



Wedding Ceremony

PRELUDE

Prelude is the music prior to the ceremony processions. It is generally 30 minutes of light classical and romantic music as guests are arriving and being seated. This choice of pieces during the prelude is often left to the discretion of the musician(s).



BRIDAL PARTY'S PROCESSIONAL

The wedding party's processional marks the official beginning of the wedding ceremony. It should have a slow but flowing feel for ushering the mothers and grandmothers, bridesmaids and other members of the wedding party down the aisle. For some weddings, the same music is used for the wedding party and the bridal procession. Popular wedding music and music with personal significance to the bride and groom are often used for the ceremony processions.

BRIDE'S PROCESSIONAL

Entrance processional of the wedding party and bride is generally very stately, elegant music at a walking tempo. The bridal processional is usually a separate music from the bridal party's processional. The bridal processional is the most personal and important music in the ceremony. There should be a brief 3-5 second pause between the bridal party procession and the bride's procession. Sometimes a wedding coordinator, assistant or guest gives a cue.



INTERLUDE *(Optional)*

The interlude can actually be many different moments in the wedding ceremony. For most wedding ceremonies, the interlude is the unity candle, memorial candle, or rose presentation. These are moments of quiet reflection, and the wedding music you choose should compliment this mood.



RECESSIONAL

Departure or the wedding party from the ceremony site is generally celebratory and jubilant music. Guest generally depart immediately or very soon after the wedding party to reception area or site. This is the last music for the ceremony. Please check out the wedding music pages of this site for examples of recessional music selections.

POSTLUDE

The postlude to your wedding sets a pleasant atmosphere as guests are leaving. It can last between 5 and 10 minutes, so it's best to treat the postlude like the prelude music and simply give the musicians an idea of what you want. Experienced wedding musicians will play postlude music that is refined but upbeat, adding the finishing touch to your wedding.



Popular Ceremony Music

Canon in D major by Johann Pachelbel
(Processional)
Builds intensity and emotion. Very popular

Recuerdos de la Alhambra by Francisco Tarrega
(Processional or Recessional)
Bright and Cheerful

Bridal Chorus by Richard Wagner
(Processional)
Traditional Wedding music

Sheep May Safely Gaze by Johann S. Bach
(Processional)
Calm and Flowing

Andante in A minor by Johann S. Bach
(Processional)
Reserved and classic sounding

Evocacion by Jose Merlin
(Processional)
Builds intensity and emotion, Very popular

Doxology by Anonymous
(Processional)
Bright and Cheerful

Prelude No. 1 of WTC By Johann S. Bach
(Processional)
Traditional and formal wedding march

Jesu, Joy of Man's Desire by Johann S. Bach
(Processional)
Slowly and reverently played

Ave Maria by Franz Schubert
(Processional or Interlude)
Traditional mothers music

Air on the G String by Johann S. Bach
(Processional)
Gradually builds emotion with long phrases

Allegro Con Spirito by Joaquin Rodrigo
(Processional or Recessional)
Joyous, spirited and vigorous

Trumpet Voluntary by Jeremiah Clarke
(Processional or Recessional)
Elegant piece Prince of Denmark's March

Prelude from BWV 1007 by Johann S. Bach
(Processional)
Slowly and reverently played

Cavatina by Stanley Myers
(Processional)
Traditional mothers music for lighting Unity Candle

Romanza by Traditional
(Processional)
A very untraditional music for weddings, but beautiful



RECESSIONAL

All you Need is Love by The Beatles
Bright and Cheerful

Ode to Joy by Ludwig Van Beethoven
Traditional Wedding music

Viva La Vida by Cold Play
Popular uplifting music

Bitter Sweet Symphony by The Verve
Popular Recessional Piece, Gradual Build

Hava Nagila by Jewish Traditional
Traditional Jewish Recessional

Allegro by Johann S. Bach
Energetic piece for Bridal party Recessional



Common Questions

Q: "Can the music for solo guitar be played as a duo and vice versa?"

A: "...All of the music for solo guitar can be performed as a duo or even trio, and most all of the duo music can be performed as a solo guitar."

Q: "Can I choose music for my wedding that isn't on this site?"

A: "...Yes. The music on the site is the most popular music that have been played at weddings however requests are both welcomed and encouraged."

Q: "What music should I chose for my wedding?"

A: "...The 3 pieces that most people chose are the wedding party processional, the bridal procession and the recessional music. Check the weddings tab under the music section of this site for samples."

Q: "When should I choose music for my wedding or event?"

A: "...With most weddings music is chosen before the programs are printed, this also depends when the event was booked."



Q: "Is there a deposit required?"

A: "...No. The payment is not due until the day of your event, however a 50% deposit is always welcome."

Q: "What do you require for setup?"

A: "...Access to power for amplification and electronics. A battery powered amplifier for outdoor events is often used. A chair(s) without arms will also be needed for each musician."

Q: "How much time do you usually need for setup?"

A: "...The average setup time is 45-60 minutes. Sound is often setup for the ceremony and cocktail hours to keep the instrument(s) perfectly balanced."

Q: "Do you need to rehearse your music for the wedding?"

A: "...No, It is very rarely necessary for the ceremony musician(s) to attend the wedding rehearsal and often impossible due to schedule."

Q: "What is your usual attire?"

A: "...Depending on the event, the client can choose from business casual, black suit, and formal tuxedo."