

Frequently Asked Questions

Q: How long have the members of The Jazz Hands been performing together?

A: The members of the Jazz Hands have been performing together for roughly a decade. Bassist Earl Adams joined band leader Mike Clifford in 2005, with violin/fiddle player Howard Kalish coming onboard in 2008, followed by steel guitar/electric guitar player Price Porter in 2010 and drummer John Chandler in 2014.

Q: How much do The Jazz Hands charge to perform at an event?

A: The Jazz Hands do not have a set price schedule; we try to work within a client's budget and put together an affordable offering that exceeds the client's expectations. The first step is usually a telephone discussion between the client, event planner, or agent and Mike Clifford, who handles bookings for the band. Please contact Mike directly by clicking here, if you have a particular event coming up and would like to discuss pricing or any other questions relating to your event.

Q: How many band members are there in The Jazz Hands?

A: The core Jazz Hands band is a 5-piece group consisting of acoustic guitar, violin/fiddle, steel guitar/electric guitar, bass, and drums (4 of the 5 members sing). But one of the advantages of The Jazz Hands is the scale-ability of the group. Depending on a client's requirements and budget, The Jazz Hands can go from a solo performer (just Mike Clifford on vocals/guitar) all the way up to a 6-piece band, which is the core 5-piece band plus piano. A particular client might want a 3-piece consisting of bass, guitar, and steel guitar with no drums, for example, due to space, budget, or volume limitations. Or some clients book Mike Clifford solo acoustic, or with a violin or steel guitar accompaniment, or the full band. Scale-ability and versatility are two big advantages The Jazz Hands provide over other musical acts.

Q: Why can't The Jazz Hands just email me a price quote for my event?

A: Due to the number of variables involved in a particular event, from location of the event, to number of expected attendees, to PA size required, to lighting requirements, to special load in requirements, to number of band members desired for the event, and several other variables, it is much easier discussing all this with the client directly, rather than putting together a complex price schedule and emailing it out to a client. The best first step is a phone discussion with Mike Clifford. Contact The Jazz Hands by clicking here.

Q: Where can I see the band perform live?

A: The Jazz Hands members perform regularly at public and private events all over central Texas. The online Schedule has a listing of performances, but if you would like to check out the band live, it is best to contact Mike Clifford by phone or email. Some of the events have cover charges, or limited access to the public, or may only feature a solo or duo configuration. In many cases, Mike can make arrangements to have a prospective client's name placed at the door in order to allow them easy access to see the band at a given event, so contacting Mike Clifford first is highly recommended.

Q: I would like a mix of live music and DJ music at my event. Can The Jazz Hands provide this?

A: Yes! In addition to fronting The Jazz Hands, Mike Clifford also has extensive DJ experience, and an mp3 library of over 5000 popular songs. Many clients like to have DJ music played before the band comes onstage, during band breaks, and/or after the band has finished. Usually this service can be provided at little or no additional charge, and The Jazz Hands can even put together a customized playlist of DJ music, based on a client's song preferences. Alternately, The Jazz Hands can provide a connection for the client's mp3 player/IPOD/IPhone, where the client may already have their preferred playlist loaded, at no additional charge.

Q: Do The Jazz Hands work with booking agents?

Yes, The Jazz Hands have established relationships with several local booking agents and are always interested in working with anyone who is looking for a great band, whether they be a booking agent, venue representative, event planner, or client.

Q: Where can I see a list of songs that The Jazz Hands are able to perform at events?

A: You can view a sample Jazz Hands set list <u>by clicking here</u>, and this is for a 2-hour performance, although The Jazz Hands can perform for up to 4 hours.

Q: I would like The Jazz Hands to perform a special song(s) at my event that is not on their song list. Is this possible?

A: Yes! If the song is fairly simple and doesn't require a rehearsal to learn it, the song may be included at no additional charge for the event. If a band rehearsal, individual practice, chord charts, etc. are required, there may be an additional charge for having The Jazz Hands perform the song(s) live at the event. The exact charge would depend on the complexity of the song(s), so this would need to be discussed between the client and Mike Clifford. As an alternative, The Jazz Hands also offer free of charge the ability to play an mp3 of the song over their PA system during the event.

Q: Do The Jazz Hands require a deposit to hold the date for my event?

A: For public venues, the answer is no. For a private event, in most cases the answer is yes. In some cases, however, if an event is being booked last minute or with a very short amount of time between when the event is booked and the date of the event, the deposit requirement may be waved.

Q: How can I watch videos of The Jazz Hands performing live?

You can visit The Jazz Hands You Tube page by clicking here.

If you don't see an answer to your question, feel free to contact Mike Clifford directly at mikecliffordtx@gmail.com or by phone at (512)426-4463