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NataLee

Natalie Tebbi

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How to: Make Your Own Corsage

Plus tips, trends and ideas for your perfect prom



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I love prom season. I love the dresses, the anticipation, the love stories, and yes, the sense that summer is just around the corner. I'm pleased to introduce you to NataLee during a season that is so quintessentially high school.

I hope that as NataLee grows, it will start to live up to its mission:

NataLee is more than a magazine; it's a community where high school girls celebrate their age and all the wonderful, terrible adventures that go with it. NataLee promises never to pressure its readers, and to help them stand up to whatever pressures face them. Through online discussions, body-positive style tips, articles and how-tos, NataLee encourages young women to open their minds and find out what other girls are thinking, feeling, and doing. We hope NataLee readers will learn to seek the good in the world around them and in the girl in the mirror. In fashion and in life NataLee says, "tailor the dress, not the girl."

I hope this issue of NataLee fuels your prom fire and leaves you wanting more.

Thanks for reading!

-Talie Tebbi



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On the cover: Stephanie Sporn wearing Catherine Malandrino. Photo by Judy Tebbi.

Mom and me before junior prom!

That's my date, Chriz, looking dapper in a tink.

My mom made -a-handle for

my bag using

my drezz.

rôm

the straps

MY PROM Diary

Dean Diany,

It was like a week before junior prom, and I still kinda thought I was going to get asked. I mean, sure, Chris was supposed to go with that girl from Winter Haven, but a girl can dream, right? So then the other day my friend Sam told me the Winter Haven girl couldn't make it. And someone else said Chris actually wanted to go with me. And today I left pre-calc to get some water, and a girl handed me a note without saying a word. It was a riddle, and the answer? Chris asked me to prom! So I guess things really do work out in the end. Great dress, great guy, great friends--I can't wait to go to prom! More later!

Love,

Countdown to Prom!

One month before prom . . .

If your dress needs to be tailored, schedule a fitting early. You may need more alterations, so give the tailor plenty of time for final adjustments.

Pick out undies and a bra that won't show under your dress. Wear them to your fitting to get the full effect.

Three weeks before prom . . .

CURRENT

ENTS

Schedule hair/nail/makeup appointments in advance.

Need dinner reservations? Make them as soon as you know how many people will be in your group.

If you plan to order a boutonniere or corsage from a florist, choose an arrangement that complements your dress without detracting from it.

Two weeks before prom . . .

Throw a slumber party with your best friends. Rent classic movies from our Movie Marathon list, and make a killer playlist for your iPod (page 6-7). Test out hairstyles for the big night and pamper each other with homemade facials (page 9).

One week before prom . . .

Make sure you have all the accessories you'll need for the big night.

Hit the mall with your friends for any last-minute makeup needs and supplies for the after-party.

Confirm all appointments and reservations.

One day before prom...

Have a corsage/boutonniere-making party with your group. Check out this month's craft for the how-to (page 36).

Hang your dress in the shower to steam out any wrinkles.

Don't forget to charge your camera.

Get your beauty sleep.

Prom day!

You've done everything you can to prepare so don't sweat the small stuff. Go have fun!

THE ISSUE:

What if you got banned from prom and it wasn't because of something you wore and it wasn't something you did -- it was just because of *who you are?*

Constance McMillan had a date. She had an outfit. But Itawamba Agricultural High School would have none of it. The Mississippi school doesn't allow samesex couples at prom. Rather than just ban Constance, the school canceled the whole event, claiming that Constance's plea to the **American Civil Liberties Union** got in the way of planning. Even when a court ruled that the school had violated Constance's rights, the school didn't budge. So the kids threw their own prom. Well, two proms. One for Constance, her date and a handful of others, one for everyone else. Can you say "Mean Girls"?

This issue hasn't found a resolution vet, but Representative Jared Polis of Colorado has an idea. He proposed the Student Non-Discrimination Act to Congress in March. According to a press release from Polis's office, the act would establish a "federal prohibition of discrimination in public schools based on actual or perceived sexual orientation or gender identity and provide victims with meaningful and effective remedies." Translation: public schools would have to treat all students equally, regardless of their sexual orientation. Politicians have a knack for hiding their own agendas in innocent acts, but the idea of protecting students from undue harrassment sounds pretty good to us.

Let us know what you think at nataleemag. com.

BOOK REPORT:

The Glass Castle by Jeanette Walls is a refreshing and eye-opening autobiography that shows how a successful woman can grow from a traumatic childhood.

I've never seen any fictional character face the kind of adversity Jeanette Walls faced in real life. Besides its struggles with poverty and the law, Jeanette's life becomes much more unstable and unconventional because of her parents whose priorities are off the wall.

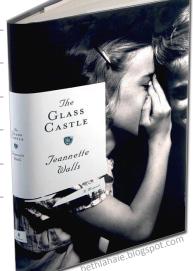
Right off the bat, Jeanette reflects on her life, starting with her earliest memory in which her dress catches on fire. After Jeanette spends a few weeks in treatment, her parents decide it would be best to "rescue" her and sneak out of the hospital.

