

FUNERALS: A SIMPLE GUIDE



Simplicity
Funerals

Simply Affordable.

1. Choosing A Funeral Director

A Funeral Director is no different to any other professional person whom you may need to call on for a specialised service, such as a doctor, solicitor or accountant. You should carefully consider their qualifications, facilities and ability to service your needs.

2. Arranging A Funeral

The Role of the Funeral Director

There are few services you will need that are as sensitive or as personal as those provided by your funeral director. We know the death of a family member is a very distressing and difficult time, so we work toward helping you arrange funeral service in the easiest way possible.

If no prior arrangements regarding the funeral have been made and the deceased's wishes are unknown, there are some major decisions that need to be made. Our role is to help make this process as simple as possible.

All denominations are respected and we work with you to cater for your financial circumstance. At every instance the wishes of the family are paramount.

What needs to be done?

A Death Certificate signed by a suitable healthcare professional or emergency service provider is required before Simplicity Funerals can transfer the deceased to their funeral home.

If you have any uncertainty, all you need to do is call us and we will advise you.

How a Funeral Director can assist you

From the very first call, our staff are here to help with all aspects of arranging a funeral. If the wishes of the deceased are known, some of the decision making for the family is easier. Your funeral director

will guide, advise and assist you in arranging the funeral service you feel is most appropriate.

Services Provided by Funeral Directors

Few people realise the extent of a funeral director's role. It begins when we are first called, and ends only when we are satisfied the ceremony is as perfect and complete as we can make it, and the wishes of the family are fully met. Approximately forty hours of time is taken in order to professionally arrange and conduct every funeral.

For more detail on the full range of services, see **simplicityfunerals.com.au/funeral-services**

The Matter of Cost

The main components in the cost of a funeral are:

Funeral Director Fees

These include professional fees to arrange and conduct the funeral including use of our facilities and equipment, and transfer of the deceased on the day of the funeral. These will be fully explained to you by your Funeral Director.

Our Funeral Directors can respond to your funeral enquiries 24 hours a day, 7 days a week.

Coffins and Caskets

The key difference between a Coffin and a Casket is the design - coffins are tapered at the head and foot, and are wider at the "shoulders". Caskets, on the other hand, are rectangular in shape.

We offer a large and varied selection of coffins and caskets so that we can meet your needs.

Burial or Cremation

One of the most important decisions that needs to be made is whether to bury or cremate. A Simplicity Funeral Director can explain this further when you meet.

What allowances are made for funeral expenses

Centrelink does offer a variety of bereavement payments if you are an Australian resident. Your Simplicity Funeral Director will assist with documentation required by Centrelink. For available entitlements, please enquire directly with Centrelink.

Wills & Estates

The Executor named in the last known Will must be notified as soon as possible.

Your Simplicity Funeral Director can recommend avenues to gain information, guidance or professional advice on all Will and Estate Matters.

3. Catering for Different Cultural, Religious, Traditional, Modern and Personal Touches

Our funeral homes, cemeteries and crematoria are extremely aware of the need to take into consideration the various personal requests of the family. These personal requests include incorporating the rituals of the relevant cultures or religion. They are all capable of servicing such needs directly or indirectly. Each culture and religion have specific rituals, which must be obeyed. Rest assured these requests can be followed.

When you talk to one of our staff, they will be more than happy to accommodate these wishes.

4. Writing A Eulogy

If you'd like more information about how to write a Eulogy, simply visit the FAQ page on our website - **simplicityfunerals.com.au/tips-on-grief/faq**

5. Who You Need To Notify When Someone Dies

As a helpful guide, you may need to notify some or all of the following people and organisations

- Department of Social Security
- Department of Veteran's Affairs
- Superannuation company
- Solicitor and/or public trustee
- Accountant
- Banks
- Building societies
- Credit Union
- Financial Institutions and loan companies
- Employer/former employer
- Trade Unions or professional associations
- Australian Tax Office
- Insurance Companies
 - Life
 - Accident
 - Home and Contents
 - Vehicle
- Friendly Society
- Doctor, Specialist or Hospital
- Dentist
- Chemist
- Main Roads - Car Registration
- Electoral Office
- Medicare
- Health Benefits Fund
- Clubs, organisations and associations
- Church or religious organisation
- Household help, gardening services or Meals on Wheels

- Home Nursing Service
- Home delivery services - e.g. newspapers and milk
- Home appliance rental
- Post Office for mail delivery
- Local Government for Rates, fire levy, etc.
- Ambulance Service
- Credit Card providers
- Telephone company
- Electricity company
- School or college
- Companies - e.g. for directorships
- Chamber of Commerce
- Service organisations - e.g. Rotary, Lions, Apex, Zonta, Red Cross
- Blood Bank
- Home Medical Aids rental company

6. After The Funeral

Online Memorialisation

Simplicity Funerals offer our families a free online memorial with our partner HeavenAddress, so you can create a lasting tribute to your loved ones. To find out more, visit heavenaddress.com/simplicityfunerals

Physical Memorialisation

A memorial is a focus for reflection and a permanent marker for a life lived where family and friends and future generations can come to remember and pay their respects to their heritage.



For a broad range of helpful information on loss and grief, visit mygriefassist.com.au

7. Arranging A Prepaid Funeral

As evidenced by reading through this booklet, there are many decisions which need to be made, and a lot of information which is required when someone dies. Arranging a prepaid funeral means most of the decisions and information are already recorded, taking both the financial and emotional burden away from family and friends at such a difficult time.

Why choose a prepaid funeral?

- Lock in the funeral you want at today's prices – no rising costs, interest charges or inflation to worry about
- Simplicity Funerals bears any investment risk – not you. The funeral service is guaranteed.
- No payout and claim forms required at time of need – just contact your nearest Simplicity funeral director on 1300 556 222 and we will do the rest
- Once the price is agreed, you can either pay in full or pay by regular monthly instalments across 3 years
- Experienced staff will guide you through all aspects of prepaying a funeral
- A Prepaid Funeral can be for either yourself or a specified dependent

To begin the process of detailing your personal wishes, visit **simplicityfunerals.com.au/funeral-organiser** for your free copy of the 'Simplicity Funeral Organiser'. Alternatively you can contact Simplicity Funerals directly on **1300 556 222**.



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