

How to pick the right vendors

Your friend got married two years ago and you thought that their flowers were the most beautiful you have ever seen. Now it's your turn to get married and you remember the flowers so of course you want to reach out to the florist and see if they are available for your event.



Whether it is the florist, band, photographer or caterer, there are a few things that you need to know before reaching out. Here's where to start:

- Budget – have a price range for each type of service that you need to work with.
- Style – Some vendors are very versatile while others specialize in a particular look.
- Date – Most vendors will need your celebration date in order to confirm availability.
- Venue – If the vendor has worked there previously they know what they are getting into. If not, please encourage a visit or at least video tour for the vendor before making your final decision. This is important because it may impact the price that you are quoted; you don't want any last-minute surprises because they didn't know something.
- Number of guests – Many vendors require assistants; how many guests is a good indicator as to how much support staff will be required. For rentals, flowers and anything that is priced per person (catering, bar, etc.) the number of guests will impact the overall cost.

The right vendor is the one who is available, understands your vision and is able to work within your budget. Equally important, they are good communicators. They respond to you in a timely manner. They answer your questions to your satisfaction and explain any terminology that you are not familiar with. In addition to your partner, you will be in a relationship with your vendors until your wedding day