

Homecoming 101

**TIPS, TRICKS and HOW to NAVIGATE HOMECOMING
WITH CINCO RANCH HIGH SCHOOL!**

Date & Location for 2015's Homecoming Have Yet to be Announced!

WELCOME TO CINCO RANCH, Home of the CRHS Cougar Band!

As part of our fundraising each year, we have a set of parents who help bring home the spirit of Homecoming by making hundreds of mums for our fun and deserving students!

It all starts with the finding of the date and the mum exchange! This packet will outline the highlights of an amazingly spirited ,fun and memorable weekend for you and your student!

At the CRHS Band Mum Shop, we're dedicated to making this year (and every year!) a great one! Quality products for a decade, all the fun and charms and streamers and Cinco Ranch Pride you want!

Visit us today and let us make your mum and homecoming experience better, easier and run smoothly!

Sales Dates:

SALES DATES HAVE NOT BEEN RELEASED FOR 2015 YET.

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- **Step 1: Pick your Streamer Package**
- **Step 2: Pick Your Mum Flowers and Back Border**
- **Step 3: Pick Your Mum Flower Centerpieces**
 - **Step 4: Pick Your Flower Accents**
- **Step 5: Pick Your Homecoming Ribbon**
- **Step 6: Pick Your Specialty Ribbons**
 - **Step 7: Pick Your Braids**
 - **Step 8: Pick Your Chains**
 - **Step 9: Pick Your Plaques**
- **Step 10: Pick Your Tier 1 Charms**
- **Step 11: Pick Your Tier 2 Charms**
- **Step 12: Pick Your Tier 3 Charms**

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How it All Works!

While not as popular of an event as prom, homecoming is usually a fall event. It focuses on the school's big team (usually the football team) playing one of the first or last games at their home field. The event is also a time where former alumni, parents and family are welcomed to come visit and be involved in the school. Of course, there is also a large dance banquet that is a part of the homecoming event. The dance is often the most exciting part of homecoming for most high school students.

If you choose, start by getting a date: having a date does not mean that you two are officially "boyfriend" and "girlfriend" or anything of that sort. You are just taking a person you feel would be fun to hang out with.

Asking your date does not have to be a big ordeal, it can be a simple rose or piece of her favorite candy with a note on top of it asking her to homecoming. If you want to do something big, but still in your budget here are some ideas:

- Set up a treasure hunt. Put a note in the person of interest's locker for him/her to be at a certain place at a particular time. At that location, leave another clue to where he/she needs to go next. Continue this until you are pleased. Have the last note ask if he/she will go with you to homecoming. Hide somewhere close where you can come out when you see the person reading the note.
- If you know where the person lives, use colored chalks to sketch the question on the sidewalk or driveway. Ask the person's parents before you do something like this so they won't be upset.
- Make a mix CD. Behind the CD, put a note asking if he/she would like to go to homecoming with you.
- If you are the bold type, consider singing out your desire for a homecoming date to your potential date in a public place. Be sure that he/she is not too shy before you go about it.
- If the person is of driving age, leave a note on the windshield of his/her car.
- You can buy a box of chocolates and use icing to spell out your question. You can also bake a batch of cookies or a cake that can have the same effect.
- During lunch hour, get your potential date a drink. Place a straw in the drink with a little flag. On the flag, write something that asks the question "Will you go with me to homecoming?" but in a unique way, like "Homecoming + you + me = :)?"

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How it All Works – continued

- If you live by a body of water, such as a lake, you can float a little boat with the message and have the boat float up next to the person. Not near any body of water? You could use a remote control car during homeroom.
- Consider writing a poem.
- If you are still too shy to ask your date in person, you could mail the person a handmade card. If you don't want to actually mail it, you can place it on his/her front porch.
- Stuffed animals are always a great idea for a guy or a girl. Everyone loves having something cuddly to hold on to. Go to the dollar store and buy three small stuffed animals. Each day, leave one of the animals. On the last stuffed animal, write a note that says "Hope your stuffed up enough with happiness to go to homecoming with me."

When all is said and done, awesome ways of asking someone out are nice but it's the actual fact that someone is being asked out that matters. If you can't find a creative idea that you actually like or that you think can work, don't worry. Just go ahead and ask your potential date out and see what he/she says. The worst thing that can happen is that the person says no.

Going single to homecoming is great, just make sure you have a group of single friends to go with. You may lose people who were in your group for dinner and then lose them once getting onto the dance floor, but that's okay — its nothing personal, it's just how dances work.

Once you have decided if you're going single or with a date, make sure to get tickets before the dance. Most schools have a sell cut-off date. Don't forget! The night of the dance, pack your student id! You'll need it to get into the dance!