I wondered the whole time whether her parents were ignorant, or just into tough love. Some of the parents' actions and choices were so absurd that I almost had to check the book's cover just to make sure that the book is actually a true story. From state-hopping in order to flee the government to using guns as a child to fight off enemies, Jeanette's story is compelling and mind-blowingly fascinating. It's like what I call "car crash syndrome," where the incident is so terrifying that you want to avoid seeing the damage but cannot stop looking. The only difference is that I held out hope and had to keep reading *The Glass Castle*. It's like Jeanette's overwhelming optimism in the story is contagious.

Jeanette's genuine voice as the narrator keeps readers hooked. Jeanette's gift of descriptive story-telling is undeniable. I've never been through that kind

of trauma – thank goodness—so it's amazing how Jeanette's roller-coaster lifestyle felt like my own.

Jeanette's story isn't over, but the book not only comes full circle, it ends positively. Ultimately, it is intriguing that despite all the bad examples her parents set through her childhood, Jeanette finds the will to pursue her love of journalism. Jeanette's life makes for a refreshing success story. --Stephanie Sporn, 17, Berkeley Preparatory School



A/V Club

Get prepped for prom with a movie night. Every one of these oldies-but-goodies features a fantastic dance scene. Keep the rewind button handy; you might pick up a few steps.





West Side Story (1964)— With its star-crossed lovers and dancing gangsters, WSS is a classic story. Add the dance at the gym, and you've got yourself a prom movie.

The story: In 1950s New York, two gangs—the Sharks and the Jets—are sworn enemies (just like the Montagues and Capulets). But what starts as a cartoonish rivalry turns into a violent rumble when Tony of the Jets falls for Maria, the sister of a Shark. The story deals with racism and hate through the lens of a love story. It's a stage play turned Oscar-winning film that's part Shakespearean tragedy, part musical comedy .

Dirty Dancing (1987)—The Dirty Dancing dance has been repeated over and over. Bat mitzvahs, sweet sixteens, even weddings have swiped the iconic lift of the final dance scene. With romance, secrecy, and more than a little controversy, Dirty Dancing is more than a fluffy dance flick. **The story**: On a vacation in the Catskills, Frances "Baby" Houseman falls for the camp dance instructor (played by the late Patrick Swayze). The only problem is, Daddy doesn't know what Baby's up to. After a few epic scandals and a family feud, it looks like Baby may miss out on her final performance until her partner comes in and sweeps her off her feet.





Grease (1978) It may be a story for our parents' generation, but trade the poodle skirts for pencil skirts and Grease might as well be about us . It's a film full of teased hair and varsity jackets, hot rods and drive-ins, and yet another dance at the gym.

The story: Sandy's a sweetheart from Australia who meets bad-boy Danny in a summer of love. They never thought they'd see each other again, but then fate steps in and brings Sandy across the globe to Rydell High, where she finds Danny a changed man. Through a lot of song and dance, Danny and Sandy have to decide if they really do "go together."

Now Playing: *Letters to Juliet* starring Amanda Seyfried. Sophie, played by Seyfried, plays matchmaker when she finds unanswered letters from star-crossed lovers. It's an international adventure and love story in one.

See it in theaters on May 14



Prom may last only a few hours, but the prom spirit can last all month. This month's songs are all celebrations. Whether you're feeling sentimental or rocking the dance floor, these tunes should set the mood.



Donna Summer, winning line: "Last pance"

"I can't be sure that but all that I ask is that you dance with me."

Color me classic. "Last Dance" won an Oscar in 1978 (hear it in the movie Thank God it's Friday). you're the one for me, So spin that chandelier, because playing this oldie at prom is practically a law.



Vitamin c, «Friends Foreve

Winning line: "So excited then we got so scared, laughint at ourselves thinking life's not fair."

Prom isn't just about the dress and the date it's the last of the high school dances. So wrap your arms around your best friends and dance en masse. Don't forget the waterproof mascara.



Eveb, "Here's to the Night"

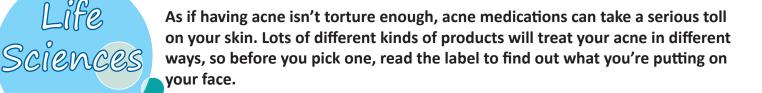
Winning line: "Here's to the nights we felt alive. Here's to the tears you knew floor, and toast another you'd cry. Here's to goodbye. Tomorrow's gonna come too soon."

This song says it all, and it's upbeat enough to dance to. So blast it on the dance night you'll never forget.



cood charlotte, "I DON'H Wanna Be in Love (Dance Floor Winning line: "Everybody, if you've got nothing left, say I don't wanna be in love, I don't wanna be in love."

When the mood gets too sappy, recharge with this ode to independence. Like the title says, it's an anthem – especially if you're going stag. Request this one after a string of slow songs and bounce to the rhythm.



Skin Care Science

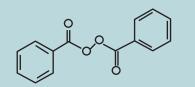
Acne has two causes: bacteria growing in the pores (Propionibacterium acnes) and excess sebum production. Sebum really is as gross as it sounds. It's the oily substance formed under the skin. You might notice different symptoms like pustules, cysts, blackheads and whiteheads. You also might notice redness around the affected areas. For mild acne, an over-the-counter treatment should do the trick. But for more severe cases, see a dermatologist about prescription medications.

