

## Take Advantage of the Internet

More and more can be done online these days, and many people find that using the internet for funeral planning both makes the process easier and saves them lots of money. Here are some ways you can take advantage of online services:

- ✓ **Publish the obituary online.** Fewer and fewer people read the newspaper, so why pay hundreds of dollars for a newspaper obituary when you can publish one on Everloved.com for free?
- ✓ **Purchase funeral products online.** Funeral homes often markup their caskets and other products dramatically. You can purchase caskets, urns and more on Ever Loved for about half the price.
- ✓ **Share funeral details online.** It's easy to create a free memorial website on Ever Loved where you can share funeral information and collect RSVPs. This will save you money on creating printed announcements and physical programs. (Plus, it will save you tons of time.)
- ✓ **Hold the memorial service online.** You can use programs like Zoom to bring everyone together for a virtual service. You'll still be able to come together and share memories, without any travel or event costs.

## Compare Your Options

While traditional funerals are expensive (and exceed the budget of many families), there are actionable ways to prevent yourself from overspending:

- Understand the average price of funerals in your area.
- Get detailed price lists from several funeral homes.
- Compare the prices your funeral home gives you for products (like caskets and urns) with other physical and online stores.
- Don't feel pressured to use every service the funeral home offers. Pick and choose which ones are relevant and important to you and your family, and stick to your plan.

## About Ever Loved

Ever Loved is a website that helps families plan and pay for funerals. Learn more at [Everloved.com](http://Everloved.com).

 Ever Loved

## Get in touch

Have questions? Need assistance?

[www.everloved.com](http://www.everloved.com)

(833) 300-6840

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# HOW TO PLAN A FUNERAL ON A BUDGET

[www.everloved.com](http://www.everloved.com)

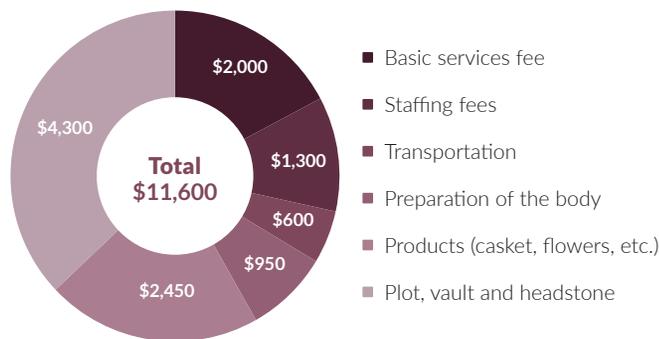


# How to Plan a Funeral on a Budget

## How Much Does a Funeral Cost?

Funerals can be incredibly expensive. Families and individuals are grieving, leaving them vulnerable to sales tactics or to choosing what's right in front of them instead of shopping around. When planning a funeral, here are some typical costs to keep in mind:

### Approximate average costs for a traditional funeral with a viewing and burial



Fortunately, if you're on a tight budget, there are many ways to save money while still giving your loved one a meaningful goodbye.

## Consider the Method of Disposition

What you choose to do with your loved one's body (the method of disposition) is usually the biggest factor in terms of funeral cost.

### Traditional burial

Traditional burials are the most expensive method of disposition and require the most additional services (such as embalming, preparation of the body, casket, transportation, etc.). Many caskets alone cost upwards of \$2,500.

### Cremation

Cremation is a much cheaper method of disposition than burial. A cremation can start out around \$500 (if you choose direct cremation), but can cost more than \$5,000, depending on your location and the services you choose. Direct cremation (where the body is almost immediately cremated after death in a simple cremation container) is always the least expensive of the cremation options.

### Whole body donation

When you donate a body to science (e.g. medical research), the organization will usually cover any final disposition costs when they are finished. Some will even return ashes to the family. Many people choose this option because it allows their loved one's body to continue to do good, in addition to saving the family many thousands of dollars.

## Organize the Memorial Yourself

Holding a traditional or formal service through a funeral home, especially when the body is present, can lead to a ton of extra costs (transportation, embalming, staffing, venue, etc.) that can stretch your budget.

### Traditional funeral with a viewing and burial

**\$11,600**

(Estimated cost)

### Cremation with a traditional memorial service

**\$4,800**

(Estimated cost)

### Immediate burial

**\$8,800**

(Estimated cost)

### Direct cremation

**\$2,300**

(Estimated cost)

Burials and services add on a ton of associated costs that you can avoid by having a direct cremation and planning services on your own.

Consider holding a memorial service or celebration of life in a public venue or space that meant a lot to your loved one. Some popular choices are:



Places of Worship



Public Parks



Family Homes



Community Centers



By a Beach or Lake