

Ciao Bella Wedding Planning

Tiping Etiquette for Tipping your Wedding Vendors

Vendor Tips :

Wedding Staff you hire are the ones who will be at your beck and call. They will be the one juggling your day and paying attention to every last detail. They will be setting up, staging, decorating, breaking down, cleaning up, and will be the ones who will be there at your every need. Ciao Bella is known for delivering exceptional five star service and our staff greatly appreciate gratuities.

Protocol: Appreciated
The Standard: \$50 - \$100 each

Tipping Your Wedding Planner

About 80 percent of couples do tip their planners, only if they feel like what they have done for them. Especially if they went above and beyond for them. (Negotiations on your behalf to save you money, was hands on, from start to finish and saved you time. Handled all meetings with vendors. If they did all the coordination between you and your venue, handled all aspects of project management and more.)

Protocol: Appreciated
The Standard: 10-25 percent of your service charge

Tipping your Wedding Hairstylist and Makeup Artist

This is one area where gratuity is definitely expected.

Tip between 15 to 25 percent just as you would in a hair salon, and consider giving a little extra if there's a crisis, like one of your girl (bridesmaids) has a meltdown over her curls or make up blah blah blah... and it requires a redo at the last minute. // double tip that gal'

Protocol: Expected
The Standard: \$25-50 depending upon the quality of service
When to Tip: Tip your beauty stylists at the end of your service.

Tipping your Cake Delivery Service Protocol: Expected

The Standard: \$10-20 per person

When to Tip: Drop off of cake

Envelopes given the morning of to your Wedding planner or Day or coordinator, unless money is give prior to our Wedding day. You must assign a trustworthy person so that they don't forget to distribute tips accordingly.

Tipping your Wedding Ceremony Officiant

If your Officiant is affiliated with a church or synagogue, you're often expected to make a donation to that institution. If you're a member, you'll probably want to give a larger amount than if you're not. However, if you're getting married there and they're charging you to use the space, feel free to give a smaller amount. Tipping the officiant, both nondenominational and denominational, is also appreciated.

Protocol: Expected (depending on officiant)

The Standard: Donate \$100-\$500 to the church or synagogue, and for the officiant, an optional tip of \$50-\$100

When to Tip: Most ceremony fees are required prior to the wedding. Otherwise, have a responsible attendant pass the cash envelope at the rehearsal dinner if the officiant **is in attendance**.

Wedding Photographer and Videographer

You're not expected to give your shutterbugs any money beyond their normal fees. But if the wedding photographer or videographer doesn't own the studio, consider tipping each person (or give a certain amount with a thank-you note to disperse to staff).

Protocol: Optional

The Standard: \$50-\$200 per photographer

When to Tip: Tip your photographer and videographer at the end of the reception.

Wedding Venue Staff

This is usually always included, but check your contract with your Venues make sure you're not double tipping these people who are staffed with the venue. Other staff you hire is different and outside of this. If there is no service charge or gratuities on these then yes it's started to tip them.

Protocol: Expected

The Standard: 15-20 percent of the food and Catering fee or \$50-100 per person

Wedding Florist

Your Wedding florist works endless hours, shopping for your favorite flowers, making sure they are hydrated, fresh and last all day long. They are getting you the best deals, and taking care of each arrangement, and handling them all with care.

Protocol: Optional, yet preferred

The Standard: 15–20 percent of the total fee or \$50-100 per person

Wedding Valet Attendants

When it comes to valet parking attendants check or ask your planner or the Venue Coordinator if they are the ones hosting your parking through their location about the rules of tipping that are dictated by your contract.

If the service fee is included, consider doling out extra only if the service was exceptional. If it's not included, ask ahead of time how many attendants will be working your wedding and calculate on a per person basis.

Protocol: Optional, based on contract

The Standard: \$25-50 per Valet attendant

If more than 100 guests = around 50 cars / Under 100 guests \$15-20 per parking attendant

Bartenders

When it comes to bartender's barnacle and bussers, the rules of tipping are dictated by your contract. If the service fee is included, consider doling out extra only if the service was exceptional. If it's not included, ask ahead of time how many people will be working your wedding and calculate on a per person basis.

Protocol: Optional, based on contract

The Standard: 10–20 percent of the liquor or food bill to be split among bartenders or waiters respectively, \$1 per guest for coatroom attendees if the venue has any

Wedding Reception Band or DJ

Whether you hire a 12-piece swing band or a single DJ, tipping musicians is completely optional, depending on the quality of the job and how willing they were to follow your ideal playlist. And don't forget about any sound technicians they bring with them.

Protocol: Optional, yet preferred

The Standard: \$25–\$35 per musician;

\$50–\$150 for DJs

When to Tip: An attendant should tip the musicians or DJ at the end of the reception.

Wedding Transportation

Again, check your contract, as gratuity is usually included. If it isn't, plan to tip provided they show up on time, provide a smooth ride and don't get lost.

Protocol: Expected

The Standard: 15–20 percent of the total bill

When to Tip: Tip transportation pros at the end of the night or after the last ride. If you used a separate company for the

****Rule of Thumb** It's best to give all envelopes sealed to your planner or Dream Day Designer / Day of Coordinator the morning of your Wedding day. When she arrives and greets you, hand her all the envelopes sealed in a bag, along with any Wedding items you will need to be taken over to the Venue. (ie. Cake topper, champagne flutes, etc., if not the days prior leading up. If you would like to personally hand out the envelopes make sure you don't lose them, (this is not recommended only because we have dealt with instances in the past where the Bride or Groom misplaced it or handed it to their MOH or BM and they were day drinking and they don't remember where they put it.) Be very careful and only hand it to your Wedding Planner or Day of Coord.

When to Tip: Although tips are traditionally passed out at the end of the event, you could distribute them at the beginning of the evening to encourage all the workers to give you great service.