

Shopping for a Prom Dress

What would it say if we dressed modestly *most* of the time, but then gave in to the pressure of dressing inappropriately “*just this once*”?

We know it's tough to shop for dresses that are both appropriate and stunningly beautiful, but we also know that it can be done. Here's how:

Let's start with the basics:

1. Fabric matters. Dresses should be made of solid, opaque material from the bust to the fingertip length of the skirt. Sheer, see-through, and translucent materials are not acceptable for this main part of the dress.
2. The backline must cover at least 5 inches above the buttocks.
3. There can be no “cut-outs” that expose midriffs or the sides of the body. No keyhole cutouts below the bust line of the dress.
4. Any slits in the dress must not be higher than fingertip length.
5. Little to zero cleavage can be shown. No exposed sides of bust should be visible. Strapless dresses and one-strap dresses often cover the whole bust way better than halter strap or spaghetti strap dresses do.

Scenarios:

Worst: Dress is beyond our ability to make it appropriate with a quick fix at Grand March. You have to be sent home to change before being admitted into Grand March or Prom.

A little better: Dress does not meet dress code, but with our handy-dandy fixes, you are pinned, taped, shawled, and otherwise tailored on the spot to make your dress appropriate.

Good: You bought a dress, and if you take it to a tailor at least 3 weeks before prom, they can close a slit, tighten straps, add straps, close a plunging neckline, or even close up just a little too much cleavage.

Best!!! : You found a dress that meets dress code! It's gorgeous!!!

A word to your dates: Baggy pants that leave underwear exposed will not be allowed. We will have some old belts on hand if your dates need assistance keeping their underwear covered.