

2016 Busker Policy

CHECKLIST FOR BUSKER APPLICATION

Busker Permit Policy read?

Confirm that you have read and understood the Busker Policy. Confirmation that the site restrictions are understood (incl. no power, no generators, irregular availability, 45 minute total time slots for set up/show/tear down, amplification restrictions)

Application Form Completed?

Examples or links to previous performances or website included?

Names of every performer in the company (for insurance reasons?) *(Physical passes are issued to all authorized performers in a group and this pass must be presented upon request)*

Buskers' Declaration Form Signed?

Performance Policy read?

Has Commercial General Liability Insurance been secured, for at least \$2 million per occurrence?

(YDS strongly recommends that performers obtaining insurance solely for use at Yonge-Dundas Square wait until their application is successful before paying for insurance in case their application is not accepted).

Yonge-Dundas Square Board of Management AND City of Toronto included in insurance certificates as Additional Insureds?

Payment will be requested if the application is successful, there is no need to send a credit card number or cash until it is requested by YDS Staff.

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Permit Policy

1. Performance Times: Tentative availability will be emailed once every two weeks on a Monday. For times that are indicated as TBC, please contact Carrie Arneill at the office at 416.979.9960 x 151, or at carrie@ysdquare.ca, during business hours, to ensure no other activity is scheduled which may preclude your performance.
2. Black-out periods will be imposed when events are scheduled for the Square.
3. The daily schedule will be decided by a lottery, to be run by any present buskers at the lottery time. It is expected that buskers will abide by the rules of the lottery and that the lottery will require no supervision by staff or security.

LOTTERY SYSTEM

Names will be drawn from a hat (paper and pens will be in the security office). The first name gets first pick of the available times, the second name gets the second pick and so on.

- If there are more available slots than buskers, the names will be put back in the hat and redrawn with the same system above.
- If you get a later slot you can leave and come back for your scheduled time.
- Please be back at least ten minutes before your scheduled time.
- If you are not onsite to set up at the time your slot begins, another performer will be given the opportunity to perform in your slot so be ready and visible ten minutes before your slot time.
 - If there is more than one person who wants to do a fill in spot, then draw a name from the hat (or rock paper scissors)

DAY	AVAILABILITY	DRAW TIME
Weekends (incl public holidays)	Full day (09:00 – 23:00) OR 12:00 – 23:00	11:30
	The three slots in the morning before the draw, from 09:30 - 11:30. These will be first come first served OR if more than three people show up to check in, a mini draw will happen for the	Check in or mini draw will be 30 minutes prior to the first slot (so 9:00 for the 9:30 spot).

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	three shifts.	
	Limited Hours due to event (so for example 16:00 – 23:00 or 13:00 – 18:00)	30 minutes before starting slot
	Limited morning hours available (so for example 09:00 – 12:00 or 09:00 – 13:00)	30 minutes before starting slot
Weekdays	Full afternoon (17:00 – 23:00 or 17:00 – 21:00)	16:30
	Limited hours due to event (for example 19:00 – 23:00 or 21:00 – 23:00)	30 minutes before starting slot
	Lunchtime slots (12:00 – 14:00) For non-musical performances only	11:30

4. If a performance by another busker is scheduled, each performer must pack up all of their equipment before the end of their allotted shift. This is not negotiable, equipment may not be left on site between performances. For emergency management reasons, all equipment **MUST** be packed up and vacate the square. The only time equipment can remain is if only one busker is present and is choosing to do back to back shows.

5. **Sound By-Laws:** Performers must adhere to local sound by-laws and Square restrictions. Amplification is permitted but should be kept at moderate levels (no power is available from the Square). Generators are not allowed, battery power may be used.

