

DOWNTOWN MEMPHIS Busking Guidelines & Permit



The Downtown Memphis Commission (DMC) is responsible for developing Downtown for a better Memphis. DMC recognize that buskers contribute positively to the atmosphere of Downtown Memphis and have an agreed on a set of busking guidelines in order to minimize any disruption. To ensure smooth operations, all buskers wishing to perform downtown are required to apply at DMC. Buskers must agree to comply with the following regulations:

- Buskers are wholly responsible for all claims made against them for personal injury or property damage.
- Buskers who perform and do not have their own insurance must assume full responsibility. DMC or the City of Memphis does not accept any liability arising from the activity of busking or for any associated equipment.
- Buskers who have been granted approval may operate between 10 am and 8 pm Sunday-Thursday and 10 am and 11 pm on Friday and Saturdays. Buskers are permitted to perform on the Main Street Mall, Civic Center Plaza and Court Square, during these times.
- Sound performers will be at least one block or 200 feet away from each other and are required to act respectfully and cooperatively with each other. Sound performers (musicians) must be respectful of other forms of busking and are expected to negotiate appropriate distances from non-sound performances based on the understanding that the sound may infringe on other performances.
- We ask that sound performers move locations daily, and not play in the same block more than twice per month.
- In the interest of self-regulation, if a busker is located directly beside/opposite of a business/resident and is breaching their permit or causing a nuisance (loud or intrusive, repetitive, or causing obstruction) the busker should make every effort to resolve the issue amicably. If there is no mutually agreed solution the busker may be asked to move from stated location.
- Permitted Buskers cannot be amplified and should operate at a level so that the sound is not intrusive above background levels to the degree that a passer-by would have to strain their voice to be heard above the sound. The sound levels from a busking performance shall at no time disrupt businesses or residents.
- If the noise output generates complaints or is determined to be intrusive, the busker must cease performance immediately.
- Buskers are responsible for maintaining pedestrian flow and public amenity at all times. They must ensure free and safe access for pedestrians along thoroughfares near the performance site. Wheelchair access must be maintained at all times.
- Valid ID required – NO permit fee



DOWNTOWN BUSKING PERMIT

Busker Name or Responsible Party: _____

Email Address: _____ Mobile Phone #: _____

Street Address: _____

City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____

Type of permit requested: Busking: Musician/Performance Artist

30 day permit dates: _____ at Main Street Mall Location

Please describe what you are requesting approval to do and list any equipment/instruments you will be using:

By signing below, I agree to the following: This encroachment is authorized for the above-described activity only. **This permit can be revoked if complaints and/or disturbances arise.** I will not deface or damage any mall surface or public infrastructure in any way or block pedestrian traffic. I further agree to abide by all provisions of the Main Street Mall Operations Policies & Vendor Guidelines. I hereby indemnify and hold the DMC and the City of Memphis harmless from any claim, demand, action, suit, and otherwise, of any type whatsoever, directly or indirectly, resulting or alleged to have resulted from my temporary use of the Main Street Mall, Court Square Park, and/or Civic Center Plaza as described above.

Name (Please print): _____ Signature: _____ Date _____

For office use below:

For (Organization): _____

Type: Main Street Mall Court Square Park Civic Center Plaza

Approved by: _____ Title: _____

Date: _____ Attest: _____

Please keep following page up to date and keep on your person at all times while busking. Must be turned in before next permit is granted.

Weekday Busking Schedule – to be maintained by busker during month of permit.

Civic Center Plaza:

Date Played _____

Date Played _____

Adams to Jefferson:

Date Played _____

Date Played _____

Jefferson to Court on Mall (not Court Square Park):

Date Played _____

Date Played _____

Court to Madison on Mall (not Court Square Park):

Date Played _____

Date Played _____

Court Square Park:

Date Played _____

Date Played _____

Madison to Monroe:

Date Played _____

Date Played _____

Monroe to Union:

Date Played _____

Date Played _____

Union to Gayoso:

Date Played _____

Date Played _____

Gayoso to Peabody Place:

Date Played _____

Date Played _____