



## Making a Plan for Saying Good-bye to Your Pet

### *A Helpful Checklist for Pet Parents*

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It's so hard to think about saying good-bye to your pet. Yet, if you can find the courage to make plans *before* your pet dies, you may feel more prepared to face it when the time arrives. Feeling prepared, especially when you are facing your pet's euthanasia, may help you have fewer regrets about how, when and where your pet dies. Please take some time to think about the details surrounding the way you want to say good-bye to your beloved pet. Use this checklist to help you make arrangements.

- I have discussed the medical and emotional aspects of euthanasia with my veterinarian and feel ready to make an informed decision on behalf of my pet.
- I have researched my options for pet euthanasia and have chosen
- euthanasia at my veterinary clinic.
  - home euthanasia.
  - pet hospice care.
- I have made an appointment for euthanasia with my veterinarian at \_\_\_\_\_ AM/PM on \_\_\_\_\_ (mo/day/year) or
- I have enrolled my pet in a pet hospice program.
- I have decided to be present/not be present (circle one) during my pet's euthanasia.
- I have informed family members, friends, and others (ex-spouses, neighbors, adult children, animal-assisted therapy clients, etc.) who love my pet about my pet's condition, allowing them to say good-bye or be present during my pet's euthanasia.
- I have asked a friend to go to my pet's euthanasia appointment with me to provide support for me/my young children.
- I have talked with my veterinarian and researched local services for caring for my pet's body after he/she dies and have chosen \_\_\_\_\_. The name and contact information for this service is:
- I have collected the poems/prayers/music/memorials that will be meaningful and comforting to me during my pet's euthanasia. I have attached copies and information about them to this worksheet..

Please take care of yourself with as much compassion and kindness as you give your pet!

For more information, visit the Veterinary Wisdom® Resource Center at [www.veterinarywisdom.com](http://www.veterinarywisdom.com)