

Wedding Pricing Guide

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It's unfortunate but a wedding ceremony can be a huge investment. Look at some of the numbers below and see if you can relate? Church or venue rental, flowers, photography, videography, catering, bar, wedding coordinator, musicians, singers, it can be a little overwhelming.

Average Venue Cost - \$1,500 would be the low side and \$20,000 is not out of the question

Flowers - \$1,000 and up

Photography - \$750 and depending on what you desire for the end results it can go upwards of \$10,000.

Videography - \$1,500 and up

Catering/Bar - \$1,000 to \$20,000

Musicians, Band or DJ - \$1500 (there is no ceiling on this category)

However, have you ever considered that you can do without every item I have listed except one, the wedding officiant. The Wedding Officiant is the single most important element of the wedding ceremony and is probably the least expensive.

If possible, I like to meet the bride and groom for a free consultation to hear what their expectations are and see if we can devise a plan to fulfill their dream wedding. My schedule is flexible, so I'm easy to work with. However, if scheduling is a problem, I'm only an email or phone call away. The consultation will ensure that your wedding is perfect.

Unfortunately, there are a lot of "officiants" who have gone online to receive their "officiant credentials" in order to take advantage of the booming wedding business. With very little experience and no spiritual training, they pass themselves off as wedding professionals. Cost is a factor when hiring an officiant but as the saying goes "you get what you pay for". I've had last-second calls to step in and perform wedding ceremonies where the officiant who was hired, for one reason or another, was unable to keep their commitment or was nowhere to be found.

I have a flat rate of \$200.00 which includes the initial consultation and a custom ceremony that usually takes about ten hours to prepare. Why so long? Because I'm telling your story, so no two weddings are ever the same. There are other contingencies such as rehearsals or long commutes but those are discussed below under "Special Services". These fees are discussed up front to assure no unexpected expenditures.

Since I've been in ministry for more than 30 years and have performed a lot of weddings, I can usually spot any potential problems and head them off to assure a beautiful, seamless ceremony.

I am also a fixture in the Houston music scene and can help you with just about anything you can imagine as far as music. Singers, instrumentalists, string ensembles, bands or even DJ's. If you value knowledge and experience, I'd love the opportunity to work with you. How would you like a Grammy Winner to sing at your wedding? Depending on availability I can make this happen.

What does the wedding fee include? It includes the initial consultation and general information pertinent to creating a harmonious flow to your wedding. During the consultation you will receive answers to your questions and help in creating an order of service. You will also receive assistance in preparing for your wedding rehearsal with suggestions for the service guide below.

- The timing of the music
- Set up for musicians or DJ
- Where does the bride's mom sit?
- Where do the groom's parents sit?
- When does each member of the wedding party enter?
- Where does the bridal party stand?
- Where does the ring bearer stand?
- Where does the flower girl stand?
- Who is walking the bride down the aisle?
- Where does the bride and her escort(s) stop, to be "given away"?
- The giving away of the bride.
- The groom's instructions for the hand-off.
- Where does the bride and groom stand?
- How would special honor of blessings be incorporated?
- How are special readings incorporated?
- How will the vows be presented?
- Who will have the rings? (Ring bearer, Best Man, Maid of Honor)
- How does the ring ceremony work?
- Presentation of the couple
- Instructions for family and friends for reception and pictures.

Special Services and Fees

If after receiving the consultation and help in creating your wedding service guide you feel the need for me to attend a wedding rehearsal there is an additional fee of \$150.00. If the wedding or rehearsal requires a long commute, I will tell you up front if there is a travel fee.

What else can go wrong? This is a frequently asked question by brides on their wedding day. A recent bridal magazine listed the top five things that can go wrong at a wedding and guess what made that list? No mic or sound for the officiant. After many years of being frustrated by this occurring I invested in a state-of-the-art JBL Sound System that is small, powerful and non-obtrusive. I bring my own microphone and if requested another microphone and stand for additional speakers to offer their blessings, readings or scriptures. This fee is \$150.00 but is not mandatory. In most situations the venue provides sound and is included in your wedding package.