The treatment: Benzoyl Peroxide

Life

Where to find it: products like PanOxyl

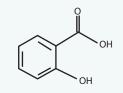
How it works: Bacteria, unlike people, can't live in oxygen-rich environments. With four oxygen atoms in a molecule, benzoyl peroxide suffocates P. acnes. The downside is that the bonds between these oxygen molecules break easily with heat and form free radicals. Those can cause cancer. So it's important for benzoyl peroxide users to limit their sun exposure and use sunscreen. Plus, benzoyl peroxide is a bleaching agent, so dry your face well before hitting the hay, or you may wake up with sheet marks on your face and face marks on your sheets.



The treatment: Salicylic Acid

Where to find it: products like Stridex

How it works: Salicylic acid is fat-soluble, so it gets absorbed into oily pores and pushes out all the dirt and grit. It breaks the bonds between the cells (known as comeocytes) that connect the layers of skin. It dries the top layer of skin out so it flakes off to reveal the healthy skin underneath. That sounds gross, but since it all happens under the surface, you won't see it. Plus salicylic acid has the side benefit of removing some of the scarring associated with acne. The only downside is that it might make your skin feel a little raw.



The treatment: Isotretinoin

Where to find it: products like Accutane

How it works: Isotretinoin, unlike benzoyl peroxide or salicylic acid, comes in pill form. It's actually a derivative of vitamin A. Scientists are still trying to figure out how it works, but it looks like it goes through a chemical reaction, loses an electron, and messes with DNA. That shrinks the glands that create sebum, so they can't make as much. Isotretinoin is only available with a prescription, and it can have some pretty bad side effects like mood swings, so save it as a last resort.



Strawberry Scrub

Use all natural ingredients to make a fresh facial scrub.

1. Combine

2 strawberries 2 T sugar 1 T yogurt

2. Add some white nonpareils (colors will dye your skin) and massage it into your skin.

The yogurt has antibiotic properties that will clean out your pores, the sugar exfoliates, and the strawberries soften your skin. Use the mix right away or the nonpareils will melt!

How Samantha Made Her Own... Samantha Davis never wore the same outfit twice in high school. She almost never wore a skirt on her hips where it belonged. She turned scarves into shirts and every hallway into a runway. Some people thought she was crazy; others thought she was the best dressed senior girl at James E. Taylor High School. By Talie Tebbi



here were only 10 senior superlatives at Samantha's school in Katy, Texas, and they're all announced at the fashion event of the year: prom.

Since Samantha's freshman year, people had whispered about her style, telling her she was a shoe-in for Best Dressed. And though Samantha wasn't after the award, she did have fun showing her style every day at school and hearing what people had to say about her



Glamorous no matter what ...

look. When prom season came Samantha can't help around, Samantha spent weeks but jazz up her look, sketching ideas and looking for colors that would make a bold statement. At a fabric store, she found a pattern that had potential. It was sleek,

whether she's just hanging out (above) or all dressed up in her self-designed gown (right).

elegant, and simple, just waiting for someone to add a few flourishes. But she couldn't find a fabric that seemed to flow just right. She even tagged along with friends as they shopped for their dresses, but the bland department stores and rows of multicolored tulle made her feel like she was trapped in a pack of crayons. Samantha wanted something red-carpet, she says, but these stores were giving her beauty pageant. A girl who thinks of getting dressed every day as "adorning" her body doesn't just walk into a store and buy the first dress NataLee/May 2009

she sees. Prom was more than a dance to Samantha, so the dress had to be more than a dress. Samantha wanted her prom gown to set the tone for the night. She had to be able to dance in it. She had to stand out

> in a crowd. And most of all, she had to feel like herself. "Every dress," she says, "is a celebration of the woman who wears it." So when friends chose store-bought dresses they loved, Samantha put her designer mind set aside and judged each dress by how happy it made her friend. "It's not my job to love everything," she says, "or her job to impress me."

> It's not that Samantha's judgmental. She just likes to put her own spin on things. She says she would rather pick five items from a resale shop



and re-imagine them than sew a dress from scratch. Part of that instinct stems from her belief in responsible designing: reusing old items to conserve materials. Another part is in her blood. Her grandmother used to sew all her mother's clothes because she couldn't afford store-bought dresses. As a girl, Samantha's mother felt embarrassed about wearing handmade clothes. But when she

grew up, she carried on the tradition, even after she could afford to buy clothes at the popular department stores. When Samantha was young, her mother took her to upscale department stores to find dresses Sam liked, then back home to sew them herself. Samantha picked up the habit in eighth grade when she made

her first dress with her mom's help. But even when Samantha came across a dress she loved in a store, she found some way to change it. She once spotted a holiday dress that was perfect, she said, but only if her mom could "make the back the front."

To Samantha, designing is about redesigning, rethinking, and individualizing everything. So it took until just before prom for everything to come together. And still Samantha had to add her own touch.

On weekends during her senior year, Samantha interned with a local fashion designer. One Saturday before prom, she talked to the designer about finding the right fabric. She wanted something that would stand out even against the collage of colors on the dance floor. And she spotted it: a bold green print against a black background. It was charmeuse, a silky kind of fabric that moved even after the wearer stopped. It flowed like Samantha, it looked like Samantha, and it was perfect. The designer offered the fabric to her for free, along with the use of the studio equipment and time pull everything together. So for no more money than it cost to buy a pattern, Samantha made her own prom dress. "Creativity ," Samantha says, "bursts from a small budget."

