

Basic hair do's and don'ts for the big night

JORDAN SAHLIN
Staff Reporter

COEUR D'ALENE CHARTER ACADEMY

I have never been very excited about making a big deal of prom. In fact, I would like to consider myself a minimalist in general. So writing about elegant, time-consuming hairdos is a little contrary to my nature. That in mind, the most important tip I could ever give to anyone who is attending prom and is not bald, is relax, and don't get all hare-brained.

DO: Wash your hair. Hopefully, this event is not brought on only by special occasions. But if it is, please consider prom a special occasion and wash your hair. It's the most elementary of actions that will leave everyone on the dance floor thanking you.

DO: Get a trim a few weeks before prom to freshen your 'do. Make it a couple weeks because if the cut is bad, you can grow out most errors but still have a new look. But ...

DON'T: Go for a new cut, style and/or color that you have never tried before. This is a dangerous maneuver that is almost guaranteed to leave you with regrets. If it is horrible, even a hairdo or another cut may not be able to cover

it up. If you want to go for something drastic, do so gradually over the couple of weeks before prom. That way, you can monitor exactly how much is too much before it gets out of hand.

DO: Have a stylist you trust. This is not as important if you are just doing something routine, but if you want to have a very personal look, you need to arrange for someone you know and someone experienced who will not lead you astray. This goes for the style/trim before prom as well as the day-of-prom 'do.

DON'T: Use a heating element if you're not used to it.

If you're considering doing your own hairdo, stop and think whether it would require a curler, straightener, crimper or anything else that would need electricity and heat. Even if you do use these tools regularly, think about getting a friend to help or just supervise. You'd rather go to prom with your same old natural hair than with a huge burn on your forehead, right?

Don't go for a new cut, style and/or color that you have never tried before. This is a dangerous maneuver that is almost guaranteed to leave you with regrets.

DO: Keep it simple. Chances are, your hair is just going to bounce out of those ringlets or sweat is going to make that gel useless. Prom is for dancing and having fun, not for keeping your hair perfect! Along the same lines ...

DON'T: Wear a style that you have to worry about or fix all the time. To test this, try wearing your hair in the style you're thinking of for prom. Then, walk the dog or dance around your living room for half an hour or so. If there are more bobby pins poking your head than keeping your hair held in place, this is probably not the ideal style

for you.

DO: Keep it cool. As in, temperature-cool. Ventilation is important to remain comfortable throughout the night.

DON'T: Consider any style that is going to compromise the safety or happiness of anyone else on the floor. Hair longer than a few inches should never be spiked, for instance. Assume that your dance partners will want to keep

their eyes. Also, if you are planning on doing a bit of head-banging, don't wear anything that will whip anyone or give you whiplash.

DON'T: Forget that retro is out. I realize that it is a style in itself, and it is even a theme for some proms. But it is so much more appropriate for a homecoming dance or something more informal than prom. This nixes ideas like the mullet and the side-ponytail. There are more classy ways to rock.

DO: Do an up-do, girls. A French twist is a fairly typical prom style, but there are always ways to make it new and personal. If that's not your style, consider some curls and pin them up. Keep it elegant, and remember - ventilation is your main objective!

DON'T: Obsess. Maybe you have heard stories about those who were dedicated to prom enough to actually get up at 5 a.m. just for some dead cells (this counts both nails and hair). Or maybe you were one of those people. Prom can be special, but it will only be something to rave about if you make it great while you are there. Afterwards, you will want to remember the incredible dancing you did with your friends and your favorite songs, not how long it took you to do your hair.




Buy One Burrito & Beverage

FREE

Get One Burrito


Expires 3/31/08 The "Vox"

Same GREAT TASTE - just little BIGGER place


New Store with Drive Thru - open till 11:00 pm

487-6093
Corner of Nevada and Wellesley

Handmade treasures from around the globe



LUCKY MONKEY TRADING CO.



Where's the **Monkey?**

Find the hidden monkey in this ad and receive 10% off your total purchase

Expires
March 31, 2008

• Must present ad for 10% discount • Excludes sale & consignment items, and prior layaway purchases
• Not good with other offers • One discount per customer, per visit

208.664.9096
412 E. Sherman, Suite 101

In the Heart of Downtown
Coeur d'Alene