

101 FIRST DANCES FOR LIVE BANDS



DO YOU WANT..?

A romantic slow dance or a fun, upbeat party track?

To have a special moment on the dancefloor between the two of you or get your wedding party and guests dancing along too?

To freestyle and be taken by the moment or do you want to choreograph a unique dance routine?

101 FIRST DANCES FOR LIVE BANDS

By Dan Clark, Manager of The CoverUps

Choosing a first dance can be a tricky matter. While one of the least formal traditions of a wedding day, it's by no means a straight forward choice for many people. Having a live band available gives the opportunity for something truly unique for your first dance. Even a song heard a thousand times can seem completely fresh when a live band perform it for you! The following 101 songs are suggestions of songs we think could work well, and at least something to help inspire you. I hope you enjoy this list of first dances, and find it useful in choosing your own.

FOR THE FANS

Here's a list of songs 'for the fans' – if there's a band you're a great fan of, by all means choose one of their songs. It's your first dance, you can choose what you like!

November Rain – Guns n' Roses
The Bones of You – Elbow
This One's for You – Ed Harcourt
You and Me – Lifehouse
You're So Great – Blur

MODERN CLASSICS

Below are 20 great tracks from the last 20 years or so!

All I Want Is You – U2
Always – Bon Jovi
Amazed – Lonestar
Better Together – Jack Johnson
Chasing Cars – Snow Patrol
Come Back To What You Know – Embrace
Everything – Michael Buble
Greatest Day – Take That
If You're Not The One – Daniel Bedingfield
Iris – Goo Goo Dolls
It's Only Natural – Crowded House
Never Be Lonely – The Feeling
Rule The World – Take That
She Will Be Loved – Maroon 5
She's the One – Robbie Williams
This Year's Love – David Gray
Truly Madly Deeply – Savage Garden
Wonderwall – Oasis
You Do Something to Me – Paul Weller
You Give Me Something – James Morrison

UPBEAT DANCES

We're seeing more and more couples just excited to be married, and wanting to show this through the first dance. Having an upbeat first dance can be a great way to encourage everyone else onto the dance floor more quickly!

Walking On Sunshine ~ Katrina & the Waves
All About You – McFly
Beautiful World – Take That
Crazy Little Thing Called Love – Queen
Fascination- Alphabeat
Paradise ~ George Ezra
Half of My Heart – John Mayer
I Luv You – The Ordinary Boys
I Want You Now – The Feeling
Lucky – Jason Mraz

ROCK

While it's not always appropriate to play an entire set of heavy metal, there are some great choices of first dance for those who are after some rock guitar to let their hair down to!

All About Lovin' You – Bon Jovi
Don't Want to Miss A Thing – Aerosmith
Can't Stop Loving You – Van Halen
Nothing Else Matters – Metallica
Patience – Guns N Roses

OLD SCHOOL

The 50s through to the 70s contain amongst our most regular first dance songs – and these scarcely scratch the surface of choices available!

Can't Take My Eyes Off You – Andy Williams
Daydream – The Lovin' Spoonful
Fly Me To The Moon – Frank Sinatra
God Only Knows – The Beach Boys
How Sweet It Is To Be Loved By You – Marvin Gaye
Let's Stay Together – Al Green
Lovely Day – Bill Withers
Stand By Me – Ben E King
The Way You Look Tonight – Tony Bennett, Dean Martin
The Wonder of You – Elvis
We Have All The Time In The World – Louis Armstrong
What A Difference a Day Made – Dinah Washington
Your Song – Elton John

BRIT POP GREATS

You may find that these spark off your own memories! Here are a few brit-pop tracks you might like to choose:

Found You – Dodgy
If I Could Talk I'd Tell You – The Leamonheads
Late in the Day – Supergrass
Shining Light – Ash
You and Me Song – The Wannadies

ACOUSTIC

Acoustic songs often match closely the mood that a couple want to set for their first dance and many great songs can be arranged in a more mellow acoustic fashion to suit your special moment.

Better Man – James Morrison
Delicate – Damien Rice
Dream Catch Me – Newton Faulkner
Faith – Nizlopi
Forever – Turin Brakes
Heartbeats – Jose Gonzalez
I'm Yours – Jason Mraz
I'm Yours – The Script
The Everthere – Elbow
Unintended – Muse
How Long Will I Love You ~ Ellie Goulding
Only Love ~ Ben Howard

CLASSIC CHOICES

Some people avoid some of these tracks as 'done before', or 'too obvious', but there's a good reason the following songs are so popular as first dances!

(Everything I Do) I Do It For You – Bryan Adams
As – Stevie Wonder
Fields of Gold – Sting
I Will Always Love You – Whitney Houston
Just The Way You Are – Billy Joel
More Than Words – Extreme
Right Here Waiting – Richard Marx
Somebody To Love – Queen
The First Time Ever I Saw Your Face – Roberta Flack
Wonderful Tonight – Eric Clapton

ALTERNATIVE

A less well known choice of first dance can be exactly what a couple are looking for to reflect the uniqueness of their taste, and of them as a couple. They might be a song from the soundtrack of your favourite film, or an album track by your favourite artist, or just a track you haven't heard for ages.

Anyone Else But You – The Moldy Peaches
Do You Remember – Jack Johnson
Half Light – Athlete
Made Up Love Song #43 – Guillemots
One Day Like This – Elbow
Secret Smile – Semisonic
Sewn – The Feeling
Sigh No More – Mumford and Sons
The Seaside – Opaque Nature
Use Somebody – Kings of Leon
You're My Best Friend – Queen

80S

Many of those getting married over the last few years have were born in, or grew up in the 80s. The tracks below demonstrate that the 80s had some great hits!

Have I Told You Lately – Van Morrison
Heaven – Bryan Adams
I Just Called To Say I Love You – Stevie Wonder
I Want to Know What Love Is – Foreginer!
Must Be Love – Madness
True Colors – Cyndi Lauper
Higher Love ~ Steve Winwood
Endless Love ~ Lionel Richie & Diana Ross

SONGS WITH A SPECIAL PLACE IN OUR HEARTS...

Freedom – Nizlopi This was the first dance of Mike Ashelby, founding member and singer of The CoverUps.

God Only Knows ~ Beach Boys This was the first dance of Dan Clark, manager and bassist of The CoverUps.

S Club 7 Medley Not the traditional choice, Adam Kibble (lead singer) and his wife had everyone on the dancefloor for this first dance!