



Duo d'Amore Guide to Ceremony Music Selection

We have put together this short guide to answer some of the more common questions regarding ceremony music, and help you choose a beautiful grouping of music for your wedding. Don't forget to view or Sample Programs as well.

Do we have to choose the music?

No, you don't. Many couples ask us to choose the music during the ceremony. This is a fun surprise for the bride and groom, and is a popular option.

When is music performed during the ceremony?

Music is typically performed during the processional, signing and recessional. In Catholic wedding masses there is sometimes communion and an offertory, which are good spots for music to be performed.

How many songs do we choose for each of these parts of the ceremony?

One song is all you will need for the signing, recessional, communion and offertory, but you may want to have one or two songs for the processional. If you are having bridesmaids, you may want them to enter to a separate song. You will then have the luxury of walking down the aisle to your own music.

We know how many songs we want, how do we choose the music?

Think of the mood that you want to create: do you want your ceremony to be to be romantic, relaxed, excited, warm, stately, indulgent or exuberant? The list goes on and on...

What can you tell us about processional music?

The processional is the bride's time to shine. The processional music comes right after the bridesmaid's music, and it is recommended that a contrasting piece of music be chosen for the bride's grand entrance. Two interesting combinations are: Bach Air/Pachelbel's Canon in D and Handel Air from Water Music/Bach: Jesu Joy of Man's Desiring. Of course many brides also choose to keep the music the same for both processionals.

What type of music is best for the signing?

The signing is the point in the ceremony where the bride, groom, bridesmaids and groomsmen sign the marriage register. This is a quiet part of the ceremony, and quiet, slow and introspective music is the perfect choice. A great classical choice would be Ave Maria or Wachet Auf, or something modern such as A Thousand Years by Christina Perri.

What type of music is best for the recessional?

In a word, music that is LOUD. Guests will be jumping out of their seats, and there will be lots of clapping and cheering. You will need LOUD, fast boisterous music to get you walking down the aisle as man and wife. Handel La Rejouissance, Trumpet Tune or Bittersweet Symphony or Viva la Vida work very well.

What if we want you to play a song that's not on the website?

Check with us, because we may have it in our extended repertoire. If not we may be able to arrange the song to be performed at the ceremony.

Once we have made our song selections then what?

Always check with the venue (Church, Chapel, hotel) to see if there is any concern with certain music choices. Priests, Ministers and Officiants have all had great things to say about our music, though check beforehand if you are planning to use **Wagner's Wedding March** or any popular music.