



Frequently Asked Questions

Q: How does live music enhance a special event?

A: It shows your guests that you have invested in every detail, and that you care about sharing your love of music and the arts. Filling your event with live music also creates an ambience of warmth and sophistication.

Q: What makes Fiddles & Faces unique?

A: Since our inception in 2005, we have offered high-caliber professional musicianship and exceptional customer service. Our musicians have performed with The Columbus Symphony, BalletMet Columbus, Opera Columbus, ProMusica Chamber Orchestra, and with touring shows for Broadway Across America. We meet with all of our clients individually and customize each of our performances so that they're tailored to fit your needs.

Q: How do I choose my musical selections for my event?

A: Upon receiving your signed contract, we schedule your free music consultation. We'll provide you with our demo CD and also encourage you to research music that you like. During your consultation, Gail will be happy to play any pieces that you'd like to hear. You'll only be responsible for the "core" pieces that are on your contract. For weddings, this would include seating of the Mothers, Bridesmaids, Flower Girl/Ring Bearer, and Bride, as well as any special ceremony music and the recessional. We have a book of prelude music that consists of light classics and are happy to take requests, provided that we're given ample time to find the music and rehearse. A small fee may be applied if we have to buy sheet music.

Q: How well do your instruments project?

A: Generally, our sound carries very well and doesn't require amplification. Our sound tends to carry very well in resonant spaces such as old wood buildings, mansions, and churches. For outdoor events, you'll be able to hear us but some sound will be lost. We understand this and project as much as we possibly can. The Fiddles & Faces String Quartet typically doesn't perform outside. It's important to have us positioned close to the front of your event, so that you can hear us and we can see. For weddings, we get our cues from watching the wedding party enter.

Q: Do you attend wedding rehearsals?

A: In order to keep costs down, we don't participate in rehearsals. Our policy is to be on location 30 minutes prior to your start time in order to review any last-minute details. We have performed at countless weddings and can tailor our music to match how fast or slow you'd like us to play. As long as we can see you, we can accommodate the flow of your event. Upon special request and if scheduling permits, we'll send one musician to a rehearsal at a flat rate of \$60/hour.

Q: What kind of set-up do you require?

A: We bring our own music stands and lighting, and we stand while we play. If you'd like us to sit during the ceremony, please provide us with armless chairs.

Q. What kind of instruments do you play?

A. We play very old and valuable Italian violins. Many musicians spend the rest of their lives paying for their instruments. The cost of our violins ranges from \$20,000 to \$500,000. That's why we have to be careful when playing outside. Not only does the humidity and temperature affect the instrument, direct sunlight can be very damaging. We carry insurance on our violins because they're irreplaceable and one-of-a-kind.

Q: Do you charge travel expenses?

A: Travel is free when the destination is less than 25 miles away. A travel fee of \$25/per musician is applied if the destination is 25-50 miles away, and \$50/per musician if the destination is more 50 miles away. We use MapQuest to calculate distances and our starting point is the downtown post office at 850 Twin Rivers Drive.

Q: Can we video and/or audio record Fiddles & Faces?

A: Yes, if only for personal use. Permission from Fiddles & Faces must be obtained prior to all recordings.

Q: Which package should I choose for my wedding?

A: For a typical wedding, a one hour and 15 minute package should be sufficient. We typically do 30 minutes of prelude music, 15-20 minutes of ceremony music, and postlude music.

Q: Can I just book live music without makeup services for my event?

A: All of our music packages are inclusive. The cost is the same whether or not you use our makeup services. If you have made other arrangements for makeup, you can still use the free one-hour consultation for your rehearsal dinner, bridal shower, or any other special occasion. The free consultation is valid for up to one year from the date booked.

Q. Should I tip the musicians?

A. That's up to you but is greatly appreciated.

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