

Basic Blueprint for Home Funerals

Determine the feasibility of a home funeral

- Is the family on board?
- Will they be able to physically lift and maneuver the deceased?
- Who else will you call to help?
- What other logistics might be an impediment?
- What does the law in your state require?

Inform all necessary parties of your home funeral plans

- Establish next-of-kin or designated agent
- Let Medical Examiner, attending physician, nursing staff, care facility, hospital, hospice, etc., know of your plans to have a home funeral, in advance if possible
- Contact a funeral director if planning a blended funeral
- Contact your home care assistants

Obtain and file all necessary paperwork

- Signed death certificate
- Burial/transit permit

Conduct body care

- See list of materials needed here [Home Funeral Checklist](#)

Make or purchase caskets, urns, shrouds

- Discover your crematory's container requirements

Make disposition arrangements

- Discover your cemetery's vault requirements
- Contact zoning, local health officials if home burial

Arrange services

- Contact clergy, musicians
- Have visiting hours at home, church or elsewhere
- Arrange for church facilities, if desired
- Rent hall, restaurant, room, or other facility, if not held at home

Notify the community

- Make phone calls to friends, family, co-workers
- Write and publish obituary notices in local newspapers, online (*send a non-certified copy of death certificate, if required, to be accepted from a family*)

Transport to the crematory or cemetery

- Check regulations for containment (*open or closed vehicle, rigid container, pouching, etc.*)