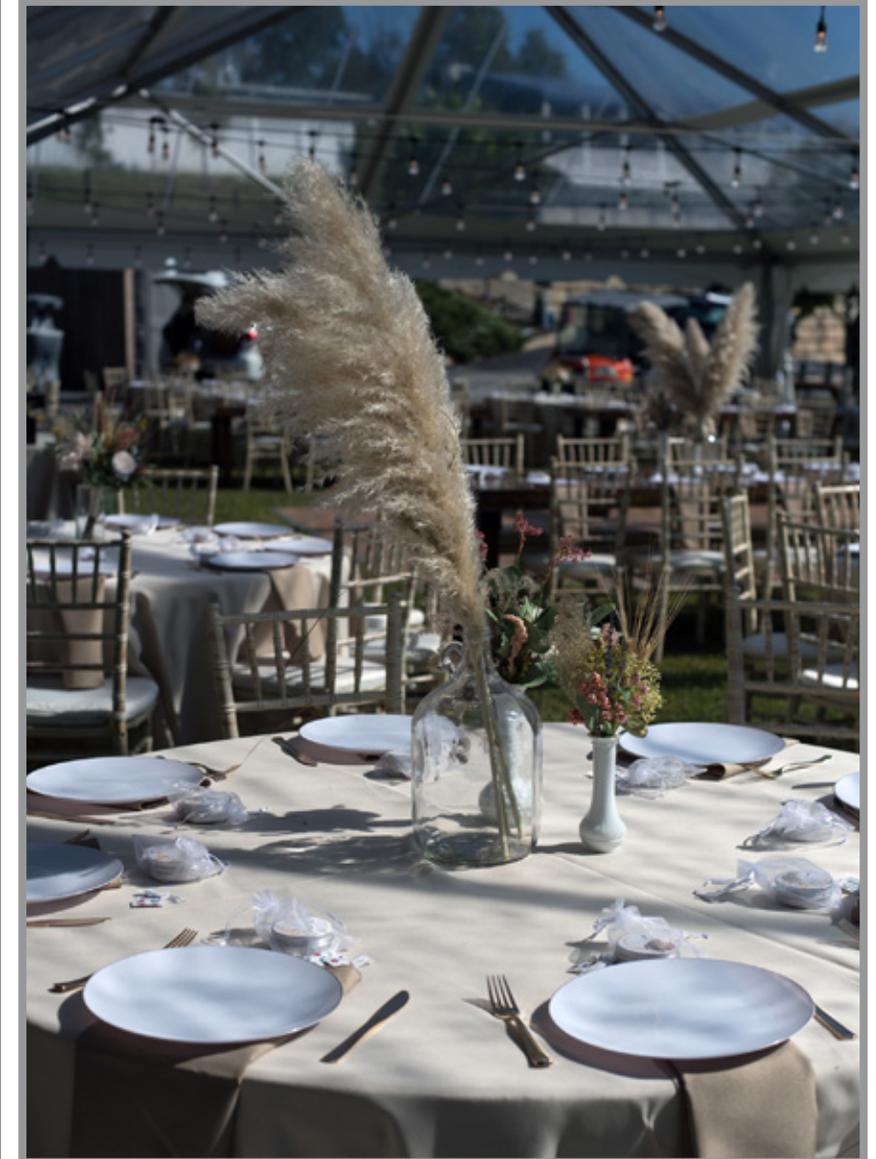
From the point of hire until the big day, your wedding planner will handle the logistics. They'll recommend vendors, schedule and attend all vendor meetings, negotiate contracts, keep you on budget, etc. A wedding planner is great for couples who don't have any extra time to plan.

WEDDING COORDINATOR

Coordinators can be hired to help you a few months prior to the wedding all the way up to the day of. Coordinators will help you identify and stick to a day-of timeline, tying up any loose ends as you'll be super busy celebrating, of course! Coordinators are helpful for any couple wanting some support.

