

Big Dance, Big Money

Handling Prom Costs

By Laura Richards

Going to prom is often seen as a must-do rite of passage, but it can wind up being a very pricey evening.

“Prom costs have definitely skyrocketed in recent years as prom events have become more elaborate,” says Lindsey Bennett, who designs dresses and studies trends for Azazie.com, an online special occasion dress company. “What was once a dance in a gym has now become a formal affair at an outside venue with pre-parties and after-parties.”

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- It helps teens learn to budget and prioritize different desires.

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- It helps teens learn to budget and prioritize different desires.
- If teens contribute, they will feel more engaged with and place more value on their prom experience.
- Even if they grumble, paying for things with their own money gives teens a sense of empowerment.
- Teens will learn to talk about—and negotiate—finances, “an invaluable skill” that Greenberg says many adults lack.

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