



PS FASHION

Kiara Aguillon, a 15-year-old sophomore at Wilson High School, models a romantic **yellow dress with embroidery and tiered ruffles by Jessica McClintock**. "It's good to go for a romantic look, but it depends on who you are," she says. "Your personality should definitely be reflected in your look. I definitely felt like a princess. It was very flattering and felt good. I looked like a porcelain doll."

Jessica McClintock yellow embroidered dress **\$188** Carlos Santana enamel flower high heels **\$79** Both at Meier & Frank / Accents of Grace pearl chain earrings **\$56** At Dragonlily Boutique / Yellow ranunculus wrist corsage **\$20** Yellow ranunculus flower pieces for hair **\$10-\$15** (for set of three) Both at Laurelhurst Florist

Rachel Sebastian looks glamorous in a **pink beaded dress from Caché**. Shorter styles are popular with many young women this prom season.

Pink beaded dress **\$228** At Caché / Steve Madden "Aniston" strappy heels **\$69.99** At Meier & Frank / Rhinestone hoop with crystal drop earrings **\$34** At Bebe / Rhinestone tiara **\$24** At The Bee and Thistle / Pink phalaenopsis orchid wrist corsage **\$20** At Laurelhurst Florist

Elijah Craft looks fine for prom night in the **"Rio" tuxedo by Oscar de la Renta**. **\$145** At A Formal Affair

PHOTOS BY
TIM LaBARGE
THE OREGONIAN

Jahzebe Gharahgozly, an 18-year-old Grant High School senior, models a **classic pink halter gown from Caché**. Gharahgozly says many of her friends look to celebrities for inspiration in choosing a prom dress. "We look at magazines all the time, and this is our chance to dress like that," she says, citing celebs like Charlize Theron, Sarah Jessica Parker and Halle Berry as having the most influence.

Pink halter gown **\$198** At Caché / Valerie Stevens Lucite and rhinestone heels **\$69.99** At Meier & Frank / White orchid wrist corsage **\$20** At Laurelhurst Florist Big Girl Workshop hoop drop earrings **\$20** At Cheeky B.

Pretty for prom

Go for the glam on your big night

BY KAREN VITT
SPECIAL TO THE OREGONIAN

There's nothing very glamorous about high school. It's more about sweaty gym socks, pop quizzes and mysterious cafeteria cuisine. And that's exactly why prom night is special for so many teens.

"Prom is the only time to really shine in high school," says Evangeline Dietrich, store manager at Caché in Pioneer Place. "It's the only time to really be beautiful and pampered, and look like a little princess."

Jahzebe Gharahgozly, an 18-year-old senior at Grant High School, agrees. "Prom is the last dance with everybody, and the last time you'll see everyone all formal. We don't have any other formals when you can get all decked out."

For young women heading to prom this year, "decked out" means slipping into something sophisticated and colorful, in springy shades of yellow, turquoise, pink or green. "No one wants a black dress," Gharahgozly says. "It's just too bland."

Bland definitely won't make the class cut for Prom 2005. Instead, girls are opting for elaborate styles they've seen on starlets in movies and magazines. "A lot of girls are going for very slick-looking dresses," Dietrich says. "It has something to do with what they've seen at the Grammys and the Oscars. They're going for the glam, with very low backs, sequins, silky satin and charmeuse."

Whether you prefer the classic cool of Nicole Kidman, the romantic ease of Jennifer Aniston or the glam style of Gwen Stefani, comfort and individuality are key. Personalize an off-the-rack dress with a vintage handbag from Red Light or Buffalo Exchange, toss in your grandmother's pearls and celebrate your night to shine with playful touches like a quirky tiara or rhinestone-embellished heels.

"Prom is something girls look forward to even entering high school," says Kiara Aguillon, a 15-year-old Wilson High School sophomore who already is thinking about prom, though she won't attend until next year. "It's one of the highlights of high school. It's a celebration of being young."



tips

What's not to celebrate? Summer break is on the horizon and making it through another year of high school was no easy feat. Now kiss that cafeteria mystery meat goodbye, and get an A-plus in prom planning. This simple advice will help make the night as bright as your future.

YOUR DATE: Don't fret if you don't have a date. It's just as cool to take a friend. "People actually prefer that," says Grant High School senior Jahzebe Gharahgozly. "Everyone is going as friends and hanging in a big group."

YOUR DRESS: Try on a variety of dress styles to determine your best look. "It's really the fit," says Evangeline Dietrich of Caché. "Your look is really going to depend on how the dress fits." A few general rules: Shorter girls look better in shorter dresses; empire waists are flattering to smaller busts; and A-line gowns with details on top help disguise fuller hips and thighs. Dietrich recommends two or three shopping trips before making a purchase, and moving around in the dress. "We make sure the girls try sitting down. If you cannot sit down, it's too tight for you. You don't want things popping."

YOUR SHOES: "Comfortable shoes are a big deal," Gharahgozly says. "Every dance we have, people usually wear high heels because they make the clothes look better, and toward the middle of the dancing it just hurts so bad they take them off and dance barefoot. At prom, you have to take pictures, go to dinner, ride around in the limo - you don't want to be bleeding on your feet." Cute kitten heels and dressy flip-flops detailed with rhinestones or sequins make the grade.

YOUR MAKEUP: "The last thing you want is heavy makeup," says Deborah Haynes, owner of Blush Beauty Bar. "When you're young and fresh, you don't need to hide anything." For prom, Haynes recommends a high-glamour look for teens, which is shimmery and fresh. "Skin is dewy and very healthy-looking - nothing matte or powdery. Lips are a soft baby pink that's shiny and glossy with a shimmer to it." If you've never had your makeup applied by a professional, prom is the perfect opportunity.

YOUR HAIR: "Make sure you find a stylist who will take into account your personality and what you are wearing to prom, so they can incorporate both into your hairstyle," says Donna Parzcyn, a stylist at The Bob Shop who has 13 years of experience styling hair for special events. "And book in advance," she warns. You don't want to be without a stylist on the big night!" Parzcyn is seeing a lot of updos this year, perhaps because teens like to look a little older. "Prom hair this year is generally up, and more sleek and sophisticated. It has a bit of a '40s vibe."

YOUR SELF: It's fun to get all dolled up for prom, but it's important to make sure you look and feel like yourself. Even in full hair and makeup, if you're 17 you shouldn't look 37. "A lot of girls go for that," says Sarah Walter, a Wilsonville High School senior. "At this stage of life, everyone tries to look older, but dressing your own age is so appropriate."