

Graduation Preparation

It is a “Risky Business” to shop correctly so that you don't end up with huge bills!

Congratulations! You are graduating from Year 10 at the end of this year! This is an exciting time in your life, and you deserve to celebrate your accomplishments. Here are some things you can do to prepare for your graduation ceremony: Make a detailed list and create a budget.

1. **Choose your outfit.** This is your big day, so you want to look your best. Start by thinking about your school colours and what you feel comfortable in. You may investigate which shop is least expensive if wishing to purchase a new outfit. Find the cost of a 'semi-formal' outfit from three different stores.

**Remember the dress code:

Please remember that dresses/skirts need to be below the knee, mid calf or 'long and lovely' as there are many perils associated with walking across a stage with an audience seated below you. Platform shoes can also be a real hazard, as stairs will need to be negotiated. Remember, Mr Ian Morrison and members of our community do not want to see you struggling to walk, or to see too much of you!

Gentlemen, dress trousers and ties are a must. Please also remember that sneakers of any kind are not appropriate for this occasion - dress shoes are required and will be checked on the night! There are a good range of men's dress shoes at the Number 1 Shoe Warehouse - alternatively you could give your school shoes a good clean and polish!

Students, remember that this is not a school ball - no demands to your parents for expensive gowns or transport arrangements please! There is also no need to change your hair colour for this school event - your hair colour needs to be natural as stated in the school uniform dress code as this is a school event.

2. **Get a haircut.** A fresh haircut will make you look and feel your best. If you're not sure what style you want, ask your stylist for suggestions. Find out the cost from three different places
3. **Buy new shoes.** You'll want to wear comfortable shoes that you can dance in all night long. Choose a pair that matches your outfit and that you'll be able to wear again. Find the cost from three different places
4. **Get a beauty treatment.** If you want to pamper yourself, schedule a beauty treatment before your graduation ceremony. This could include a manicure, pedicure, facial, or massage. Find the total cost from three different places
5. **Create a budget.** Graduation can be expensive, so it's important to create a budget and stick to it. Consider saving up for your expenses in advance, or ask your parents for a loan. Calculate the total cost the expenses,
6. **Start applying for jobs.** Think of starting to apply for weekend jobs. How many hours can you work?

Here are some tips for saving money on your graduation expenses:

- Shop around for the best deals. Compare prices for clothing, shoes, and beauty treatments before you make a purchase.
- Consider renting your gown. This can save you a significant amount of money.
- Do your own hair and makeup. If you're comfortable doing your own hair and makeup, this can save you a lot of money. Talk about the amount that can be saved
- Have a small graduation party. If you're on a tight budget, consider having a small graduation party with your closest friends and family. Calculate the cost of celebrating your graduation
- Think of a few points such as Internet banking, debit cards, emerging technologies. Describe different ways of spending, e.g. online purchasing, layby, hire-purchase. advertising, peer pressure. Do talk to your parents.

Graduation is a special day, so make sure you enjoy it!