

FIRST DANCE SURVIVAL GUIDE

For a fairy tale fabulous evening, you can't just wing it! Use GI's ultimate dance planner and you'll be on your way to major magic.

3 weeks before...

- Get permission from Mom 'n' Dad
- Figure out whom you're going with

Got your eye on a guy? If your crush is clueless, summon up the courage and pop the question.

- Brainstorm pre- and post-dance plans
- Shop for your dress
(and have it altered if you need to)

Ask your buds what they plan to wear before you buy anything. Showing up in a formal gown when everyone else is rockin' jeans will make ya wanna disappear.]

2 weeks before...

- Shop for the perfect accessories

Don't feel like you've gotta grab a clutch. Holding your stuff 24/7 will get old fast. Slipping a wristlet on your arm or tossing a petite, long-strapped purse over your shoulder is a chic, carefree alternative.

- Hammer out the details: dinner, rides, after party
- Buy your tix, if necessary

1 week before...

- Double-check your school's dance rules

Bringing a guest from another school? Ask an administrator if they need to be on a pre-approved list—and put 'em on it if the answer is yes!

- Take your dance 'do and makeup look for a test drive

- Confirm your plans
- Got two left feet? Practice some basic moves

Day before...

- Stock your room with get-ready essentials
- Load your iPod with pre-dance tunes you can groove to
- Pamper yourself: Paint your nails, slather on a facemask, exfoliate

A definite 'do: Dirty hair is easier to style than clean hair, so wash and condition the day before if you're plannin' a fancy look.

Day of...

- Charge your cell and camera
- Eat a light meal

And snack smart! Sip water instead of soda and skip salty snacks and fried food. All three will give you big-time bloat...and you don't wanna be sucking in a food baby when you hit the dance floor, right?

- Pack your purse

Bring the essentials: cash, cell, school ID and tickets, if ya need 'em. Band-aids for blisters, Q-Tips for touch-ups and a tube of lip gloss round out your stash.

- Do your hair and makeup

HAVE A BLAST!