



OAK PAPERS

Guide Nº 05

Questions to Ask Your Officiant

*Officiants are audio partners, whether they know it or not.
Five short questions to ask before the day.*

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Oak & Echo

PROFESSIONAL CEREMONY AUDIO · YOUNGSTOWN, OHIO

An Audio Partner, Whether They Know It.

Most officiants have led dozens of ceremonies. Very few have ever been asked directly about how they use a microphone—because most vendors never ask.

An officiant's habits shape ceremony audio more than almost anything else at the event. How they hold a phone, whether they project, where they choose to stand—each interacts directly with a microphone in ways that are easy to plan for and nearly impossible to fix live.

None of the five questions on the next page require your officiant to change how they work. They simply tell us how to prepare for it.

Ask Before the Day.

01 Handheld microphone, or lavalier?

Some officiants speak in a warmer register with a handheld in front of them. Others gesture too much for a handheld to work—a lavalier keeps their hands free.

THEIR ANSWER.....

02 Do you plan to project?

Officiants trained in theatre or ministry often project strongly into a microphone. We adjust gain to match—but only if we know in advance.

THEIR ANSWER.....

03 Written script, or reading from a phone?

A phone tilted forward blocks a lavalier. A written script rustles. Both are solvable—if we plan for them.

THEIR ANSWER.....

04 Where will you stand?

A three-foot difference changes the acoustic entirely, especially outdoors.

THEIR ANSWER.....

05 Any unity moment or signing?

These are the two most common places ceremonies lose audio—because the microphone moves, and no one accounts for it beforehand.

THEIR ANSWER.....

None of This Is a Test.

These are five short questions, not a test of your officiant's technique. Every good answer is compatible with clean audio—as long as we know it in advance.

We ask a version of these on every planning call, as a matter of course. If your officiant has already answered similar questions for another vendor, feel free to forward this guide along and save everyone a repeat conversation.

About Oak & Echo

Oak & Echo exists for one purpose: to make sure every guest hears every promise. We specialize in professional wedding ceremony audio, partnering with couples, planners, officiants, photographers, and videographers to create ceremonies that feel effortless, natural, and uninterrupted.

Oak & Echo · Professional Ceremony Audio

Youngstown, Ohio · Serving Northeast Ohio & Western Pennsylvania
oakandechoaudio.com



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