Then it's time to start the mum making! Ask yourself (or your date!) what they are into, what they may know. Then determine your budget. Finally, visit the CRHS Booster Mum Shop page ([website address below](#)) and start to create the mum of your dreams! We're here to help you!

When the mum is ready, a mum exchange is a relatively casual, but traditional, event. Usually you meet somewhere and trade mums. Simple as that! If you want to take it a step further, parents and friends take photos, perhaps go out for an casual dinner afterward. The entire point is to make this a fun ramp-up to the week's events!

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The Day of the Big Game!

On the Friday of the game, everyone wears their mums and garters to school. Mums and garters are the ribbon-festooned, massive corsages that the students wear to celebrate the big game! Normally your date to the homecoming dance (held the next evening on Saturday) exchanges a mum with his date who provides him with a garter. A garter is a smaller version of a mum and worn on the arm for gentleman. More history on this is on the Mum Shop page.

A trend for girls is to wear decorated overalls to help hold the mum up as they tend to be quite heavy! Overalls can be found several different places locally, but it's perfectly fine to craft your own pair. In the past Mens' Dickies-brand work denim overalls were the tradition, but this has since expanded to be whatever pair of overalls suits you! Painted with class colors, years, cheers and Cougar paws and hearts, these are unlimited to how you can make them all of your own style!

There are several pep rallies to bring the spirit even higher within the school family! The band, drill team, fall sports teams and all of the students attend. We practice cheers and make sure that we're all pumped up and ready for the football game!

That evening, students attend the football game with their mums on ready to cheer their CRHS football team on to victory! Then home again to get a good night's rest before the dance the next day.

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The Day of the Dance

What You Should Wear

For the guys: Because the spirit of Homecoming is relatively relaxed and informal, the guy does not have to wear a tux or a suit. Dress pants or chinos with a long-sleeved dress shirt and loafers are generally the male "uniform." A tie can be worn, but even that can be over-doing it. In all cases, it is recommended that the guy tell his date in advance what he plans to wear.

For the girls: Dresses are recommended, it is totally up to your preference if you want to get your hair done. It is one of the hottest dances of the year, so if you don't wear it up, bring a hair tie so you can pull it back.

If you buy new shoes for the dance, break them in before the big night. If you wear open-toed shoes, get a pedicure - your pretty polished toes will pull your outfit together.

Making your plan

For the guys: Whether you're going as friends or as a date, the guy should at least ask his date if she wants a corsage, or otherwise go ahead and get her flowers or a corsage (unless he goes with a friend and KNOWS the girl wouldn't care to have a corsage) and make dinner reservations (if reservations are required at the restaurant the couple wants to go to). If the guy takes a friend, he is not responsible for paying for her dinner.

The place for dinner should be a semi-formal place, not too casual like fast food.

For the girls: While guys should probably make dinner reservations, girls usually are more responsible. Double-check with your date: It is recommended you make reservations at least a week or two in advance, depending whether another school is holding a dance. The sooner the better.

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We've included local places in Katy for both dinner and flowers in this package.

For both: Parents take a BILLION pictures ... at the dance a photographer will be present, but the prices can be expensive. If you can't afford to buy pictures, take plenty before you leave.

For the guys: Guys should pick up girls, unless they are too young to drive or the girl offers and she sincerely wants too. Do not honk the horn when you get to her house - get up and go to the door.

Once at the Dance

Once at the dance, pictures can be taken whenever. I suggest getting in line as soon as you get there because you don't want to take the pictures after you have been dancing in a hot room for a few hours.

During the dance, do not be inappropriate and don't force your date to do anything he/she isn't up for. Remember you are around people, and teachers **WILL BE WATCHING**. Don't be on your phones either, -actually put your phone with your date's bag when she checks it in. You do not need it and its rude when you bring it out. Near the end of the dance go and retrieve it so you can keep in contact with your ride if you have one.

Final do's and do nots!

Things not to do on a date:

- Don't take your date to the after party and then leave her to find her own way home.
- Don't smoke.
- Don't drink and drive.
- Don't follow your date around all night.
- Don't order the most expensive thing on the menu.

Things to do:

- Do meet the parents.
- Do go to a nice place to eat.
- Do be at ease. Keep the conversation going - it might be more comfortable to go in a group.

Last but not least, **CHILL** out. It is normal to be nervous, but you don't want to sweat and get all clammy and uncomfortable, and remember: Boys are just as nervous. Just keep the conversation going and if you're really anxious, go in a group.

It should be an amazing night, with as little drama as there can be. Just remember to have fun! You only have four Homecomings, so take advantage of all of them.

