

# GRATUITY GUIDE

This is the number one thing we used to be asked about... two days before the wedding. So we started sending this at the start of planning for consideration in the budget.



## Coaching Moment:

When deciding who should receive a gratuity at your wedding, follow the standards of everyday life! If you would tip them at a salon or restaurant, you'll tip them at a wedding. Otherwise, tipping is optional. But when clients elect to provide gratuity, here is what we typically see!

### Some Notes On Tipping:

- Please feel free to tip as you see fit. It's not always the dollar amount that matters, it is often just the thought that makes your vendors feel appreciated. These are really just our suggestions, solely based on what we normally see vendors getting tipped in our Area.
- Cash is usually the preferred method of tipping. We ask you to please place each vendor's tip in a separate and sealed envelope.
- Don't forget to write a review or a handwritten thank you note. Your words of affirmation mean the world to your vendors and reviews allow for business growth, assuring future clients with the same peace of mind you had when booking your vendors.

| Vendor Category         | Amount                                             | Optional/Standard | Notes                                                                                                    |
|-------------------------|----------------------------------------------------|-------------------|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| Bartending Staff        | \$50 - \$100 per person, unless there is a tip jar | Standard          | If there is a tip jar, there is not usually an additional tip given unless they did an exceptional job.  |
| Catering Service Staff  | 18-20% of food cost*                               | Standard          | Tips go directly to your day-of staff and help supplement their income.<br>*Not including service costs. |
| Hair and Makeup Artists | 18-20% of service cost                             | Standard          | This is often included, double check your contract.                                                      |

|                           |                                         |          |                                                                                                                                            |
|---------------------------|-----------------------------------------|----------|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| Planner                   | \$200-\$1000 or 10% of planning package | Optional | The amount tipped is contingent on the level of service you have booked.                                                                   |
| Floral                    | \$100-\$300                             | Optional | The amount you tip is contingent on the level of installation your florist is performing.                                                  |
| Photo & Video             | \$100-\$500                             | Optional | If you have multiple photographers, it is common that the main photographer will receive more than the second photographer.                |
| Ceremony Musicians        | \$25 per musician                       | Optional | If tipping in this category, smaller bills make it easier for distribution amongst the musicians.                                          |
| DJ                        | \$100-\$300                             | Optional | We typically see the higher end of the spectrum if your DJ is providing additional services (i.e. GOBO, Uplights, Etc.)                    |
| Band                      | \$25-\$50 per member                    | Optional | Keep in mind there is not only the band, but crew members involved in set-up/breakdown (i.e. Sound Engineer, Etc.)                         |
| Transportation            | \$50-\$100 per driver                   | Optional | If you have multiple shuttles, consider multiple envelopes so these can be handed directly to the driver.                                  |
| Bakery                    | \$20-\$50                               | Optional | This goes to the person who delivers your cake to your venue.                                                                              |
| Rental Delivery Personnel | \$20-\$50                               | Optional | This goes to the person who delivers your rentals to your venue. Consider that you could have multiple rental companies.                   |
| Security                  | \$20-\$50                               | Optional | If you have multiple security guards, please separate their tips into individual envelopes.                                                |
| Venue Personnel           | \$50-\$100                              | Optional | If you have worked closely with someone at your venue or would like to tip the manager for their assistance throughout the entire process. |
| Lighting                  | \$20-\$50                               | Optional | This goes to the person who delivers and installs your lighting                                                                            |