

THE ELEMENT GUIDE TO STAGE SIZING

RIGHT SIZE. BETTER PERFORMANCE.

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

STANDARD STAGE SIZES BY EVENT TYPE			
 SOLOIST / 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 stage.
 CEILING HEIGHT Factor in lighting, screens, and presence	 AT A GLANCE

ELEMENT EVENT SOLUTIONS

Thoughtful planning. Elevated experiences.

WE BRING IT ALL TOGETHER.