



Betsey Johnson delivers: "It lives."



You're never fully dressed without a hint of tulle.



**Style stumper**

**Regina's minimalist white dress**

**Celebrity stylist:** Betsey Johnson

Since she bought this stark white dress four years ago, Regina has tried dressing it up with blazers, denim jackets and accessories, but she's never managed to take it for a spin. "Every time I open my closet it's like a bright white light reminding me that I don't wear it," says Regina, 31, a plus-size model. "I thought it would be a nice change from my all-black wardrobe." She's even considered cutting, studding or tie-dyeing the dress to make it wearable. "I take it with me every time I travel," she says. "I tell myself I'm gonna wear this damn dress!"

**Style solution**

"The long, white dress was so plain, it reminded me of a hospital gown," says legendary non-minimalist designer Betsey Johnson. "It was screaming for color and femininity." Treating the dress like a canvas, first she cut off the sleeves, and then she chopped the length and created a plunging neckline with ruffles recycled from left-over fabric. "Then I dyed the new dress neon pink—one of my favorite colors," says Johnson. She combed through her stash of vintage flowers and found a great purple-pinkish one to give the dress even more personality. Not enough? Johnson urged Regina to wear a green vintage petticoat under the dress so she could play with length. "Then I piled on accessories, and she looked magically fabulous."



"I love it! I don't even miss the white dress."

Regina, 31, model

**The verdict**

"I cannot get over the new dress," says Regina. "It's loud, pretty—and custom-made by Betsey Johnson! It's a celebration dress." Regina admits she's never bought anything pink, or even short, so having this dress is a change for her. "The length is perfect, and the neckline is so sexy," she says. "I'll get more use out of it as it is now." →