



FUNERAL PLANNING CHECKLIST



Schedule a time to go to the funeral home:

Confirm the availability of other family members and friends who will be part of arrangements before calling the funeral home.



Collect necessary documentation:

- Prearranged/preplanned funeral contract
- Proof of social security number
- Life insurance policy
- Living will
- Vital statistics (familial information, level of education, military service, professional affiliations, memberships, awards/recognitions)
- Copy of veteran's DD-214



Choose a form of final disposition:

Decide whether traditional burial or cremation would have reflected the deceased's wishes. Also consider the needs of you and your family.



Determine what type of service will be held:

Thinking about what type of visitation, funeral, and/or memorial service. Brainstorm personalization ideas.



Arrange final resting place:

Decide on a cemetery and choose between above-ground and in-ground burial interment options.



Identify funeral participants:

This may include clergy members, ceremony officiants, musicians, pallbearers, eulogists, and/or readers.



Finalize the details:

Not all decisions have to be made right away. If needed, take additional time to think about music, floral arrangements, and printed materials.



Gather pictures and mementos:

Pick out photographs and personal tokens to display at the service to tell the departed's life story.



Plan a reception:

Make plans to coordinate a post-ceremony reception so funeral guests can gather informally and enjoy a meal.