

Wedding Games & Special Events

Centerpiece Giveaway/Party Monitor – I ask one person at each table to hold a napkin in the air. When the music starts, they pass it around the table. I continue to play music and encourage them to keep the napkins moving. I will stop the music then say if you are holding the napkin, pass it to the person on your right. The person on your right is a cheater, and everyone is on someone's right! (The cheater phrase can be omitted based on the crowd.) I then say, "If you're holding the napkin, please stand up. You have an important job tonight; you are our party monitor for your table. It's your job to make sure everyone is having a good time!" After this I ask them to grab a partner from their table and bring them to the dance floor. This instantly gets the dance floor full and after around a minute, I invite the rest of the guests to join them on the floor. This is great at breaking the ice for those who are scared to dance without someone else out on the dance floor.

Fastest Photobooth – Get the wedding photographer and go table to table getting pictures with guests. This can make sure you get photos with everyone and do it in less than 10-15 minutes depending on guest count. This needs to be talked about with the photographer beforehand as well.

Anniversary Dance – Start with everyone on the dance floor. I ask couples to sit as I call out their anniversary. I.E. Who has been married for more than less than 1 year? 5 years? 10 Years? 15 Years? Etc. until only one couple is left. Allow that couple to dance with the bride and groom. I sometimes ask if they have any words of wisdom to the new couple. This can also be reversed and invite couples out starting with the most recently married.

Generations Dance – Start with the oldest couples' era then work up to today. I.E. Start with 50s music for those born in the 40s/50s, followed by 60s music for those born in the late 50s/early 60s, etc. etc. I can come out and do dances with them. Think "Evolution of Dance" but with your guests who grew up with it! At the end everyone comes up and dances together to an easy line dance song like "Cupid Shuffle" or "Cha Cha Slide"

The Money Dance – This is really popular with Catholic and Hispanic Couples. The concept is simple. We sit down and pick out a song you and your partner like. When it comes time for the dance, you both start by dancing together. Guests can cut in, but only by pinning print currency to your wedding garments. I.E. A dollar to the bride's train or dress/a dollar to the grooms vest or shirt. This is accomplished with metal clothes pins. It can be any dollar amount up to a \$100 bill. This is a great way to make some extra spending money for the honeymoon! You need to let your guests know about it prior to the wedding so they know to bring cash if they want to participate.

Cake Smash Bets – Put out two jars, one for the bride, one for the groom. Have guests put money in the jar of the person they think will end up with cake on their face first. This is another way to make spending cash for your honeymoon!

Get-to-Know-You-Better – Have the wedding party seated in front of the reception guests and give them each two items such as two different colored oven mitts, two different colored pom poms, etc. Ask generalized yes and no questions such as have you ever had road rage or have you ever cheated on a test, etc. This is a great way to get to know the wedding party and have fun!

The Shoe Game – A classic question and answer with the Bride & Groom. The B&G sit back to back in chairs holding one of each other's shoes. I ask a question/make a statement and they answer by holding

up the shoe of the person who best represents that question/statement. (Heel for the bride/shoe for the groom.) (I have a separate sheet of questions/statements for this game.) You can take it a step further and have the wedding guests answer the questions ahead of time with who they think best fits that question then giving a prize to the one who gets the most right. This is graded by swapping papers with someone else at the table. On occasion, more than one person ties. In this case, I use 5 tie breaking questions.

Bride & Groom Lip Sync Battle – The Bride & Groom get a turned off/unplugged microphone or microphones. They can each pick a song to lip sync or choose a song to duet on. After the song(s), we ask the wedding party to pick a winner based on applause or written ballot. (Applause is faster, but someone can be appointed to count the ballots and the winner announced later in the night.)

Wedding Scavenger Hunt – Have each table nominate a representative and a runner. The representatives will bring their chairs to the dance floor area and line up. I will call out items approved by the bride and groom and each table will send said item via the runner to the representative. The table whose representative has the most items at the end of the game will win. Items can be anything from an out of state drivers license to a woman's size 6 shoe or a men's tie to a tube of red lipstick. Most wedding parties choose some kind of prize for the winning table.

Photo Scavenger Hunt – Have your guests look for the best photo-worthy moments and have them snap memories throughout the night. Include a list of fun possible moments from the day like a silly dance move, the bride and groom sneaking a kiss, a group selfie, a picture of the bride in her dress, a funny face, a kiss, a sparkling drink, a tasty treat, an old-school dance move, a person laughing, a table clinking glasses, or a favorite decoration This helps guests from different groups get to know each other and you get more photos at the end of your wedding!

The Kissing Game – A trivia game where, if a wedding guest (chosen at random) guesses the trivia question about the bride and groom correctly, the bride & groom have to kiss.

Words of Wisdom – Each person gets a notecard and is encouraged to write words of wisdom to the bride & groom and turn in to the DJ. Throughout the night, I will read select cards out loud. I try to choose cards that will inspire moments of aww as well as moments of laughter. I always have the B&G clear the cards before I read them.

Dance Off – This is great to occupy guests while the Bride & Groom eat. Ask each table to send a representative. Pit one side of the room against the other with 2 reps dancing at a time. Crowd response determines a winner. If crowd response is too difficult to determine, use the Matron of Honor and Best Man to determine a winner. You can use this to determine which table eats first at a buffet style reception.

Dancing With The Stars Contest – Bride & Groom pick 3-4 couples then pick three judges. Each couple dances for a chosen song for 30-45 seconds. The judges award a number 1-10, In the event of a tie, a tie breaker dance will take place. This is great entertainment. The winning couple gets to dance with the bride & groom, or you can award something like a \$10 gift card to a local coffee shop.

Blindfolded Dance Competition – Pick someone to be the target before you set this plan into motion. Pick one person from each table (One is your target or targets) to compete in a blindfolded dance competition. Give everyone their blindfolds as I announce the rules. The winner will be the person who's

table cheers the loudest. I'll start the music and the bride will slip around and take the blindfolds off of everyone who isn't the target(s), leaving them dancing alone on the dancefloor while the crowd cheers them on! This is a great prank to play on siblings, parents, or the groom!

Musical Chairs – While a children's game, most adults get super competitive! Bring back a classic and have fun! This can also be modified to be done with a scavenger hunt. As the items are called out the contestants have to run grab them then get back to a seat first.

Battle Of The Genders – Split the room into men vs. women. Have them raise their hand and answer questions. This can also be done using trivia or t.v. theme songs.

Key Game Joke – This is great if your wedding reception crowd has a sense of humor. Have 10 blank keys. Find 5 girls & 5 guys to give the keys to. These people will be in on the joke. In the middle of the reception, I ask for all of those that have a key to the groom's house to please return it to him as he has been locked down for life. There will be some laughs, but the real laughs come when I ask for those who have keys to the bride's home to do the same. *This is a joke/game that you only play if you know your crowd will have a sense of humor!!!*

Date Night Jar - In the cocktail hour area or the dining room, leave a place for guests to come up with unique or traditional date night ideas for your marriage. Either keep their ideas secret with a special box for collecting the cards, or set up a fun display for everyone to see. Guests can use each others' ideas for unique inspiration.

Dance Challenge – Name each dinner table by song title. When the song plays, the whole table must rush to the dance floor to get things moving!

Stand Up, Sit Down – Get guests on their feet with a trivia game that instructs people to stand or sit in response to questions about the bride and groom or random trivia about the guests.

Dart Paint – Set up a large blank canvas and pin paint filled balloons to it. Set up a bucket of darts around 5 feet away and allow guests to throw darts at the balloons to paint the canvas. Be sure to put a tarp underneath as you don't want to paint a venues grass!

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