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Restaurants

- 3 Olives Italian Restaurant: 22764 Westheimer Pkwy Katy, TX 77450 - (832) 437-4062
- Alicia's Mexican Grille: 25725 Katy Fwy Katy, TX 77494 - (281) 347-1800
- Antonia's Cucina Italiana: 2001 Katy Mills Blvd Katy, TX 77494 - (281) 644-6000
- Atami Steak & Sushi: 549 S Mason Rd Katy, TX 77450 - (281) 398-8885
- Babin's Seafood House: 21851 Katy Fwy Katy, TX 77450 - (281) 829-9200
- Bistro 829: 22764 Westheimer Pkwy Katy, TX 77450 - (281) 646-0829
- Carrabba's Italian Grill: 6501 S Fry Rd Katy, TX 77494 - (281) 665-1320
- Da Vinci Ristorante Italiano: 6455 South Fry Rd Katy, TX 77494 - (281) 392-2115
- Happy Japanese Steak House: 1235 S Mason Rd Katy, TX 77450 - (281) 578-0890
- Hong Kong's Cafe: 1632 S Mason Rd Katy, TX 77450 - (281) 392-8880
- Kenzo Sushi Bistro: 23501 Cinco Ranch Blvd Katy, TX 77494 - (281) 371-8200
- Landry's Seafood: 22215 Katy Freeway Katy, TX 77450 - (281) 392-0452
- Las Alamedas Mexican Restaurant & Bar: 23501 Cinco Ranch Blvd Katy, TX 77494 - (281) 347-3030
- Mantra Indian Cuisine: 829 S Mason Rd Katy, TX 77450 - (281) 647-6111
- Nagoya Japanese Restaurant & Sushi Bar: 20900 Katy Fwy Katy, TX 77449 - (281) 599-1112
- Nikko Sushi: 410 W Grand Pkwy S Katy, TX 77494 - (281) 395-2808
- Pane e Vino Trattoria and Pizzeria: 8945 S Fry Rd Katy, TX 77494 - (281) 391-2222

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Restaurants Continued:

- Perrys Steak House & Grill: 23501 Cinco Ranch Blvd Katy, TX 77494 - (281) 347-3600
- Red Oak Grill: 2004 S Mason Rd Katy, TX 77450 - (281) 392-2612
- \Rocco's Italian Restaurant: 966 S Fry Rd Katy, TX 77450 - (281) 828-1191
- Sapore Ristorante: 6734 Westheimer Lakes N Dr Katy, TX 77494 - (281) 394-5999
- Sushi Hana Japanese Kitchen: 1638 S Mason Rd Katy, TX 77450 - (281) 395-8899

Places to Take Pictures

- Cinco Ranch Library Lake Area - 2620 Commercial Center Blvd, Katy, TX 77494
- Katy Heritage Park - 6001 George Bush Dr, Katy, TX 77493
- Current Church Grounds - 26600 Westheimer Pkwy, Katy, TX 77494

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Florals

- Cinco Ranch Flowers & Gifts: 2114 Georgetown St Katy, TX 77493 - (281) 395-0442
- Floriography Fine Flowers: 22758 Westheimer Pkwy Katy, TX 77450 - (832) 437-6175
- Flower Girls: 23501 Cinco Ranch Blvd, Ste G125 Katy, TX 77494 - (281) 394-5575
- Forest Flowers: 1322 Irish Mist Ct Katy, TX 77450 - (281) 395-5995
- Julie's Flower Arrangements: 2433 N Fry Rd Katy, TX 77449 - (281) 398-0312
- K D's Florist & Gifts: 5315 Highway Blvd Katy, TX 77494 - (281) 391-1132
- Katy Flower Market: 20829 Kingsland Blvd Katy, TX 77450 - (281) 578-8200
- Katy Flower Shoppe: 5609 3rd St Katy, TX 77493 - (281) 391-9191
- Katy Flowers: 6191 Highway Blvd Ste 109 Katy, TX 77494 - (281) 391-8686
- Katy House Of Flowers: 1317 Bob White Ln Katy, TX 77493 - (281) 395-0442
- Katyland Florist and Gifts: 3250 Windmoor Dr Katy, TX 77449 - (281) 794-8995
- Kay-Tee Florist & Gifts: 870 S Mason Rd Ste 110 Katy, TX 77450 - (281) 392-2101
- KD's Florist & Gifts: 5315 F Hwy Blvd Katy, TX 77494 - (281) 391-1132
- Teebrooks's Florist: 1647 S Fry Rd Katy, TX 77450 - (281) 578-8804
- The Petal Patch: 628 S Mason Rd Katy, TX 77450 - (281) 392-0158
- Whispering Willow Florist Gifts: 24210 Westheimer Pkwy Ste 400 Katy, TX 77494 - (281) 395-9934