



SEATING INFORMATION:-

Rule of Thumb

For estimating seating capacity per square metre.

For BANQUET STYLE SEATING

An architect designing a café will allow for more generous dimensions, but for our purposes we will be a little more frugal. Don't forget to allow space for any of the following; buffet tables, cake tables, bar & coffee tables, present tables,

Dancefloor, musicians / stage / DJ., PA Systems & Lighting towers, space for speeches or lecturn, serverly "clean up" points, any obstructions (pillars etc) or decorations which may use up space.

Try to allow a more generous spacing, near entrance, kitchen, bar & toilet high traffic areas. Also don't fudge tables too close to a dancefloor.

One handy trick to gain another table, is to place a table (usually the main party) on the dancefloor and walk it aside after the main meal. This suggests some excitement and an expectation that the evening has moved into a different phase. Don't forget for weddings, that the bridal party usually only sits on one side of the table and possibly the two ends. These people may not have been allowed for in your tally, but can take up a sizeable area.

When using 2.4m oblong tables divide the available room area by 8.2 sq metres.

When using 1.8m round tables divide the room area 9 sq metres.

This allows 1.35m between tables. That is 50cm per seat and a 35cm walking space between the narrowest points.

Obviously round tables mean a less efficient usage of space, but depending upon the room dimensions, you may be able to make them fit in like marbles in a bottle, or a herringbone pattern and actually come out ahead.

These figures allow for maximum seating, but if space is available for more comfortable seating, allow an additional 1 sq metre per person.