

Build Your Riders

An essential part of any booking deal is the riders. There are two different riders: a technical rider and a hospitality rider. To perform well, you need to have the right equipment and the proper artist care, also known as artist handling. Every professional event, venue, or promoter should have this sorted out. They will probably ask you for it right after you make the deal. But you have to make sure that your rider is already agreed on before the agreement is made. So it would be best if you had these two documents ready to send.

Technical Rider

This is the document that states exactly what you need in terms of equipment and sound. DJs usually consist of a certain amount of turntables, vinyl or CD, your preferred mixer, and proper monitors in the booth. Since you can never be sure of the quality of any sound system, it never hurts first to go check out the venue on another night. As a live act or playing with vinyl, a soundcheck is crucial. You need to agree on a time before the night or day starts to set up all your gear, hear if everything sounds ok, and meet the technician. And be friendly and cooperative to everyone you meet, because they're the ones who are working for you to make everything sound as best as it can get. To make sure everything is set up exactly as you'd like, it's always good to a picture or a drawing - sometimes it's called a stage plan, of how you would like the equipment to be set up and also of the size and height of the table everything should be on. All this should be confirmed before you make the deal to perform on the highest level you can achieve.

Hospitality Rider

This document deals with the comfort of the artist on the day of the show. So it's a list of requests to make sure you're taken care of, so you can do a proper performance. The list should include the following.

- A good amount of specific food and beverages (Think about healthy food as you might do this daily and have no time to eat at home.)
- A fan and or fresh towels. As the temperature can be high on stage.
- Transportation (If the travel would be too long from your place to go with your transport), you can ask for travel costs like a taxi & flight. Or let them arrange transport. Discuss these during the deal-making phase.
- Accommodation (if you are too far from home). This could be a hotel, Airbnb, or a friend's couch. Whatever the arrangement is, don't end up sleepless. Ask for an extra fee or let them arrange something.
- Several complimentary tickets or guests lists. You should be able to bring some people to your show as it can be very lonely on tour. But keep this reasonable.
- A stage manager or artist handler. A proper club or festival should always have someone taking care of the stage or its people. They are the people who make sure you have everything you need before, during, and after the show.

ROBIN NAP

Remember to not ask for crazy things as this can only work against you; they may not book you again if you have high demands. Take this as a rule: You should be treated as you would treat special guests at your home. It should also work the other way around. So it would help if you treated the booker like you would treat a friend you are visiting. So with respect.

To do: create your riders in a PDF or word file.

Here is a example of my rider.

Technical Rider

[Artist name]

- 4x Pioneer CDJ-3000 all linked to each other with an ethernet cable.
- Pioneer DJM-900NXS2.
- 1x Shure SM58 microphone connected to the Pioneer DJM-900NXS2.
- 2x High-quality monitor speakers towards the DJ and connected to the Pioneer DJM-900NXS2. Volume must be 100dB or higher.
- All of the above must be appropriately connected and fully functional and be good of quality. No broken buttons or faders.
- The DJ booth must be non-smoking and empty. No other people present than the DJ.
- There cannot be played any [artist name] tracks and edits 4 hours before the performance of [artist name].
- No back-2-back performance, live performance, or MC performing with [artist name] unless agreed upfront with [artist name/booking agency]
- Noise levels from the PA should be handled by the audio technician.
- DJ booth should be sufficiently lit.

Example setup of the DJ booth



For questions ,please contact:

[Artist name/booking agency]

Tel: [Telephone number]
Email: [E-mail]

Hospitality Rider

[Name Artist]

Food and beverages

- Eight bottles of still water.
- Six bottles or cans of Coca-Cola
- Four sandwiches

Transportation (when arranged by the booker)

- The car should have enough leg space and seats to transport at least two people. Transport is needed between hotel, venue, and airport.
- Extra leg space is required when booking flights. 2x hand luggage and 2x suitcases should be included.
- Transportation should be invoiced to the booker unless otherwise agreed on by [artist name/booking agency]
- Booker will make sure that a professional driver company will execute all ground transportation by car. The driver is to be fully licensed and may be under the influence of drugs and alcohol under no condition.

Accommodation (when arranged by the booker)

- The hotel should be at least four stars—preferred hotels: Marriott, Holiday-inn, Hilton, W Hotels, Hyatt.
- One separate room for every person (max 2).
- Late check-out confirmed during the stay.
- Check-in upon arrival.
- Booker will provide at least one dinner and one breakfast each day during the artist's stay for each person (max 2).
- Booker will send [artist name/booking agency] a full itinerary and a call sheet three weeks before the performance.

Complimentary tickets or guest lists

- 5 tickers or ~~guest lists~~.

Others

- One fan on stage.
- Two clean towels on stage and in the dressing room.
- The booker provides at least one person for security, who will oversee the stage during the performance.
- A stage manager/artist handler.

For questions please contact:

[Artist name/booking agency]

Tel: [Telephone number]

Email: [E-mail]