

TIPS TO MAKE YOUR PARTY WORK

VENUE

Don't pick a venue which is too large for the amount of people you are inviting, your guest will look and feel lost in the space. Always invite more people than you need as many may not turn up.

If possible pick a venue that has easy access and parking ideally with no stairs a stage and adequate dance floor. There needs to be a ceiling height of at least 3 metres for safe use of lasers and operation of lights on gantry. We use a professional haze machine to help enhance lighting effects, a haze machine is less likely to set off any fire alarms as it emits a fine mist as opposed to a heavy smoky fog that you get from a regular fog/smoke machine, but check with the venue that they are happy for us to use it. If you have not booked your venue yet we may be able to advise you of a suitable one in your area from the many venues we have already worked at.

Many venues have a separate bar where you find that the guests will tend to congregate, if your venue has a separate bar area make sure there are no seats or tables in that area so that people have to sit in the main function area.

When seating guest's it is always advisable to seat older guests at the back of the room where it is less noisy.

BUFFET AND SPEECHES

Try and have the buffet at the early part of the evening as to not interrupt the dancing. It's a good idea to do any speeches at the end of the buffet or at the very end before the last dance but make sure your DJ knows when and what is happening (with TRAX you can do this online using our event planner).

Try to keep the number of interruptions (ie special announcements etc) to a minimum. Interruptions break the momentum of the dance, and often the DJ must re-establish this momentum. A few breaks are expected, but long breaks or many short breaks can cause the crowd to lose interest in dancing.

MUSIC AND THE DJ

TRAX Disco Roadshow uses professional equipment that is even better than you find in some nightclubs and we are always looking for ways to improve your experience we are also fully PAT tested and have Public Liability Insurance to the value of £10 Million We are also very experienced having worked Club Residencies/ Live Shows with Bands and of course private Mobile DJ Work.

You owe it to yourself to book a professional DJ if you want a great party, so if you don't book us book a decent DJ check the website, the testimonials and gallery. All DJ's are not the same there are some real cowboys and amateurs out there.

First and foremost always keep the DJ informed of your plans for the evening without any last minute surprises. It takes time to find and cue up songs, I have lost count how many times people have lit the candles on the cake without informing me and then expect me to cut the music when I have a full dance floor of people and play happy birthday.

When making requests on our event planning facility please consider the age and type of guests attending your event don't be selfish and just request songs you want to hear, avoid album tracks and tracks that are not well known. A good DJ will always play to the crowd and try and keep the dance floor full which is why it is best to leave it to him as to when or if certain tracks and types of music are played so it falls in with the mood of the crowd.

Apart from requests made on our website we will also take requests on the night which is why we limit the amount of requests online. Please consider the following:-

Most dances last about four or five hours. A DJ can only play about 15 songs per hour, approximately 60 songs per night. We will likely receive more than 60 requests. The DJ has to decide which and when to play. It is not his job to play each and every request. **Why?**

- i) Quite frankly, some requests (even good listening songs) would clear the dance floor;
- ii) The request is from a category you've asked us not to play, or play only a little. Given the other requests received and music already played, we can't fit it in.
- iii) The person making the request asked for several songs. So to spread things around we chose only one or two of theirs;
- iv) The DJ will probably overlook a few good requests. It happens. It will not make or break your dance.

If you receive a complaint from one of your guests, please consider:

- i) was the song appropriate given your guidelines;

- ii) was the song likely to be danced to;
- iii) perhaps the DJ is still planning on playing that song later;
- iv) would that song make or break the evening (don't forget the big picture – having a successful party.)

Music flow and programming is very important to make your party a success, remember that a good DJ will play to your crowd and try and keep the dance floor full and cater for all music tastes, if he is given too many demands of playing lots of different genres and requests which may be great to listen to but clear the dance floor it can have a negative effect on the mood and success of your party and even if he played every single request and the party was a flop he it would be him that would be blamed. You can put your trust in a good DJ and let him do his job.

FINALLY

If you have a great time don't just tell us on the night, go to our website and complete a review. To do this go to www.traxdiscoroadshow.co.uk click on testimonials and then click on evaluation form and complete it online, As always we are happy to speak to you in person for help and advice.

Nick Davies

DJ & Proprietor TRAX Disco Roadshow