***It is not the intent of YDS Management that noise from the buskers dominates the neighbourhood. Sound should not FILL the Square, be audible down Yonge Street or impede buskers across the street. Volumes must be kept to a level that encourages a circle to form, but not loud enough that it is the dominant sound in the intersection.**

Performers must reduce sound levels if requested by Yonge-Dundas Square representatives even if it is already below 80dB and at all times sound must be lower than 80dB as measured from the sidewalk at Yonge Street. **Musical and amplified performances are restricted to between 12pm – 2pm and 5pm – 11pm Monday-Friday. Under the by-law, all performances must finish by 11:00 pm SHARP. Amplification on weekends and holidays is allowed between 9am – 11pm.**

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6. **Fee:** payment can be made by money order, certified cheque or credit card (Visa or Master Card) made payable to **Yonge-Dundas Square**. The permit fee covers administrative costs including SOCAN fees. SOCAN is the agency that administers rights for public performances of music.
7. **Permit:** A permit will be issued to all performers in a group and their information must be available to YDS staff upon request; this must always be available for viewing by Security or YDS Management if requested (photo ID may be required). The permit is not transferable.
8. **Sign in Procedure:** Performers must sign-in by showing their permit to the security officer on duty. The security office is located on the east side of the Square at Dundas Square Street.
9. **Selling:** A Vendor's fee may be applicable. Items sold must be approved by YDS Management.
10. **By-Law:** The permit holder must adhere to all applicable by-laws including Municipal Code Chapter 636 article III which regulates the use of Yonge-Dundas Square, the Square's performance policy (attached) and the City's Human Rights policy.
11. **Claims & Liabilities:** The permit holder agrees to indemnify the Yonge-Dundas Square Board, its officers and employees and the City of Toronto and its employees from all claims cost and liabilities, which may arise from the granting of this permit. **Yonge-Dundas Square** shall not be liable for loss, damage or injury sustained by the permit holder for any reason whatsoever. Liability Insurance is required and a copy of the busker's policy must be on file before any performance can commence. *(Please see YDS Management for more information on Insurance requirements).*
12. **Public Risk or Danger:** No aspect of the performance can pose any danger or risk to the public. No portion of the area used by the street performer should create an obstruction leaving less than 3 metres of passable space; obstruct access to any sidewalk, transit stop, postal box, telephone booth or driveway. No equipment or props may be left unattended at any time. No pavement or installation within the Square may be marked or in any way rendered unsafe for pedestrian use – no spray paint, solvents or chalk.
13. **Donations:** Street performers are allowed to solicit donations from the public but should not accost or otherwise interfere in any way with the Square's patrons.

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14. **Violation: Yonge-Dundas Square** may in its sole discretion terminate the street performers permit in the event of a violation by a permit holder of any rules, regulations or applicable by-laws. The permit holder may additionally be refused an audition or permit for subsequent permit periods extending indefinitely. Notwithstanding any other provision of this licence the rights hereby granted shall at all times be subject to the paramount right of the Yonge-Dundas Square Board of Management to operate the Square. Should Yonge-Dundas Square representatives determine that the permit holder is conducting him / herself in such a manner as to be offensive, a source of danger to the public or a detriment to the Square's operations the Board may terminate this permit without further notice. The permit holder shall not be entitled to any compensation.

15. **Termination:** Either party may at any time terminate this permit without cause upon giving ten days written notice to the other party. Any fees paid are non-refundable.

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Busker's Declaration

I/we the undersigned, if awarded a permit, declare as follows:

I will adhere to the rules and regulations outlined in the Permit Policy, and accept that failure to adhere to these could result in termination of this agreement.

I will communicate with YDS Management in advance to ascertain venue availability.

I will make my Permit and/or photo ID available for inspection by any authorized person(s) upon request and follow direction issued.

I will not transfer this Permit to any other person.

I agree that this Permit does not give me sole use or reservation of a site.

I will use designated sites in restricted areas in accordance with the conditions attached to their use and contained in the Yonge-Dundas Square guidelines

I will not create a threat to public safety, whether real or perceived.

I will maintain valid Liability Insurance for at least \$2,000,000 per occurrence with Yonge-Dundas Square Board of Management and The City of Toronto as additional insureds.

I will notify Yonge-Dundas Square if my performance changes to include the use of any dangerous implements.

I agree to perform material that is acceptable to a general audience contained in the Yonge-Dundas Square Performance Policy.

PERMIT HOLDER

YONGE-DUNDAS SQUARE

DATE: _____

DATE: _____

A Parent or Guardian must sign a separate parental consent form for any busker (individual or part of a group) under the age of 18). See YDS Management for a parental consent form.



Yonge-Dundas Square Board of Management is
a board of the City of Toronto



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www.ydsquare.ca