With the designer's help, Samantha cut the fabric on the bias, meaning that she cut it on a 45-degree diagonal to the grain of the fabric so that it flowed better. She also added a train to the hem of the pattern, changed the way the straps fell in the back, highlighted the bust with a keyhole (to balance her hips) and, as a final touch, attached a giant stuffed black bow to the nape of the neck. Even if the pattern on the front of the dress failed to catch people's attention, the view from behind still stunned them.

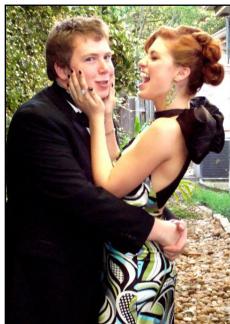
Samantha created the kind of dress that reflected the way she felt that night. Just like a fabulous pair of heels can make a woman walk a little taller, strut a little harder, Samantha says, a dress like hers can change the way you feel for a night. But to others, she advises, "Be real. A dress can be gorgeous, but if you don't feel comfortable in it, don't wear it." The dress looked fabulous on Samantha, but only because she made it fabulous.

Even with all the effort Samantha put into the way she dressed every day, when it came time for prom, she didn't waste any time fretting about whether she would win Best Dressed. She slipped on the charmeuse dress that glided over her hips and swept over the floor. She took earrings from her jewelry box and had her hair done so she could relax. Then she took goofy photos with her date, Casey, and his little sister without stressing over little snafus. And when the awards were announced at prom, she added one last accessory: a sash that said "Best Dressed."

"It's not that you should always make your own thing," says Samantha, "but you should always make everything your own."

Check out Samantha and Casey before prom!









Remnants of prom hide in the back of closets, attics and yearbooks throughout the nation. Television shows and movies immortalize the evening as a night to remember. Our moms and grandmothers break out the old photo albums to show off their old-school hairdos and gowns. Through the ages, prom has been about finding the perfect dress, the perfect shoes and coiffing your hair just right, but have you ever stopped to wonder why we do it?

TIMELINE



This photo is from one of the earliest proms on record. The Smith College Junior Prom in 1895. The Alumnae Gym is wrapped with streamers and lined with chairs in anticipation of the prom.

We think of prom as a high school tradition, but it actually began at a college. Smith College, a women's liberal arts school in Massachusetts, held dances called proms as early as 1890. In accordance with school policy, only square dancing was allowed during the first few years. Then in May 1894, the first junior prom brought the waltz to Smith's campus. This gave the students an opportunity to trade their everyday skirt-and-sweater sets for flowing dresses and evening gowns. Fashion played a big role at these dances even before they were called "proms."



This photo from Smith's junior prom in 1902 shows some of the girls seated around the dance floor. The all-girls school allowed gentleman at these events, but there's only one guy in this shot. Can you spot him? The name prom comes from the word promenade. In the early 1900s, before dances like Smith's got popular, traditional proms were evening walks for young people. The young men would stroll with young women under the watchful eyes of mom and dad. Back then, the only dances like prom were debutante balls. Reserved for the upper class, the debutante ball marked the entrance of a young woman into society. These elegant young ladies dressed in white gowns and gloves and paraded across the room on the arm of an escort.

So the prom, at its core, was the debutante ball for the working class. As more teenagers entered high school, the prom became a large dance similar to what we have today.



The tradition of college proms continued for decades. This was Vassar's junior prom in 1940.

By the 1930s, prom was a rite of passage that meant you were about to be an adult. The men-to-be dressed in tuxedos, and the young women wore lavish gowns only a step or two below wedding dresses. Parent's magazine from 1935 says, "Young people have to learn gracious manners and social good taste just as they have to learn anything else, and well managed school dances and parties provide excellent opportunities for practice." Prom was just that.

While we may not view prom as a chance to show off our etiquette, our prom traditions aren't so different from the old days. Sociologist Diane Pacom says the reason prom is alive and well is that these days, it's more of a ritual than a monumental passage from youth to adulthood. Prom remains a milestone in high school regardless of whether your date wears a powder blue tux or a black one. It's all about making memories.

Prom through the eyes of others

Vanessa Yam attended the world's highest prom — in China. Even though she doesn't currently live in the United States, Yam participated in an American rite of passage that marks the end of one's high school career. Wearing a knee-length black and teal dress, Yam and her boyfriend ascended the World Financial Center in Shanghai, China and stopped on the 93rd floor. Overlooking the glittering city, Yam was a typical American teenager dancing at prom. "I don't really feel like I'm missing out on anything compared to prom in America," she says. "There is one tradition in America we don't really have here. Guys don't usually buy corsages for their dates unless they're American and know of the tradition."

Selene Baldassari from Argenta, Italy says that Italians would rather go to discos than schoolsponsored dances. While in Gresham, Oregon on an foreign exchange program, Baldassari went to prom, American style. After getting ready with another foreign exchange student from Germany and two high school seniors, the group went out for a fancy dinner before the dance. Baldassari says she remembers eating octopus and laughing a lot throughout the meal. "I really enjoyed the whole experience," she says. "I knew loads of people at the ball and I could say goodbye to everyone after spending time with them."

Bring Mom or Dad, not your best friend.

