Useful Guide

Buy only what you want

**Burial or cremation?**

* burial
* if burial, where? \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_
* cremation

**Funeral or direct cremation?**

* Funeral
* No funeral—straight to the crematorium

**When?**

Our preferred dates and times for the funeral are

* \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ morning / afternoon
* \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ morning / afternoon
* \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ morning / afternoon

**Who will do the admin?**

* \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ to complete all paperwork`and pay disbursements
* \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_to place an obituary notice in the paper

**Who will look after the body?**

* the body will stay with the undertaker
* the body will come home

**Who will supply the coffin?**

* I will supply the coffin *(some undertakers won’t let you)*
* I have seen a coffin I like. I want the undertaker to order it.
* I will choose a coffin from the undertaker’s range. I want a
	+ Least expensive coffin
	+ A mid-price coffin
	+ A top-of-the-range coffin

**Who will lay out the body?**

* I will wash and dress the body at the undertaker’s
* I will wash and dress the body at home with the undertaker
* I will wash and dress the body at home unassisted
* I want the undertaker to wash and dress the body

**What will the dead person wear?**

* I will supply clothes for the body
* The body will be clothed in a gown supplied by the undertaker

**How will the hair be groomed?**

* I will supply a photograph of the person who has died
* I will give instructions about this
* The undertaker will use his or her discretion

**If you want the undertaker to wash and dress the body, do you**

* want someone of the same sex to do it?

**Do you want to visit the person who has died?**

* no visit
* one visit
* one visit on the day before the funeral
* as and when
* every day
* long periods
* no religious imagery in the ‘chapel of rest’

**Embalming and invasive treatment**

* yes / no to embalming, ‘sanitary treatment’ or ‘hygienic treatment’
* only gentle methods to be used for closing the eyes and mouth

**Do you want the body to come home?**

* yes, for the first few days
* yes, for one / two days before the funeral
* not at all

**What transport do you need on the day of the funeral?**

* undertaker’s hearse
* alternative hearse \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_
* Number of following limousine/s\_\_\_\_
* undertaker’s estate car or private ambulance
* I will supply my own transport

**Will you need bearers to carry the coffin?**

* yes
* yes, but only \_\_\_\_
* no, we shall carry the coffin ourselves

**Do you need a priest or a celebrant?**

*Note: you can appoint a celebrant before you have seen your undertaker. Go to funeralcelebrants.org.uk*

* no, we’re sorted
* yes, a priest
* yes, a celebrant: semi-religious / atheist

**Where will you hold the funeral?**

* crematorium chapel
* cemetery chapel
* natural burial ground
* other: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

**How long will the ceremony last?**

*If it is likely to last longer than 20 minutes you will need to book a double slot if your venue is the crematorium. Check with your crematorium how long they allow you.*

* We’ll need a single slot
* We’ll need a double slot

**Who will book the funeral venue (including the crematorium)**

* I will book it myself and pay direct
* the undertaker will do this

**Do you want to witness the coffin going into the cremator?**

*If you do not wish to do so yourself, you may like to ask someone else to do it.*

* No
* Yes. I / the undertaker will make this arrangement
* If yes, how many of you? \_\_\_\_\_

**What’s the dress code?**

* I want the undertaker and staff to wear \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

**Arrival**

* I want the coffin brought to the door of the crematorium chapel
* I want the coffin brought to the car park, from where we will carry it ourselves
* I want the coffin brought to \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_from where we will carry it ourselves.

**Procession**

* I want the undertaker to walk in front of the hearse
* I will decide who walks in front of the hearse

**What part do you want the undertaker to play at the funeral?**

* master of ceremonies, in charge of everything
* record the names of the people who come
* just help out with getting people seated
* no part at all. I am the host.

**Who will order the flowers?**

* I will choose from undertaker’s catalogue
* I will supply them

**Do you want an order of service booklet?**

* yes, we want the undertaker to get it printed
* yes, we shall look after this ourselves
* no, we don’t one

**Do you want the undertaker to collect and forward donations to a chosen charity?**

* yes
* no

**Do you want the undertaker to supply any of the following?**

* catering
* a piper
* live musicians
* multimedia presentation
* doves
* balloons
* an urn for ashes