



MUST ASK QUESTIONS TO ASK VENDORS

Here's a list of **10 must-ask questions** for each wedding vendor to help you make informed decisions and avoid last-minute surprises.

Venue

1. What dates are available, and do you offer off-season discounts?
 2. What is included in the rental fee (tables, chairs, linens, lighting, etc.)?
 3. Are there any vendor restrictions, or can we bring our own?
 4. What is the backup plan for outdoor weddings in case of bad weather?
 5. How many hours do we have access to the venue, including setup and breakdown?
 6. What is your deposit, payment schedule, and cancellation policy?
 7. Do you have a noise curfew or restrictions on music and entertainment?
 8. Is there a bridal suite, groom's room, or designated prep area?
 9. How many guests can the venue comfortably accommodate?
 10. Are there any hidden fees, such as security, cleaning, or overtime charges?
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Wedding Planner/Coordinator

1. What services do you offer (full planning, partial planning, day-of coordination)?
 2. How many weddings do you manage at the same time?
 3. How do you handle vendor communication and contracts?
 4. What is your experience with weddings similar to ours (cultural, destination, theme)?
 5. Do you attend venue walkthroughs, tastings, and vendor meetings with us?
 6. What is your crisis management approach if something goes wrong?
 7. Will you be present on the wedding day, or will a team member take over?
 8. How do you handle last-minute changes or emergencies?
 9. What is your fee structure, and are there additional costs?
 10. Can you provide references or past wedding examples?
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Photographer/Videographer

1. What's included in your packages, and do you offer customizable options?
 2. Do you work with a second shooter or assistant?
 3. What is your photography/videography style (documentary, cinematic, traditional)?
 4. How many weddings have you shot, and have you worked at our venue before?
 5. How long after the wedding will we receive our photos/videos?
 6. Do you provide raw footage or only edited images/videos?
 7. Do you have backup equipment in case of technical issues?
 8. What happens if you are unable to shoot due to an emergency?
 9. How do you handle lighting in low-light or outdoor conditions?
 10. What rights do we have to the images/videos? Can we print them freely?
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Caterer

1. Do you offer tastings before we book?
 2. What is included in your catering package (buffet, plated, cocktail hour, etc.)?
 3. How do you handle dietary restrictions and food allergies?
 4. Do you provide bar services, and is there a corkage fee if we bring our own alcohol?
 5. What happens to the leftover food? Can we take it home?
 6. Will you provide staff for setup, serving, and cleanup?
 7. Do you have experience with our wedding style (formal, cultural, fusion, etc.)?
 8. How do you manage timing to ensure the food is served fresh?
 9. What is your cancellation or refund policy?
 10. Can you provide references or client reviews?
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Florist

1. Can you work within our budget and suggest cost-effective alternatives?
 2. Do you have experience with our wedding theme or color scheme?
 3. What flowers will be in season on our wedding date?
 4. Do you handle delivery, setup, and breakdown?
 5. What happens if a certain flower is unavailable close to the wedding date?
 6. Do you provide rental options for vases, arches, or other floral decor?
 7. How far in advance do you order flowers, and how do you keep them fresh?
 8. Do you offer mock-ups or sample arrangements before the wedding?
 9. What is your backup plan if flowers arrive damaged or wilted?
 10. Can you provide photos of past floral designs you've done?
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DJ/Band

1. How do you create a playlist that fits our style and preferences?
 2. Do you take song requests from guests, or do you stick to a set list?
 3. Will you serve as the emcee and make announcements?
 4. What sound equipment do you provide, and do you have backups?
 5. Have you worked at our venue before, and do you need special setup requirements?
 6. What is your policy on overtime if we want the music to go longer?
 7. Do you offer lighting, fog machines, or other special effects?
 8. How do you handle transitions between songs and different parts of the wedding?
 9. Can we give you a “do not play” list?
 10. What happens if you can’t make it on the wedding day?
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Hair & Makeup Artist

1. Do you offer a trial session before the wedding?
 2. How many people can you accommodate on the wedding day?
 3. What products do you use, and are they suitable for all skin types?
 4. Can you recreate a specific look from inspiration photos?
 5. Do you provide touch-ups throughout the day?
 6. Will you travel to our venue, and is there a travel fee?
 7. What happens if we need to add additional people last minute?
 8. Do you have experience working with diverse skin tones and hair textures?
 9. What is your cancellation and refund policy?
 10. How long will hair and makeup take per person?
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Cake Baker

1. Do you offer cake tastings before we book?
 2. Can you accommodate dietary restrictions (gluten-free, nut-free, vegan)?
 3. How do you price your cakes (per slice, tier, or design complexity)?
 4. What are your most popular flavors and fillings?
 5. Do you provide delivery and setup, and is there an extra fee?
 6. How far in advance is the cake made, and how is it stored?
 7. What happens if the cake gets damaged during transport?
 8. Can you create custom designs based on an inspiration photo?
 9. Do you offer additional desserts like cupcakes or a dessert table?
 10. How do you handle last-minute changes or custom requests?
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Decor Vendor

1. What decor elements do you provide (backdrops, centerpieces, draping, candles, etc.)?
 2. Can you customize decor to match our theme and colors?
 3. Do you provide setup and takedown services, or is that separate?
 4. Do you rent items, or do we have to purchase them?
 5. What is your policy if something is damaged or missing?
 6. Have you worked at our venue before, and do you coordinate with other vendors?
 7. Can you show me examples of past weddings you've decorated?
 8. What are your package pricing options, and do you offer à la carte services?
 9. Do you provide lighting services or work with a lighting vendor?
 10. What is your cancellation and refund policy?
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Officiant

1. Are you legally able to perform weddings in our location?
 2. Can you personalize our ceremony script and vows?
 3. Do you require premarital counseling before the ceremony?
 4. Will you attend the rehearsal?
 5. How long will the ceremony last?
 6. Can we include religious or cultural traditions in the ceremony?
 7. Do you handle the marriage license filing, or is that our responsibility?
 8. Do you have a microphone or sound system if needed?
 9. Have you officiated weddings similar to ours before?
 10. What happens if you are unavailable on our wedding day?
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