6 MUM 7 REND FOR THIS SEASON

From lights to glitter, you'll see it all this homecoming season

Written by Cherri Northcutt Select photography by Marisa Hugonnett

MUMS THE WORD

Homecoming is a big deal in Katy. It's right up there with school spirit and Friday night football. For high school students, having the perfect mum is essential. Katy Magazine sat down with designer Cindy Hooks of Homecoming Mums and Garters, who has been creating mums in Katy for 15 years, to learn what trends are expected to be popular this year.

> Kansas Bryant looks foward to cheering on the Katy Tigers at the homecoming game



GO BIG OR GO HOME

"When I started making mums, they were much smaller and often real flowers were used," Hooks remembers. "Now, most mums and garters are made with larger, silk flowers." Bigger flowers offer more space for elaborate decorations. Seniors will often be seen sporting over-the-shoulder mums with elaborate accessories.



MORE IS MORE

You've heard the old adage, less is more. When it comes to mums, more is more. From elaborate decorations to more than one mum, if one is good, two or more are better. Hooks makes special friendship mums with hot pink, black, and zebra print ribbons with silver accents - which are very popular.



MOVERS, SHAKERS, AND NOISE MAKERS

Another new addition has been movement and sound. Noisy accents include cowbells, whistles, and maracas. Even assorted keychains add bulk and jingle. If that's not enough, you can get a music button that plays one of your favorite songs.



BLING IT ON

Walking through the halls during homecoming, you may think that Katy girls have glitter running through their veins. By far the largest request this season is, "I want my mum to sparkle." Traditionally, shimmery ribbons can be silver for juniors and gold for seniors.



LIGHT 'EM UP

"Fiber optic lights with lighted strands have been popular both in the flower and hanging with the ribbons," Hooks explains. "With the rise in technology, LED lights add to the visual enhancement," says JoAnne Carbone a mother of six boys who has purchased a variety of date mums for many homecomings.



GET CREATIVE AND PERSONAL

Hooks remembers a student who wanted a huge, plush frog in the center of his girlfriend's flower. "Its long legs were hanging down among the ribbons," she laughs. KHS sophomore Krystalynn Gier says, "Mums vary from one person to the next. I have masks on mine because I'm involved in theatre."

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UNIQUE IDEAS FOR MUMS

Mini light-up lava lamps Photos in small picture frames Cowbells, horns, and noise makers Hershey's Kisses in coiled wire balls Unusual stuffed animals Small Bibles or keychains Joke noses and glasses Rubber ducks



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