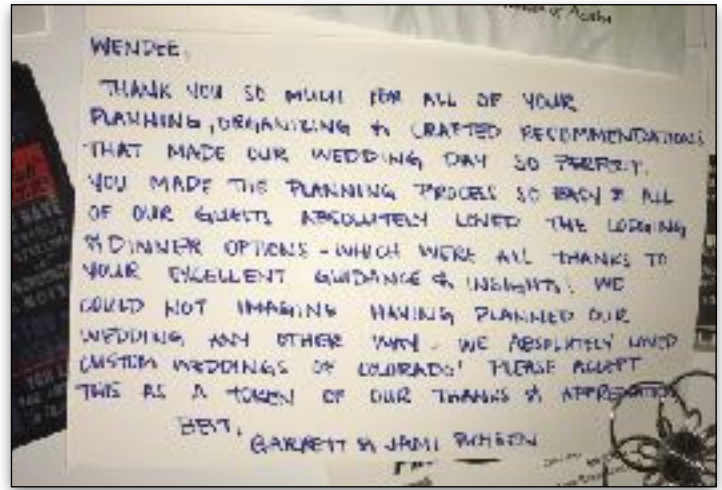


# Wedding Tipping Guide

Although tipping is not mandatory, it is an expression of gratitude toward the vendor, especially since weddings by nature require extra attention to details and consideration. Additionally, since many vendors operate small businesses, tips offer instant feedback while many times providing needed income.





An alternative to tipping is a rave, detailed 5-star review, if the vendor has earned. Positive reviews are like GOLD in the wedding industry. You put your trust in us, and please let others know about your journey, story and experiences with wedding planning. The most common sites are Google, [TheKnot.com](http://TheKnot.com) and [WeddingWire.com](http://WeddingWire.com). Of course, there are areas in which the vendor can improve, please share that directly with the vendor in a kind, constructive manner and avoid blasting it out into the world.



There are some sample reviews that our past wedding couples have posted. And, on our “[Gratitude](#)” page of our website, these are thank you notes that our past couples have sent to us, which is also another option. So, point-being, there are other creative and heartfelt ways of showing your gratitude other than handing over cash.

Along with almost 20 years of planning and coordinating Colorado weddings, I have researched several resources to create the tipping guidelines listed below. In general,....

- ❑ Any vendor can be tipped the 10-15% after the wedding. I suggest creating sealed and labeled tip envelopes to distribute on the wedding day.
- ❑ Have on hand quick cash (small bills) on the wedding day in case there is a vendor who went beyond the normal scope of service or you encounter an unplanned come-across (such as a door attendants, delivery persons).
- ❑ Finally, CHECK YOUR FINAL BILL before tipping and make sure that service fees or gratuities aren't already included.

Vendor	Suggested Tip	My Tip
Planner and/or onsite coordinator  <i>Typically don't expect a tip.</i>  <a href="#">Rave reviews.</a>	10-20% or \$50 to \$100+, or a raving 5-star review  <b>Planners</b> will often spend hours on your behalf behind the scenes, such as making/receiving phone calls, reviewing your logistics, acting as a wedding fiduciary, answering emails and corresponding with your other vendors  <b>Onsite coordinators</b> are often gig-work vendors. They are skilled at handling multiple onsite situations (at one given moment), managing different types of personalities, and keeping cool under pressure	
Photographer  <i>Typically don't expect a tip.</i>  <a href="#">Rave reviews.</a>	10-20% or \$50 to \$100  Depending on the amount of pre-wedding consultations and efficiency of delivering photos	
Officiant	\$50 to \$100 +/-  If your officiate is a clergy member, they may not accept a tip, or even charge you for their services. In that case, a donation to their congregation/church/synagogue is a nice gesture in the range of \$100 to \$1,000.  If your officiant is a friend or family member, a nice gift or covering partial cost of any travel expenses is appreciated.	
Florists or decor specialists  <i>Typically don't expect a tip.</i>  <a href="#">Rave reviews.</a>	10-20% or \$25-\$75, or a nice gift, like a photo album with your details  Depending on the amount of pre-wedding consultations and onsite deliveries, setup & tear-down.  For our small intimate weddings, florists usually don't go onsite and we do your pickups/deliveries. So, often a heartfelt thank-you and 5-star review is more than appreciated.	
Cake baker or dessert supplier  <i>Typically don't expect a tip.</i>  <a href="#">Rave reviews.</a>	10-20%  Depending on the amount of pre-wedding consultations, delivery and the time involved in setting up the cake.  For our small intimate weddings, florists usually don't go onsite and we do your pickups/deliveries. So, often a heartfelt thank-you and 5-star review is more than appreciated.	
Hair & makeup artists, spa technicians	10-25%  Depending on their level of service and if they are providing those services at their salon (less) or traveling off-site to your house/hotel/venue	
Musicians - ceremony	\$15 - \$50 per musician  \$50 - \$75 if the musician is included in the church or venue fee	
Musicians - reception	\$50 to \$150 for Disk Jockes/Emcees  \$20 - \$50 per band member	

Vendor	Suggested Tip	My Tip
Private chef or banquet manager	\$50 to \$200, or 10-20% of the entire bill You could also do a set amount like \$5 per guest Depends on their level of service, number of planning meetings, customization of menu, etc.	
Catering or service staff Bartenders	15-20% if it is not already added to the final bill You may want to tip individuals if they do an excellent job Or, you could provide a bulk tip to be divided equally between all service staff at the end of the evening (for example: \$10-\$20 per staff)	
Transportation, drivers	\$5 to \$50+ Depending on the length of time, number of people transporting, size of vehicle, cost of overall service. Check your agreement and make sure that the gratuity isn't already included.	
Miscellaneous: bellman, valets	\$5 to \$20+ Depending on the amount of trips they are making to your room and the number of times they are fetching cars, etc.	



**Ann Miller**

5 reviews

★★★★★ 5 months ago

**Positive:** Professionalism, Quality, Responsiveness, Value

If you are looking for a picture perfect wedding and a low-stress wedding planning experience, look no further than Wendee and her team.

We found Wendee via Google. We live in Pennsylvania and we were looking for an intimate elopement style wedding, while still maintaining some pieces of a traditional wedding.

Not only was our wedding day absolutely perfect from beginning to end, but the planning process was effortless. Instead of being bogged down with details, we were able to enjoy our engagement and our wedding day. None of our guests could believe that we planned the entire thing via email!

Wendee and her team are professional, responsive, and provide a unique wedding experience that I would recommend to anyone.

Reply Like

★★★★★ Reviewed On 1/27/2019 by Elaine D

My husband and I are from St. Louis, MO, and Wendee made it so easy to get married in Colorado. We were able to trust her completely to help us make decisions on the best location for our wedding and also helped us with any questions we had regarding the marriage licensing in Colorado. She was so friendly and quick to respond through email. Her assistant Stephanie was very organized and prepared on the day of the wedding as well. I'm typically an anxious person, but they made sure I didn't have a single worry on my wedding day! I would recommend Wendee for any Colorado wedding!!! She's friendly, easy to work with, helpful, and also very fairly priced. I could not have been happier with our wedding in Garden of the Gods. Thank you Custom Weddings of CO!!! [Read Less](#)