

Mobile Venue Selection Checklist

Internet Bandwidth

Will the venue have sufficient available (not just advertised) upload and download bandwidth to the internet during the time of your event?

Further Information: The quality of the internet connection, and sharing by non-event activities will affect the available bandwidth. A speedtest (<http://speedtest.net>) may provide some additional information.

Recommendations: Upload - 1 Mb/s per 100 attendees. Download - 2 Mb/s per 100 attendees.

Wireless Access Information

Can the venue provide open access to their wireless network for guests? If not, can the venue provide an easy login procedure?

Recommendations: Completely open access to the wireless network.

Amount of Wireless Hardware

Does the venue have a sufficient number of wireless access points?

Further Information: The entire event space should be covered, including the registration area.

Recommendations: At least 2 wireless access points so there is redundancy. A minimum of 1 wireless access point per 250 attendees. No wireless dead spots in locations that could have an impact on your event.

Quality of the Wireless Network

Does the venue's wireless network consist of enterprise class network equipment?

Further Information: Consumer or SMB (small business) class wireless equipment is often unable to handle a large number of simultaneous users. Examples of enterprise class manufacturers: Cisco, Ruckus, Aruba, HP, Meru, Meraki. Examples of consumer class manufacturers: Linksys, Netgear, D-Link.

Recommendations: Enterprise class wireless network access points.

Wireless Installation

Was the venue's wireless network professionally setup and configured?

Further Information: Wireless networks that can support a large number of users can be tricky to setup and configure. A professional wireless installation will involve a site survey to determine ideal mounting locations and take into account potential sources of RF interference.

Recommendations: Installation performed by a wireless networking specialist. Wireless access points mounted above attendees heads.

Cellular

Does the venue have good cellular coverage which could serve as a backup to wireless connectivity?

Further Information: Check all major carriers (Verizon, AT&T, Sprint, T-Mobile). Dead spots could have a significant impact on coverage.

Recommendations: 3+ bars to provide a decent backup in case there is a problem with wireless connectivity.