Parents usually have to pay for or approve the gown, Georgette says that if a girl has to wait for her parents, she probably won't buy the dress .

Be practical.

A long train may be pretty in pictures, but it's a hazard on the dance floor. Balance fashion with function.

Prom Shopping: 101

Georgette Diaz owns Georgette's Fashions, a dress boutique in Tampa, Florida. Year after year, she helps girls find the perfect prom dress. Here's her advice to

make the most of your shopping trip.

Choose the gown that suits your body.

Trends are fun, but it's more important to find a dress that flatters your shape. Check out the closet's tips to find the right dress for you.

Shop early!

Prom lines come out in January, which is a fine time to start looking for a gown. Southern girls should get their dresses in February or early March. Northern girls can wait until April.

Color first.

What color gets you the most compliments? That's the one you should wear to prom. Prom's one event where you can go a little crazy with color, and there are so many to choose from.

Hounglass Curves

To accentuate your curves, draw focus to your waist. Ruching, wrapping, and piping make for a more structured dress, and structure is a great way to define your midriff. You'll want to follow the advice from the full bust section and the voluptuous curves section. The support in the bodice will make sure you don't spend your prom night pulling your dress up. A-line dresses cinch in at the natural waist, then spread out like an A at the hip to create an hourglass shape.

Choose a sturdy fabric without much shine. Strong fabrics like duchess satin add support, but they have a sheen that can draw all the attention to one spot. If you want your gown to sparkle, choose a design with beading around the bust or hips. If you want details, but not shine, choose a fabric with texture like shantung, silk faille, or brocade. For more detail, look for wrapping and searning.

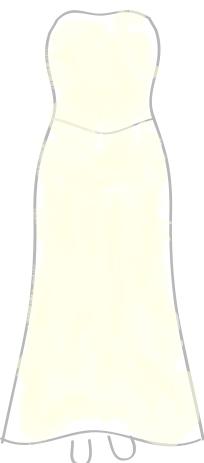


There's no hard and fast rule for flattering curvaceous hips. The super modern fit-to-flair look hugs the hips and flutters out below the thighs for extra va-va-voom. If you're looking for something more traditional, an A-line dress has a similar silhouette, but it shows off your hips less. For a softer effect, try an empire waist (meaning the dress cinches in just below the bust) and a sheer mesh fabric. That kind of detail will draw attention upwards and the fabric will fan out when you walk, so you'll feel like a model with a wind machine.

A great thing about round hips is that you can go crazy with the bodice. Gathering, glitter or a deeply cut V will add interest to the top of the dress.

Petite Build

Don't overwhelm yourself with extra material. Keep it simple and choose silhouettes that keep your body in proportion. Use seams across the hips to define and separate the halves of your body. Sweetheart necklines and deep $-v'_{\delta}$ lengthen your neck and define your bust. Short dresses show off a little leg, plus they're fun and flirty. If you go for a shorter dress, beware hemlines that cut your leg at the wrong place. Abovethe-knee dresses are less formal, but they're more playful. Gowns that fall past the knee are more elegant, but they can make your legs look shorter and throw off the proportions of your body. If you want a dress with volume and length, choose a tea-length dress with a long bodice to maintain balance.

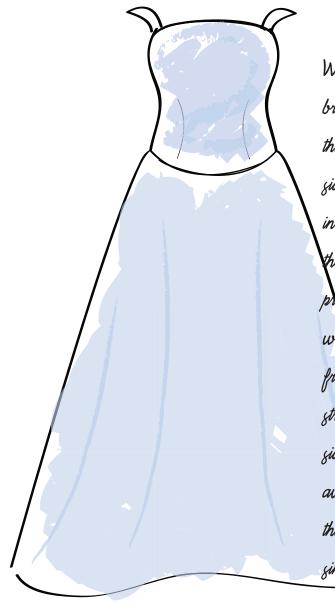


Sleek and Straight



With a long and lean frame, avoid sheaths, and look for dresses that have shape on their own. Use tiers to add volume to a narrow frame, or layers of tulle, a light fabric meshy fabric, to make a puffy ball-gown style skirt. Or, if you're not into the princess look, you can use a dropped or empire waist to play up a narrow torso, with a skirt that flows outward. Add a slit to show off your legs, but keep a little mystery. If you want to add shape to your bust, forget the tissue box. Choose a sweetheart neckline or a straight neckline overlaid with gathered fabric.

Full Bust



With a full bust, you have to be able to wear a supportive bra, so choose dresses with a wide halter or at least one thick strap and avoid low backs. Also, make sure the sides of the dress come up high enough to keep everything in its place. Look for princess seams (seams that follow the curves of your body) and boning (stiff strips behind princess seams) in the bodice for structure. A structured waytline does more than define the waist, it adds support from below. Sturdy structure should be complemented with strong materials that flow over your curves, like doublesided satin or silk faille. Fabrics and designs that float away from the hips will balance your figure and create that elegant hourglass form. Keep the bust of the dress simple. Wraps and gathered fabric may flatter a full bust while plunging necklines and embellishments might make it tough for your date to keep eye contact.

