

# PROM PREVIEW

Your official  
guide to  
creating the  
perfect prom

*Written by Emme Enojado*

*Photo courtesy of  
PromGirl.com*

It's the moment you've been waiting for and for seniors, it's the last true night as a high schooler before you're handed a diploma. Here's what you need to know.

### THE DRESS & TUX

The guys have it fairly simple. If you have a date, then match your tie or bowtie with the color of her dress. Find a classic black tux that fits properly, or a white tux if you're bold, and you're set! "I usually take a look through Burlington Coat Factory because you can find nice items there for not too steep of a price," says Zion Mpeye, a senior at Seven Lakes High School. "I'll also be checking out Al's Formal Wear, H&M, and some miscellaneous online places."

For girls, it's the most talked about prom subject. It's spending hours in the dressing room. It's the beloved prom dress. Popular stores to visit when looking for the dress are Camille La Vie in Memorial City and Formal Gallery and Eesh Formals, both along Highway 6. You can also shop online on sites like promgirl.com which has a generous exchange policy if the fit isn't right.

Try on a variety of dresses to find which style and color is the best match for you. To make shopping fun, bring along a close friend or two, pick out dresses for each other and make the experience fun. And don't forget about your mom for advice and fashion tips. They say "mother knows best" for a reason! Don't forget to check with your school on dress code requirements. The last thing you need is to be refused admittance because your gown is inappropriate.

### THE GROUP

Forming the perfect group to go with is easily one of the most stressful things about the prom preparation process, but have no fear. Go with the friends that you have the most fun with. If you end up having a larger prom group, you can take pictures all together and then split up into smaller groups during or after prom. But don't stress too much about the logistics of groups - you'll see all of your friends on the magical night!

### THE COST

According to promgirl.com, the cost of prom can range from \$175-\$2100 per person. While most gowns will cost between \$100-\$400, there are many other expenses that are optional or vary widely. Variables like limousines, photography, professional hair, makeup, and nails will definitely hike up the cost. Ladies can keep the cost down by doing their own hair, makeup, and nails. For guys, sharing transportation or going in groups is your best bet.

### DINING & DRIVING

After the Instagram-worthy prom pictures are shot, it's time to fill up before dancing the night away. For Katy teens, favorite places to eat include Maggiano's, BJ's, and The Cheesecake Factory. Large groups should make reservations

### THANK YOU PROM MODELS

*Taylor High School students (l to r) Nick Petree, Brooke Vaile, Sophia Triola, Kristal Kim, Linda Duraj, Nolan Shipley, and Allie Smith*

Photos by Anetorius Wallace





at their restaurant of choice weeks in advance and choose a restaurant close to their prom venue. "Going out to eat kind of depends on your prom's location," Zion says. "Last year, my prom group had dinner at Eddie V's in CityCentre, and they had excellent food and service."

Make sure not to scratch casual restaurants off the list. Places like Ruggles Green and House of Pies conserve time and money, and have less of a crowd. "Most people go to fancy places before prom, but I think as long as you're with good company, even IHOP is fun," says Jennifer Thai, a senior at Mayde Creek High School.

Riding in style makes the night extra dazzling. If you have a group of six to 15 people, then consider renting a limo. A party bus is a great option for larger groups of 15 to 25 people. Katy Texas Limos, Abiding Limousines, and Elite Limo Houston are great services if your group chooses to rent a limo or party bus. If you have a smaller group of about 10 people, then carpooling is cost-friendly and still a fun way to ride.

## ENJOY YOURSELF

When the night arrives, just remember to live in the moment and have fun! "Be safe and enjoy the night," Clayton Odom III, a senior at Katy High School says. "Remember you will be making memories with your friends that you will cherish for life." KM

## KATY AREA HIGH SCHOOL PROMS

British International School of  
Houston - June 22  
*Holiday Inn Houston - Westchase*

Cinco Ranch High School - May 20  
*The Westin Galleria*

Faith West Academy - May 13  
*The Clubhouse at Firethorne*

Houston Christian High School - May 12  
*Location had not been decided at the time of print*

Katy High School - May 13  
*Four Seasons Hotel Houston*

Mayde Creek High School - May 20  
*Hilton Houston Post Oak*

Morton Ranch High School - April 29  
*Omni Houston Hotel at Westside*

Seven Lakes High School - May 20  
*The Citadel*

St. John XXIII College Preparatory - April 22  
*Dukessa*

Strake Jesuit College Preparatory - April 28  
*Lakeside Country Club*

Taylor High School - May 20  
*The Corinthian*

Tompkins High School - April 29  
*The Westin Galleria*

## PROM GOWN TRENDS 2017

### TWO PIECE

High-waisted skirts with tops placed a few inches above the skirt line are growing in popularity.

### ILLUSION

You're going to see sheer areas along the back, body, or neckline this spring.

### NUDES

Soft gold, cream, taupe, and nude muted colors are hugely popular right now.

### SHORT DRESSES

Sassy and sweet, short flaired or fitted dresses will be everywhere this season.

### CUTOUTS

Get ready for peek-a-boo cutouts showing glimpses of the back or waistline.

### HI-LOW

Short in the front and long in the back dresses are still a hot trend.

### LACE & FLORALS

Elegant lace gowns or colorful florals will be rocking the prom dance floor this season.



Photo courtesy of PromGirl.com