

## Special Event Booking Considerations & Information

### Pricing

#### Your Quote

Diamond Strings creates customised quotes depending on the variables listed below:

- Number of musicians
- Length of booking (1 hour minimum. 3 hours maximum.)
- If amplification is required / the number of guests
- Special requests
- Travel

#### Payment

Diamond Strings requires a \$100 deposit to secure a booking. The final payment is due 2 weeks prior to the event. Clients will be invoiced for both payments and may make a direct deposit bank transfer. If you would prefer to use another form of payment this can be discussed at the time of booking.

### Special Event booking lengths

For special events the most popular option to commence a party is a performance for the first 1-2 hours. This provides a perfect welcoming atmosphere for guests. Background music is also a delightful accompaniment for pre-dinner mingling.

The duration of the performance booking depends on what purpose you wish the music to provide. Below is a guide to how time would determine purpose:

- 30-60 mins: welcoming the guests
- 1.5 hours: welcome the guests and provide background music until lunch/dinner
- 2 Hours: welcome the guests and provide background music during dinner, until the speeches
- 3 hours: welcome the guest and provide background music for most of the party - before and after speeches (if there are any)

### Travel Costs

Travel fees will be charged for venues more than 45 minutes drive from Sutherland, NSW. Travel fees will be quoted at the time of enquiry, and are based on charging \$1 per musician, per minute beyond a 90 minute round trip.

For example, a venue that is 1.5 hours drive from Sutherland will attract a fee of \$90 per musician.

## Music

### Customised playlist

Diamond Strings will always discuss the music style with clients prior to the event so that the most suitable playlist can be created for them. For example, you may wish to have the performance mainly comprise of classical or jazz/pop/rock/modern compositions. Or you may prefer classical for the 1st hour and a more modern mix of songs for the 2nd hour.

### Special requests (songs not on the repertoire list)

Diamond Strings is pleased to offer one complimentary special request. Additional special requests are charged at \$50 per song.

(Please view this cost as a special offer for Diamond Strings clients, as it is not a true reflection of the time, cost and effort it takes to produce a new song. That is, it takes on average about five hours to arrange and rehearse a song. Additionally, Diamond Strings pay for the original sheet music to use in creating an instrumental arrangement, and they also pay their violinists for rehearsal time. )

### iPod/iPhone Service

To continue to have pre-recorded background music playing during your event while the Diamond Strings musicians take a short break, an iPod/iPhone service is offered. The device is simply plugged in to play through the musicians' PA system.

## Equipment

Diamond Strings offers the most attractive, highest quality equipment for their presentations, including:

- Professional quality acoustic and electric **string instruments**
- Beautiful black **leather music folders**.
- Vintage design, black wrought **iron music stands**
- **\*Amplification: Bose L1 Compact PA system with wireless transmitters.** This amplification service is provided in all 'reception' and 'special event' packages for bookings with 1-2 musicians. Diamond Strings musicians ensure an early arrival to set up the PA and instruments and do a sound check. They will monitor the sound level to make sure it's the perfect level for beautiful background music.

## Musician breaks

In order to maintain their best playing standard throughout, the musicians may require short breaks during their booking. If the musicians are performing continuously for 2 + hours, they will require a 5-10 minute break each hour.

## Amplification

**Amplification equipment is included in all Diamond Strings wedding and special event performances where background music is performed as guests are celebrating, such as during drinks and canapés.**

When guests are socialising and chatting with each other, sound levels naturally increase, particularly indoors. At this point the beautiful background music that has been specially organized goes unheard, unless the musicians are amplified.

Diamond Strings Guitar & Violin Duo is also always amplified to ensure the sound carries appropriately.

- Diamond Strings has **state of the art Bose L1 Compact amplification equipment** that can be used for Solo, Duo or Serenade performances. The amazing, unique design of the speakers enable **distribution of sound evenly** over a space of 100 metres squared. This means that when guests are close to the speaker they're not overpowered with sound, and equally they can still hear the music perfectly at 100 metres away!
- Another advantage of the Diamond Strings amplification system is that it uses **discreet wireless transmitters**. This means that the musicians won't have any untidy cables or bulky belt packs, but can still sit anywhere in the room away from the speaker.
- Diamond Strings' amplification is **a special, unique service that is rare to find in Australia**. The pickups, transmitters and P.A. system that Diamond Strings supplies are all designed specifically for string instruments. And they work together to perfectly amplify the beautiful string sound. As such, **Diamond Strings cannot share speaker systems** with celebrants or venues due to technical and incompatibility issues.

Please note, the amplifier/speaker is **not battery powered and needs a power point to be supplied**. If your event takes place somewhere away from a building (eg: a garden or a beach) **Diamond Strings can supply their own custom designed battery power source at an additional fee of \$50**.

Please note, this equipment is **not able to be used if it is raining or sprinkling**, unless it is set up under cover.

**Amplification is not recommended for funerals**, as the string instruments naturally project a full acoustic sound, and beautifully complement the quiet atmosphere.