**Pet Bereavement**

Our pets are often seen as part of the family. So, when it comes to saying goodbye it can be an extremely tough and emotional time.

Please rest assured, there’s pet bereavement support out there to help, from knowing the right time, to grieving after the death of your pet.

**When is the Right Time?**

This can be the hardest decision ever made by pet owners. When making the decision, remember to think about what is best for your pet, however tough that may be.

Don't forget to call on your family and friends for emotional support too.
Please also ring us to discuss any questions or concerns you have.

**Preparing for Pet Loss**

Sadly, we often feel like we have little control over our pet’s fate during this time, which some owners may find difficult.

You can also think about where your pet’s resting place will be, and if they’ll be buried or cremated after they’ve passed on.

**Pet Grief**

Grieving a pet can be similar to mourning the loss of a family member. Some owners experience feelings of deep loneliness and isolation. Please don’t worry or feel ashamed, these emotions are perfectly normal.

Some people may not understand the intense feelings of sadness you may feel after losing a pet, but please remember there are people out there who understand.

**Loss for Children**

For young children this subject can be hard to approach and for them to understand. We have a pet bereavement book named “Missing My Pet” which we can lend out. It explains about your pet not being around and the options available, the sadness that surrounds it and about getting new pets.

**Support Networks Available**

Talk to friends and family to share cherished memories you have with your pet. The Blue Cross also offer a [pet bereavement service](https://www.bluecross.org.uk/pet-bereavement-support) providing free, confidential support to anyone affected by losing of a pet.

For equine support, The British Horse Society’s [‘Friends at the End’](https://www.bhs.org.uk/welfare-and-care/euthanasia-and-friends-at-the-end) is designed to make sure that no horse owner faces losing their companion alone.

For more online support for pet owners on this matter, the [Animal Welfare Foundation](https://www.bva-awf.org.uk/pet-care-advice/saying-goodbye) and [World Horse Welfare](https://www.worldhorsewelfare.org/Just-in-Case) both share some good advice on saying goodbye too.
Compassion Understood is also a service that offers counselling and bereavement advice.