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Are you ready for prom?

by Kris Larson

As prom looms on the horizon, there's a lot to consider. Of course you'll need the perfect dress, hairstyle, accessories and makeup, but prom is a lot more than that. It's a chance to bond with your friends, an excuse for shopping trips and makeover parties, and a way to celebrate the great times you've had in high school before you move on to your senior year or college.

1. It's a week before the big night. You open your closet and see:

A. Your dress and shoes. You can borrow a bag from your mom and your BFF is loaning you a wrap that matches perfectly.

B. Your dress on the floor. You're pretty sure you hung it up at some point...oh well.

C. Dress, backup dress, shoes, bag, wrap, alternate wrap, and five pairs of stockings. You know, just in case.

2. You're out shoe shopping with your friends. What do you pick?

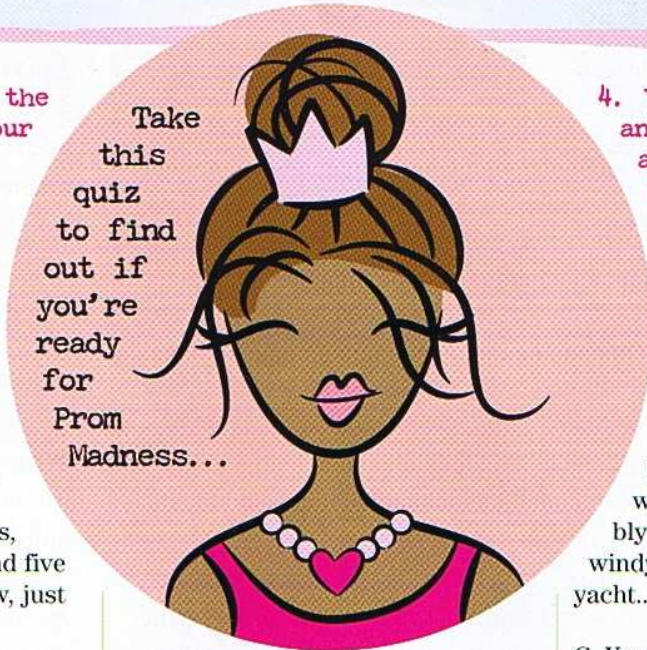
A. You ordered six pairs of shoes online and kept three, even though they were \$100 each. It's better to have options, after all. Besides, they all looked great on you.

B. You found a pair of flats that are almost the same color as your dress and only pinch a little in the toe. After all, you only have to wear them one night.

C. You went to three different stores but you finally found shoes that look great and fit perfectly, so you won't be limping all night.



Take this quiz to find out if you're ready for Prom Madness...



3. It's time to think about accessories. What are you planning?

A. Your friend said she'd bring a lot of earrings for you to pick from; something's bound to look okay with your dress.

B. You nagged your parents until they agreed to buy you expensive matching gold earrings, bracelet and necklace. They cost a lot, but after all, prom is worth it.

C. You're borrowing your mom's amethyst earrings and bracelet, and you bought some sparkly pins for your hair. You're all set.



4. You've got the dress and the accessories: how about the hairstyle? Your plans are...

A. Your BFF has helped you experiment with a few different styles to find the perfect one. She can come over early and you'll do each other's hair.

B. You were just going to wear your hair down. It probably won't be that windy on the yacht...

C. You've already made an appointment with a stylist to get the perfect 'do.



5. Your BFF is hosting a manicure party the day before the dance. You:

A. Go, but bring your own colors. You have the perfect polish to match your dress.

B. Don't go. You can paint your own nails while you're on the phone with your date.

C. Won't go. You're having your nails professionally done, and you don't want your friends to screw them up.



6. Three of your friends are hiring a limo and they want you to come too. What do you say?

A. "My date and I are hiring our own limo just for us, so we'll see you guys there."

B. "I'm in, but let's get two more people to split the cost a little more."

C. "No, thanks. It sounds expensive; I can just drive myself."

7. Your date wants to know what kind of corsage he should get you. What do you tell him?

A. "Nobody does corsages anymore. Don't bother."

B. "Anything purple will match my dress. I'd love to be surprised."



C. "I need a pink-veined white orchid, and it has to be a wrist corsage, not a pin. You can find it at the florist on Main Street. Make sure you keep it in water until you pick me up or it will wilt."

8. Your mom thinks you should bring something warm. What's your answer?

A. "We'll mostly be indoors, mom. A coat would ruin the look of the dress, so forget it."



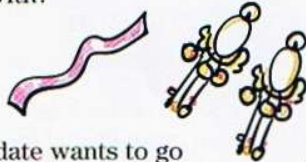
B. "Kate Spade has a wrap in exactly the right shade. It's pretty and it's a designer label, so I'm going to get that."

C. "Aislynn said I could borrow her black wrap. It's thick enough to be warm and it totally looks perfect with my dress."

9. You've been invited to three different after-parties, but your BFF only wants to go to one of them. What do you do?

A. You're going with your best friend, of course. The whole point of the after-party is to compare notes on what happened at the prom, and who else would you want to do that with?

B. You're going to whatever party your date wants to go to. This is going to be the most romantic night of your life; you can talk to your friend later.



C. Prom is the important thing. Afterwards you can just see where most people are going and go with them.

10. It's finally the big day, with just two hours to go. Where are you?

A. Watching TV. After all, you've got an hour and a half before you need to start getting ready.

B. Sitting alone in front of your mirror. You love your friends, but there's no way you'd let them mess up your preparations.

C. In a room full of your friends, listening to music at top volume, trading lipsticks and helping each other get ready.



Scoring:

1. A.2, B.1, C.3
2. A.3, B.1, C.2
3. A.1, B.3, C.2
4. A.2, B.1, C.3
5. A.2, B.3, C.1
6. A.3, B.2, C.1
7. A.1, B.2, C.3
8. A.1, B.3, C.2
9. A.2, B.3, C.1
10. A.1, B.3, C.2



10-16 points:

Not ready

Sure, prom isn't going to be the most important night in your life. But it's more than just another school dance. Prom is a little bit glamorous, a little bit magic, and it can be a whole lot of fun. It's okay to focus on other things, but don't forget that this is an important bonding moment between you and



your friends. Plus, prom is a great excuse to get glammed up and impress everyone with how gorgeous you can be! Fun accessories, shoes that you can dance in, and some awesome perks like a limo ride with your BFFs will help make this a night to remember.

17-24 points:

Totally ready

You've got the kick dress, great accessories and the perfect plans with your friends: you're all set. And even though you love the glamour and romance, you also know that the most important part of prom is the chance to bond with your buds. Soon you'll all be heading off to different colleges and starting new chapters of your lives, but right now you're still together, and you're smart to celebrate it.

25-30 points:

A little too ready

Has anyone ever told you that prom is supposed to be fun? Spending a ton of money and shutting yourself off from your friends isn't going to make this the best prom ever. If you try to make everything perfect, you're bound to be disappointed. And no matter how much your dress cost or how great your professional hairdo looks, spending this time with your friends is what makes prom unforgettable. Relax and enjoy yourself! ✖

