



Why A Wedding DJ Cost That Much

If you've never planned a wedding before, it can be difficult to understand why a specific type of wedding pro costs what they do. For example, the average cost of Wedding DJ services in the United States is \$1,099, but what are the factors that go into that price? Well, turns out it's more than meets the eye. We went straight to the figures and talked to other wedding DJs themselves—to get a breakdown of the many factors that actually go into their pricing to help you avoid sticker shock.

Staffing and Labor

When it comes to hiring a DJ, it's really all about finding a person who has a great personality and who you genuinely like and trust. You as a bride expect a lot from your DJ, from the initial consultations to all of the communication with you (answering every email in a timely fashion, for example) and prep work in advance of your wedding and on the day of. It's important that your DJ is compensated for this so that the person you interview, think is awesome, and hire months before your wedding is the same person who will be there on your big day. The chunk of a DJ pricing may also cover other things to make sure the business runs smoothly and there are no hiccups in your communication, scheduling, or billing.

Time

This one should be obvious—you're paying for your DJ's time. You'll probably meet with your DJ at least once in advance of your wedding, and he will likely create a script and playlist specifically for your wedding in advance—that takes several hours of time, too. And on your wedding day, your DJ has to travel, set up, perform at your wedding, and break down. So even if you're technically paying for your DJ to perform for four hours during your reception, there are many hours of work beyond that that you may not even see which can sometimes be a full 8 hour workday.

Gear Purchase and Upkeep

You probably want your DJ to have the most up-to-date, modern equipment to best serve your wedding—to make sure that everyone can hear the music, and that you aren't left with "dead air" due to failing technology. It definitely costs money (read: thousands of dollars) to not only purchase the most state-of-the-art equipment, but also to make sure that everything, from computers to sound equipment and more, is working properly and to fix anything that isn't. If lighting is part of your DJ's package, this can be an added expense. Think before you act. You cannot redo your wedding day. It only happens once and you want to leave your guests and yourself with memories of a lifetime.