THE ELEMENT GUIDE TO

STAGE SIZING

RIGHT SIZE. BETTER PERFORMANCE.

STEP-BY-STEP CALCULATION FORMULA

STEP	WHAT TO DO	EXAMPLE	RESULT
1	**DETERMINE PERFORMER COUNT** Start with total people on stage.	5 performers	5 total
2	**ESTIMATE SPACE PER PERSON** Allow 6–10 sq. ft. per person.	5 × 6–10 sq. ft.	30–50 sq. ft.
3	**ADD EQUIPMENT SPACE** Include instruments + gear (drums, amps, etc.).	+ drum kit (50–70 sq. ft.)	80–120 sq. ft. total
4	**SELECT STAGE SIZE** Choose a standard size that fits total space.	12' × 16' = 192 sq. ft.	Comfortable fit

STANDARD STAGE SIZES BY EVENT TYPE

SOLOIST / SPEAKER / DJ
12' × 16'
192 sq. ft.

SMALL BAND / PANEL (3–6 PEOPLE)
16' × 20' to 20' × 24
320–480 sq. ft.

LARGE BAND / DANCE GROUP
24' × 32'
768 sq. ft.

FESTIVALS / LARGE PRODUCTIONS
32' × 40' to 40' × 40'+
1,280–1,600+ sq. ft.

KEY FACTORS

PERFORMER COUNT & WEIGHT
Plan for 6–10 sq. ft. per person and account for 150–200 lbs per person for proper load distribution.

EQUIPMENT NEEDS
Drum kits require 50–70 sq. ft. (often on a riser). Amplifiers, speakers, and instruments add up quickly.

ROOM PROPORTION
A well-balanced stage is typically about 1/3 the width of the venue.

PERFORMANCE TYPE
Dancers and active performers need more space than speakers or panels.

RECOMMENDED STAGE HEIGHTS

AUDIENCE SIZE	STAGE HEIGHT
Under 100	12" – 16"
100 – 300	16" – 24"
300 – 1,000	24" – 36"
1,000+	36" – 48"

If your event is on a flat surface, increasing stage height improves visibility across the room.

ESSENTIAL CONSIDERATIONS

SAFETY & ACCESS
Always allow space for stairs and ADA-compliant ramps.

BACKSTAGE SPACE
Plan for storage, movement, and staging behind the platform.

CEILING HEIGHT
Factor in lighting, screens,

AT A GLANCE

PERFORMER RULE
6–10 sq. ft. per person

DRUM KIT SPACE
50–70 sq. ft.

PROPORTION RULE
Stage ≈ 1/3 of room width

BUILD SMART
Size for performance and presence

ELEMENT
EVENT SOLUTIONS

Thoughtful planning. Elevated experiences.
WE BRING IT ALL TOGETHER.