Voluptuous Curves

With a curvy figure, follow a little of every set of tips. Look for a heavy material with a structured bodice and princess seams or boning. The skirt of the dress should flow away from the hips to get that soft, fluttery look, and the neckline can have a little visual interest. Make sure you can wear a supportive bra with plenty of lift; itll help keep the dress in its place all night. Bodices and skirts are great, but the key to a dress that flatters great curves is the waist. Find a dress that nips in slightly at your natural waist and use betting or suching to play it up. Finish the look off with a pair of sensible heels; they make you stand up straight, and that highlights the waist even more.



If only every day could be prom day...



PLEASE EAT MY HOMEWORK!

AT 4'11" CIARA'S NOT EXACTLY A THREAT TO MISSY THE DOG. BUT IN THIS ZUM ZUM BY NIKI LIVAS GOWN WITH JUST ENOUGH PUFF, SHE LOOKS FIERCE.

THE LAST ONE STANDING

CHLOE IS THE DODGEBALL QUEEN IN HER MASQUERADE GOWN. THE SATIN WAISTBAND LENDS EXTRA SUPPORT TO HER BUST AND OPENS OUT SMOOTHLY INTO AN A-LINE SKIRT.



TAGGING THE TEAM CAR

STEPHANIE'S JOVANI DRESS WAS MADE FOR AN HOURGLASS FIGURE. CHECK OUT HOW THE EXTRA MATERIAL AND BROACH DRAW ATTENTION TO HER WAIST AND SHOW OFF THE SYMMETRY OF HER CURVES.







SNEAKING INTO THE GUYS' LOCKER ROOM

REBECCA'S SLEEK AND STRAIGHT FIGURE LOOKS ULTRA-FEMININE IN THIS MASQUERADE GOWN. THE SWEETHEART NECKLINE DEFINES HER BUST AND THE TIERED SKIRT REVS UP HER HIPS TO CREATE AN HOURGLASS EFFECT.

CHEM LAB GONE WRONG

YANA'S CALVIN KLEIN GOWN DEFINES HER BUST AND LENGTHENS HER NECKLINE WITH A SWEETHEART NECKLINE AND RUCHED BUST. WITH FIERY RED SATIN, IT'S NO WONDER SHE CAN'T CONCENTRATE ON HER ASSIGNMENT.







PRANKING THE PRINCIPAL

EILISH COULD GET AWAY WITH ANYTHING IN HER OLEG CASSINI GOWN. THE HIGH WAIST LETS THE MATERIAL FLOW OVER HER HIPS AND THE DEEP V-NECK DRAWS ATTENTION TO HER BUST LINE.







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Renee Crown Lecture Series Presents:

"Understanding the Genetic and Molecular Mechanisms of the SHL3 in *Arabidopsis thaliana*"

A Lecture by Sukeerti Kesar

May 5th at Syracuse University's Hendricks Chapel No reservations necessary.

Apples to Apples:

Comparing Men's and Women's Health Habits

A report by Stephanie Foltzer



There's always one prom accessory that arrives at the last minute: the corsage. Traditionally, a corsage is a flowery something that the guy presents to the girl in slow motion while the parents take lots and lots of pictures.

They can vary in size and shape from single roses on elastic wristbands to elaborate bouquets filled out with feathers, berries and ribbons. Corsages can get pricey, and it's hard to find one that matches your dress just right (especially if a boy is doing the buying).

 Pick your materials. You don't have to go the traditional, fresh-flowers route. Look through silk flowers, feathers, ribbons, and notions to find pieces that complement your gown, or find elegant paper you can use to make origami flowers. If your dress comes with spare beads or sequins, find ways to work those in for a cohesive look.

> You can also pick out a fresh bouquet that works with your friends' dresses to share the flowers and the cost. But fresh flowers have a short lifespan, so plan to make the corsages as close to prom as possible.

> Remember that you actually have to wear this work of art, so keep your choices light and sturdy.



Chances are, no matter what kind of corsage you make, you'll need these basic supplies:

Stem wrap

Elastic

Wire or floral wire to resemble a stem

Wire cutters

Needle and thread

For this example, we used feathers, synthetic orchids, silk leaves, and ribbon.

- 2. Cut the flowers. It's a good idea to cut them a little long in case you make a mistake.
- 3. To fortify the flower stems, attach a wire. Start at the base of the flower head and wrap in consistent spiral until you reach the end of the stem. To keep the base slim, use very short stems and long wires
- 4. Arrange the flowers against the backdrop, gathering all the stems together. Use an odd number of flowers and vary the heights for the best effect.
- 5. Wrap the stems together. Loop the spare wire from each flower around the other stems and cover with florist tape. Cover the wrapping with a ribbon, tied tightly in a bow.
- 6. Get creative with the wrist piece too. The elastic strip works well because it's wide, sturdy, and can stretch to fit onto your wrist. But you can use a slap bracelet or cuff as long as it supports the corsage. If your corsage is tall or heavy, you might want to add a second wrist piece to hold it up.
- 7. Attach it to the wrist piece. This is where the sewing comes in. Sew super-tight stitches through the base of the arrangement and into the wrist piece. If you chose a non-fabric wrist piece, try using hot glue instead of sewing.
- 8. If you used fresh flowers, keep the corsage in a refrigerator overnight to keep it looking vibrant until prom.









The dresses are sophisticated, the decorations are over the top—why should the invite be boring? These guys popped the question in such bold, creative ways, there was no way their dates could say no.

