



JOHN STANO/staff photographer

Birmingham jeweler Andrew Rismann reviews the work of one of his employees, Neil Bauman. Rismann, who makes custom jewelry, advises couples to pur-

chase a loose diamond so they can examine it for its value.

Music should please guests

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first to sample the food and critique the service.

Other considerations include whether the hall can comfortably seat the number of guests planned, whether parking is adequate and whether the tables are round or rectangular.

In addition, he said, couples should check whether the hall uses linen or paper tablecloths, china or Corningware, glass or plastic glasses and silver or stainless steel flatware.

They should also find out what brands of liquor are served, how much is charged per glass (not bottle), and whether bartenders are provided, he said.

Then, DeSantis suggested, find out what extras are available. Sometimes, he said, hotels give the bride and groom a free night on the house.

The object, DeSantis concluded, is for couples to find the highest quality hall for their money.

THE BAND

"Price is always a question with bands," said Dan Yessian of Dan Yessian Associates Inc., a Farmington Hills talent agency. "Unfortunately, it always seems to take precedence over quality."

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