

Outdoor Audio at Springfield's House



Springfield's House has a great outdoor area for wedding ceremonies. This guide has been put together to help you get a hassle free audio experience on your special day.

What Type of PA System is Needed?

This really depends on the requirements of your particular ceremony. There are 3 main PA types you could use:



The Roland BA-55 Portable PA

1. Portable PA System

A battery powered portable PA is the simplest system & many wedding celebrants have their own. This often consists of a single speaker mounted on a stand. They usually come with a wireless microphone & have the facility to plug in an iPod or an instrument like a guitar or keyboard. If you are using an iPod, be aware that most iPod cables are quite short so the person controlling the iPod during the ceremony is going to have to be next to the speaker (might feel awkward). An alternative is to source a long iPod cable or better still a microphone cable & a "DI Box".

2. Standard Vocal PA System

This usually consists of a pair of powered speakers with a separate mixer that can be located away from the speakers. It's therefore "remote controllable". Any music can be played from the mixer.



A pair of EV ZXA1 Powered Speakers



Separate remote mixer on table



Powered speakers with a Bose 302A speaker as a monitor

3. Live Music PA System

This is simply a vocal PA that has extra facility for musicians & singers. The main difference is that it has a “monitor” or “foldback” speaker. Monitors are designed particularly to allow singers to hear themselves so they can pitch correctly. Even a skilled performer can struggle when they can’t hear themselves.

PA Type Comparison

	Portable	Standard Vocal PA (2 speakers)	Live Music PA (2 speakers + monitor)
Loudness	Moderate	Very Loud	Very Loud
Simplicity of setup	Very simple. Everything is self-contained including the wireless mic receivers. You don't even need to plug in power.	May need a technician to set up.	Likely needs a technician to set up.
Monitor for singers/musicians	No	No	Yes
Separate remote mixer	No	Usually	Yes
Speech quality	OK. Limited adjustment such as EQ.	Very good. Multi-band EQ adjustment. Possibly High Pass filter.	Very good. Multi-band EQ adjustment. Possibly High Pass filter.
Music quality	OK for moderate background music with limited bass.	Very good	Very good
Remote controllable	No	Yes	Yes
Music playback facilities	Includes a socket for iPods but see above about cable length.	Includes a socket for iPods.	Includes a socket for iPods.
Approx. daily self hire cost	\$100	\$100	\$150

DIY or Hire a Professional?

You can certainly do it yourself. If so, it's best to hand this over to a capable friend to look after. Whatever you do, don't dump it on them at the last minute. They'll need to rehearse playing any music in advance. You'll normally want 2 day hire of any equipment to allow enough time. What's the difference with hiring a professional? Well a professional knows how to set up the PA in the best possible way. They can adjust the speech levels & adjust the EQ for improved clarity during the ceremony. They are comfortable with the responsibility of making sure everything goes to plan.

(which might be a big ask for a friend or relative). They can handle the delivery, set-up & return of the equipment without the bride & groom having to worry.

Loading & Power at Springfields House



Access to the outdoor ceremony area is very easy from the lower car park. Power is available behind the gazebo but it does need to be turned on from inside.

General PA Tips

-Use a foam windshield on the microphones to prevent wind noise.

-Think about carefully about speaker placement. Make sure not to place speakers right behind microphones to avoid feedback (high pitched squealing noise).

-If using a separate mixer, it's best to locate it a good distance back from the speakers. Make sure you have enough microphone cable & speaker cable.

-For music playback the most popular method now days is to create play lists on an iPod, iPad or laptop. Make sure you have your play lists well labelled & burn a backup copy to CD.

-Be safety conscious. The most significant risk with AV equipment is tripping hazards. Ensure all cables are out of walkways & well secured. Tape down or use cable covers.



I hope you've found this guide useful. If you need someone to take care of your audio needs then just give us a call. There's also a special offer attached below.

Lee Wright, Sydney PA Hire, Ph 0418 407 733, www.sydneyphire.com

See special Springfields House offer below



**Special Offer for Springfield House Customers on
Top Quality Audio Equipment**

Mention this offer to get your special price.

Valid till 30/9/14

Daily Hire Packages

**Roland BA-55 portable battery
PA \$179 ~~\$169~~ delivered & setup**



Roland

Suits up to 60 people for speech & live music.

- > 60 watts
- > Up to 4 hours running time on 8 x AA batteries (included)
- > 2 x wireless hand held mics
- > 2 x channels (suit instruments, guitars, wired mics etc)
- > Includes speaker stand & mic stand & iPod cable.

**Chiayo Stage Pro portable
battery PA \$199 ~~\$179~~ delivered & setup**



CHIAYO

Suits up to 100 people for speech & live music.

- > 150 watts
- > Up to 6 hours running time
- > Rechargeable
- > 2 x wireless mics (hand held, headset or lapel)
- > 4 x channels (suit instruments, guitars, wired mics etc)
- > 2 x available (can be linked + \$50)
- > Includes speaker stand, mic stand and iPod cable.

**PA System 1 \$295 ~~\$275~~
Delivered & setup**



Suits up to 75 people for speech & moderate dance music. Superb Bose sound. Just plug in your iPod/iPad or bring your CDs.

- > 2 x Bose 302A speakers
- > 1 x Bose MB4 sub speaker
- > 1 x Bose 1600VI amplifier
- > 1 x Mixer
- > 1 x Shure SM58 corded microphone
- > CD player (if requested)

With Experienced Operator add **\$75**



Sydney PA Hire

HI FIDELITY PA SYSTEMS
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See website for conditions of hire.