



A good timeline is critical to the success of your Wedding Celebration. To make it the most memorable event possible you want to maximize the fun time and minimizing the downtime. The best way to insure that is to get organized with a reception schedule that covers the events of the day. After having performed at over 1000 weddings I can guarantee you the sample timeline below will be perfect for most receptions.

**6:00 pm – 60 minutes:**

Hors d'oeuvre & Cocktail Hour

**7:00 pm – 10 minutes**

Guests invited into reception area

**7:10 pm – 5 minutes:**

Introductions of the Wedding Party and Bride and Groom

**7:15 pm – 5 minutes:**

Newlyweds First Dance

*(A great way to start the evening with your 1<sup>st</sup> dance as husband and wife)*

**7:20 pm – 15 minutes:**

Formal Toasts

*(Before dinner or between Salad and Entrée is the best time to toast, you have everybody's attention and it allows those toasting to then relax and enjoy the rest of the celebration. It is suggested to limit these toasts to the parents, Best Man and Maid of Honor)*

**7:35 pm – 70 minutes:**

Dinner Service

8:35pm –10 minutes:

Video Montage

*(The best time to do this is right near the end of dinner, 8-10 minutes is perfect)*

8:45 pm – 5 minutes:

Father Daughter Dance

*(A great way to get everybody's attention back after dinner and begin the dancing. The F/D dance and M/S dance can be combined if you choose)*

8:50 pm – 5 minutes:

Mother Son Dance

*(The rest of the guest can be invited to join in after a minute or so if you choose.)*

8:55 pm – 40 minutes:

Open Dancing

*(Time to let the guests get up and have some fun)*

9:35 pm – 5 minutes:

Cake Cutting

*(Also a great time for the bride and groom to say a thank you if they'd like)*

9:40– 10 minutes:

Bouquet and Garter Toss

9:50 pm – 5 minutes:

Anniversary Dance

*(Invite all the married couples to join you in a dance; it's an easy way to get dancing started again after the cake - not suggested if there are divorces within the parents and not all are re-married)*

9:55 – 60 Minutes

Open Dancing

10:55 – 5 Minutes

Last Dance

11:00 pm:

Goodbyes and Getaway

*(This is just an example, not all of the events listed take place at every reception)*