Popping duestion

Date Wanted

My boyfriend and I had been dating for ten months by the time

prom at Goodrich High School (in Michigan) came around. I had been working at the local newspaper called *The Citizen* for a year as a staff writer. It was a normal day about two weeks before prom and I didn't think he was going to ask me because we were dating so we assumed that we would be going together. Every weekend I looked through the newspaper, which came out every Saturday, to see how my stories came out. I looked through it, and then my mom came upstairs and told me to look in the classified section, so I did. At the top of the classified section there was an ad that read

WANTED: Chloe Slade to go to prom with Alex Rahn.

It was really cute and of course I said yes!

No matter how long you date someone, there is always room for a little romance.

-Chloe S.

Snare Affair

Our school has a Sadie Hawkins dance where the girls ask the guys. My best friend Sally was crushing on a drummer in our school's pipe and drum corps, but she was too shy to ask him in person. So she cut a circle from construction paper, decorated it with glitter, and wrote "Will you go to Sadie with me?" in big letters. At rehearsal for a school-wide concert, she snuck backstage and slipped a round card

> onto his drum before he went on stage. Of course he said yes!

—Natalie T.

Sticky Situation

WANTED- CHLOE SLADE to go to

prom with Alex Rahn. Call 849

HIMK CADE Haulad amon from

1100. !!Z361

This girl, Taylor. at my school found her car covered in yellow Post-its one afternoon. On the side in pink Post-its, her friend Justin had spelled out "Prom?" It was so cute and the whole school was talking about it. Plus everyone kept finding Postits on the sidewalk for days

—Sarah T.

Rapped Request

My friend used a rap to invite his date to prom. He said all the things he liked about her and then ended it like this:

"And now I got a crushin for you Do you wanna go to prom with me? Maybe you could make a song with me and you could dance all night long with me? Do you wanna go to prom with me, ya you could be the bomb with me and maybe you could get gone with me? Do you wanna go to prom with me maybe you could make a song with me and you could dance all night with me? You could be the prom queen."

I thought it was very cute and he said that it took him 3 weeks to do.

—Beatrice Z.

Message in a Bottle

For junior prom I asked my girlfriend, who was a sophomore, using a message in a bottle.

At the beach, my date and I were walking when she spotted the bottle as it floated near us. "Oh my God, it's my dream come true!" she yelled.

> We picked it up and carried to a nearby trash can to try to open it, but it wouldn't open, so we broke it open by striking it against the metal rim of the can. By now about 10 people were looking on, and she unrolled the piece of paper inside, turned red, and said, "Yes."

—David T.

Don't let guys have all the fun! Try one of these creative ways to pop the question:

- Write the words "Will you go to prom with me?" on individual index cards. Have random people pass the cards to your date-to-be throughout the day; when the bell rings, hand him the "me" card yourself.
- Write your name on a slip of paper and put it in a balloon. Blow up the balloon and write your invite on the outside. Attach it to his locker with a pin so he can pop the question himself.
- Ask to borrow his calculator (it has to be the graphing kind). Type your invite on the screen before you give it back. When he turns it on, he'll see your message.
- Send him on a scavenger hunt around campus. Start with a note on his locker and give hints for where he can get the next clue. Leave notes where no one else will find them. For example, a note on his locker might say "Roses are red, violets are blue. I'd love to go to prom with you. You'll know who I am, in time, but first, go to the place where you quench your thirst." Then a note on the back of the water fountain would have his next clue. At the end of the hunt, the clues will lead to you.





Big events always come with a dose of drama. Just take a seat on the couch and tell us how it all started...

After weeks of searching, I finally found the perfect prom dress. I've already had it tailored and everything, but I just found out another girl at my school bought the same one! What should I do?

Sounds like the other girl has great taste.

There are more girls in the world than there are dresses there's bound to be some overlap. But it's so not the end of the world! You can embrace the twin thing and have some fun.

First of all, You may be wearing the same dress, but you don't have to be wearing the same look. Jewelry, shoes, hair—prom gowns are all about accessorizing.

Look for the unexpected: if the dress is black, wear colored or patterned shoes; if the dress is purple, try yellow accessories. The devil's in the details, and your personality should be, too.

Second, you can't change it, so have fun with it. Stage a mini photo shoot to show off your (almost!) matching set. Prom's too fun for outfit drama. So keep things upbeat and friendly.

A lot of stores will keep track of who's wearing what so they don't sell the same dress to two girls at the same school. When you're dress shopping, ask the salesperson if she knows if anyone from your school already claimed a gown so you can take that into consideration. After hours and hours of shopping I found the perfect dress. It was a long, silk, orange halter-neck dress. When I walked into prom, I saw a freshman at the door with the same exact dress And then someone's date had it on. Three girls in one dress and there were only 31 people at my prom! So after complaining and worrying I decided that it was my last prom and that this incident should not ruin the rest of my night. I went up to the freshman girl who was wearing the dress and made a joke about how we had the same taste. It turns out that she got her dress in Florida and was sure no one else would have it. So much for planning! - Mikaela Ost



<image>

Got an issue for the Guidance Counselor? Send it to Natal_eeMag.com

My prom was, unfortunately, on the same night of Playoff Game 6 of the Cleveland Cavaliers vs. Orlando Magic. Orlando had won three games already and Cleveland only two, so this game was the most important one not to miss. If we lost that night, we lost the whole year. Since my friends and I live in Cleveland, and therefore are diehard Cavs fans by default, we decided to wear our Cavs' jerseys over our dresses to the dance that night. Although spirited, the idea didn't bring any luck to our team on the court!

