

Questions to ask an aftercare provider

A printable list for a conversation that can be hard to follow in the moment.

You can ask for plain answers

Procedures and terminology vary. Ask the provider to describe exactly what will happen in their facility and what choices still remain open.

- ☐ What happens between pickup and the return of remains?
- ☐ How is my pet identified throughout the process?
- ☐ What is the difference between private, partitioned, and communal cremation here?
- ☐ Which remains are returned, and in what container?
- ☐ May I provide an urn or choose one later?
- ☐ What is the expected timeline? Who will contact me?
- ☐ Can I request a paw print, nose print, fur clipping, collar, tag, blanket, or other personal item?
- ☐ What are the costs, including transport, after-hours service, and optional memorial items?
- ☐ Are home burial or cemetery burial permitted where I live?
- ☐ May I change my selection after today? If so, until when?

Before you finish the call

Write down the provider's name, telephone number, your pet's identification or case number, the choices you made, the total quoted cost, and the date you expect the next update.

This checklist does not endorse a particular provider or aftercare option. Local laws and services differ. Your veterinary clinic can explain local choices.