WEDDING DESIGNER

Designers will facilitate all visuals to create a cohesive look from beginning to end. From floral design to lighting, stationery and table settings, they'll put it all together! Hire a designer if you have extra budget and want a picturesque setting.



How do we pick

ENTERTAINMENT ?



HIRING A WEDDING BAND

Live music is fun, energetic and emotional.

It's a great option for anyone that has a personal connection to a band or loves a certain style of music. A band is also fun to watch, which makes it a nice (and more inclusive) experience for anyone who doesn't want to dance. Good bands know how to improvise to keep the energy of the room high. Your music will always be one-of-a-kind with a band! That said, a band is often significantly more costly than a DJ (you're hiring a group of people vs. one). The sound level is harder to control, and they're limited in the songs and genres they can play. Bands also need more space to perform — not all venues can accommodate. Before you book a band, you'll want to know how long the band has been together and the number of weddings they've done (plus how many events they do in a weekend). Who will emcee the night? Which band mates will be there day of? Will they play music during breaks? Find out if they've played at your venue before and whether or not they charge for additional equipment. You'll also want their song list and to find out if you have the power to add or take any out.

HIRING A WEDDING DJ

Wedding DJs are usually the most flexible and cost-effective option. A DJ can play requests on the spot in addition to all the music you want to listen to from a pre-approved list. They don't need as much space to do their thing, and many DJs are often well-versed in being the Master of Ceremonies. DJs are great for those that want to hear specific songs from various genres. Here are the cons: A bad DJ (think cheesy, awkward transitions, the wrong songs) can bring down the mood, especially if they aren't getting YOU, meaning your personal style and preferences. It can also be less fun for guests who'd rather sit on the sidelines. Some questions to ask before you book...How long have they been DJ'ing professionally? Do they DJ any other public events you could attend? Have they done events at your venue? If they don't have reviews online, you'll want to ask for references from other recent couples to see what the experience was like for them.

SOMETHING... ELSE?

Not everyone wants music and dance floor, and that's ok too! There are tons of other options, from yard games to trivia night to a live painter that you can hire to entertain your guests. Plan early for non-traditional entertainment so you can be sure to find an accommodating venue and budget for it.



How do we

TIP EVERYONE ?

Who to tip and how much is a major point of confusion for many couples.

Here's some TIPS on tipping...(yeah I said it...)

READ AND RE-READ CONTRACTS

Before you head to an ATM, make sure that tipping isn't already included in your contracts. Vendors like caterers sometimes include tip in the invoice.

PAY RESPONSIBLY

Designate someone trustworthy to hand out tips for vendors. Put each cash (small bills preferred) tip in a labeled envelope so they know the difference.

You can choose to tip at the beginning or end depending on preference.

EXPECTED TIPS BY VENDOR (IF NOT IN CONTRACT)

Catering: 15-20% of the food bill, plus \$20-50 per server

Bartender: 10-15% of total bar tab

Music: Tip a DJ 10-15% and a band

\$25-50 per band member. The same policy applies to ceremony musicians.

Hair/Makeup: 15-20% (whatever you usually tip for a salon appointment.)

Photographer/Videographer: If they own their own company, no need to tip.

If not, tip \$100-200 for the lead shooters and \$50-100 for associates.

Parking and coat room attendants:

\$1-2 per guest. (Your guests should not pay for this.)

Delivery people: \$5-20 (for florals, cakes, centerpieces, etc.)

Officiant: Typically \$100-300 given to the officiant's house of worship. If a civil officiant, tip \$50-100.

OPTIONAL TIPS

Generally for if a vendor goes above and beyond: e.g., making a vegan, gluten-free wedding cake. Most will not expect a tip, but it's a nice gesture if you appreciate their services.

Bakery: 10-15%

Wedding Planner: 10-15%

Transportation: 15%

Florist: 10-15%

Set-up staff: \$20-50 per person

Alterations: \$20-40. No tip expected if they are the owner.

Bear in mind that tipping amounts are up to your discretion and what you are comfortable with. If you know your vendor well, a personal gift might be more appropriate.