-Elizabeth Gavier

All my friends have dates for prom, but I'm going stag. I don't want to feel like a fifth wheel. What can I do?

Chances are you're not the only one going to prom on her own. If you have a friend, guy or girl, who doesn't have a date, see if he or she wants to come with your group. It doesn't have to be a date, just company. And while it's fun to have a date for pictures and corsages, once you get to the party, people won't be sticking to their partners. There's nothing wrong with going it alone as long as you're with friends you'll have a great time.

My friends made a pact to lose weight before prom. I think my dress looks fine, but my friend said I should "work on my abs." I'd like to be able to eat a sandwich without seeing her roll her eyes. What can I do?

Good for you for knowing not to listen to your friend about this. The dress is only there to show you off, so if the dress doesn't fit, tailor the dress, not yourself. Prom may be a pretty big deal, but there is no event or person important enough to make you change yourself. Try talking to your friend alone when there's no pressure. Let her know her watchful eye is upsetting you. Sometimes it's easy to get so wrapped up in an event that you lose sight of what's important, and your friend may need a reality check. She forgot that crash dieting isn't just unnecessary, it's harmful, and that prom will be a lot less fun if she spends the whole night worrying about how she looks.

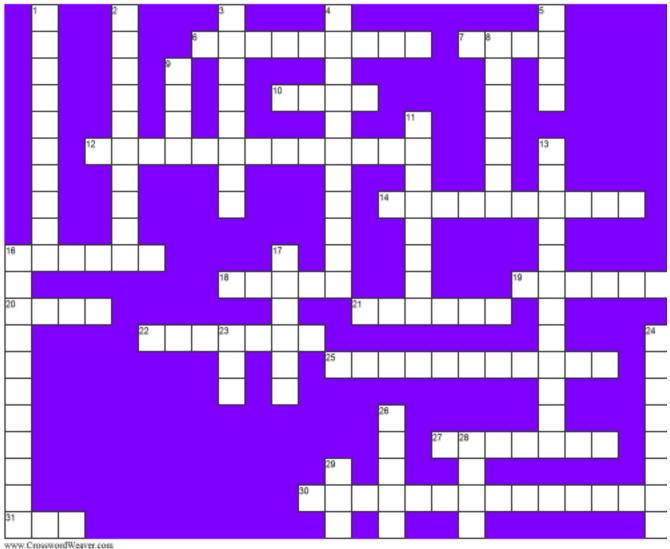
If you think your friend may be anorexic, you should talk to an adult for help.



Every girl needs a little Chanel in her life. This month, we're pining after the Sheath of Wheat hair comb from the Spring-Summer 2010 collection. It's Chanel's take on a trend that's on its way over from the U.K.



As an alternative to hats, English women wear fascinators, elaborate headpieces made with flowers, feathers, wire, and jewels. They were out of vogue for a while in the U.S., only surfacing at the Kentucky Derby (fashion at the Derby is wild—in a super conservative way). But last summer, fascinators found their way back into mainstream fashion. The sidewalks of New York City were lined with other takes on fascinators: flowered headbands, feathered clips and velvet roses. And remember that "bird" Sarah Jessica Parker's wore in the Sex and the City movie? That was a fascinator, too.



ACROSS

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NataLee/May 2009

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- 1 Unavoidable
- 2 Extreme joyfulness
- 3 Concerned with sensual pleasure
- 4 Harmful to living things
- 5 Traditional graduation song, part one
- 8 Rich and superior in quality
- 9 Ben and Jerry size
- 11 Pasta Love?
- 13 Traditional graduation song, part two
- 15 Cautious
- 16 Of the moment; Impromptu
- 17 Elaborately ornamented
- 23 Spelling or queen
- 24 Pop's wackiest new female performer
- 23 Spelling or queen
- 24 Pop's wackiest new female performer
- 26 L.C.'s show "The__"
- 28 Samburg of SNL fame
- 29 Canine

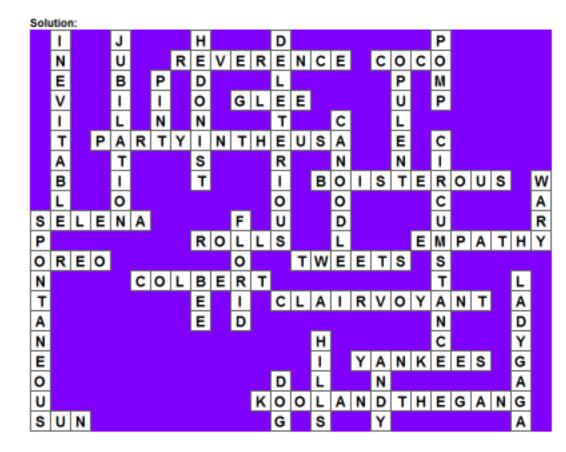
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Kelsey Adams and Meghan Srube present: "Gary's Sneakers: A 3D Animated Short"



Prom 2010

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